

Topper Band Booster News

March, 2009

Our next meeting is Thursday, March 5th in the SHHS Cafeteria.

Starting at 7:30PM, (Delayed for the 6:30PM meeting in the auditorium for scheduling questions) the agenda will include: frozen food orders, schedule update for 2009-2010, website design, and more. Every band parent is encouraged to attend!

Upcoming dates:

March 3 – 9th Grade Band clinic: 3-5pm in the SHHS band room – Dr. Carson Vermillion, clinician

March 9 – Symphonic Band clinic: 3-5pm in the SHHS band room – Dr. Eric Harris, clinician

March 30 – 9th Grade/Symphonic Band Concert: 7pm, SHHS

March 31 – 8th Grade/ Percussion Ensemble/Wind Ensemble Concerts: 7pm, SHHS

April 2-3 - Concert Festival: Greenville - TBA

April – Band uniform garage sale: TBA

April 15-17 – All State Band Clinic: Nashville.

Band Camp Dates!

July 20-24 – Rising 9th graders, color guard, percussion Camp (8am-5pm daily)

July 26-31 – Full band camp (8am-9pm daily)

Four in All-State Band and Orchestra!

Congrats to Layla Marshall, Dustin Odom, Jenny Maier, and Taylor Pruitt.

Frozen Food turn-in:

- Cut off the back page of the brochure.
- Complete totals on each page.
- Provide name of student on each page.
- Attach envelope with all monies collected to date – checks should be made out to SHHS Band Boosters.
- Please do not include cash – checks only.
- Please turn in order forms and

money envelope at the March 5th meeting or turn into the gray money box in the SHHS band room (all money must be collected when product is delivered to patron).

- 40% of total sale will be credited to your account for the 2009-2010 school year.

Color Guard auditions will be held the latter part of April. Training sessions will take place in the afternoon. More info will be given in the April newsletter.

Private lessons

We have a wonderful supply of private instructors available in the Johnson City area including the faculty at ETSU. If you would like assistance in locating a teacher, please feel free to call the band office (232-2193) or consult with a band director at our meetings.

Mentoring Program

Students have begun the mentoring program at the SHHS band room. Please encourage your children that are participating to meet with your mentor/mentee at a regular basis.

Band Clinics

The Wind Ensemble hosted its first clinician on February 24th. Joe Hermann from Tenn Tech worked with the band during and after school. The students worked very hard (as so did he) and we made a lot of progress toward our contest selections. We have also had sectional clinics with faculty members from ETSU during the school day and will continue to have them through the remainder of the school year. **The Symphonic Band will host Dr. Eric Harris on Monday, March 9th from 3-5 pm** in the band room. Dr. Vermillion will be working with **the 9th Grade Band on Tuesday, March 3 from 3-5 pm** in the SHHS band room. Dr. John Ross and Dr. Scott Tobias from App. State, and Dr. Christian Zembower from ETSU, will be with both the WE and SB the next two weeks to help our preparations.

A New Website design is being planned for use for the 2009-2010 school year. The plan is to have the site serve as the primary communication vehicle for the entire band program. All mass communications (newsletter) will be made through the site. Students will be able to download forms, calendars, marching music, etc. This is another way that the band staff can communicate with all parents in a more efficient way!

Absenteeism is running rampant in our ensembles. As of February 26th, the Wind Ensemble has amassed over 130 absences – that is nearly 200 hours of rehearsal time missed! Many of the absences are for legitimate reasons, e.g., sickness or college auditions. However, many are for reasons that could take place after school. As contest approaches it is imperative that we have good attendance for the remaining rehearsals – especially since the WE is the smallest ensemble.

Ensemble placement auditions

for the 2009-2010 school year will take place the week after spring break. This audition will determine what ensemble your child will be performing in for the Spring semester of 2010. Auditions will take place during the school day and after school. Registration will already be taking place during March; students will be advised on what ensemble to register for and adjustments will be made after auditions have been completed.

IB Update:

We are working diligently with the counselors and the IB program director to solve many of the IB/Band issues. Hopefully these issues will be addressed and students will be able to participate in band and the IB program in the future.