BAND HANDBOOK

It is helpful to have a clear understanding between the students, their parents, and the music department concerning the policies and procedures for operating a fine band program. This booklet has been produced with the effort that everyone clearly understand what it takes to continue a fine program and to make it successful.

Our key words for the year are:

***Respect & Responsibility***

With these "keys" in everyone's hands, we will accomplish many things over the course of the year. Without these "keys" we will stumble and struggle throughout the year.

**PERFORMING GROUPS**

The Fraser High School Band is comprised of four performing ensembles: Symphony Band (audition only), Jazz Ensemble (audition only), Concert Band (grades 10-12) and Varsity Band (grade 9). The commitment and results expected from all performing groups are identical. The only difference between the ensembles is the level of literature being performed.

Students with special needs will receive appropriate assistance as deemed necessary at all band levels. All students have equal opportunity for growth in the Fraser band program.

**Symphony Band:** Open to any band member in grades 9-12. Selection for the class is by audition only. **An audition date will be posted.** Students have the opportunity to audition **one time per year.** Auditions are held in the spring of the year for the following fall. Second semester information on the web site will include a statement of the audition dates. ***Auditions will consist of playing all 12 major scales memorized and sight-reading.***Each student must demonstrate the ability to attain the desired technical skill to enter Symphony Band and must maintain the desired technical skill from year to year to ensure selection for the ensemble. A student who has been accepted into Symphony Band, but does not continue in the class consecutively from year to year will need to re-audition to be accepted back into the class. The quantity of players selected is based upon instrumentation needs and band balance as determined by the director.

**Removal from Symphony Band: These steps define due process for removal:** a symphony band player who has attained the desired performance level and maintains that level would not be replaced solely because a better player becomes available. Students who do not maintain an A-B grade in band and/or display behavior that is counterproductive to the ensemble may be asked to re-audition for the following school year. In addition to grades, the band director will notify the parents in writing that the student is being put on a probationary status and must re-audition to continue in Symphony Band.

*(Revised 4-10-08)*

Jazz Ensemble: Open to any band member in grades 9-12. Selection for the class is by audition only. **An audition date will be posted.** Students have the opportunity to audition **one time per year.** Auditions are held in the spring of the year for the following fall. Second semester information on the web site will include a statement of the audition dates. ***Auditions will consist of playing all 12 blues scales memorized, a short prepared selection, and sight-reading.***Each student must demonstrate the ability to attain the desired technical skill to enter Jazz Band and must maintain the desired technical skill from year to year to ensure selection for the ensemble. A student who has been accepted into Jazz Band, but does not continue in the class consecutively from year to year will need to re-audition to be accepted back into the class. The quantity of players selected is outlined in the *Program of Study* book.

**Removal from Jazz Band:** **These steps define due process for removal**: a jazz band player who has attained the desired performance level and maintains that level would not be replaced solely because a better player becomes available. Students who do not maintain an A-B grade in band and/or display behavior that is counterproductive to the ensemble may be asked to re-audition for the following school year. In addition to grades, the band director will notify the parents in writing that the student is being put on a probationary status and must re-audition to continue in Jazz Band.

Concert Band: Open to any band member in grades 10-12. No audition necessary. Students must maintain class requirements to remain in Concert Band.

Varsity Band: Open to any band member in grade 9. No audition necessary.

**MARCHING BAND: *Marching band will consist of all Symphony and Concert band members.* Volunteers are accepted from members of the Varsity band.**

**ATTENDANCE**

Band is an academic class and attendance is **required at every performance and rehearsal.** The exceptions are:

1. **School-related function that is cleared or approved in** **advance**. It is the student's responsibility to inform **all** parties involved when excused absences are requested. Those involved in athletic activities are **not** excused from a rehearsal or performance unless we are **notified and approve** of the absence, **nor** will those students always be excused from their class commitment.

2. Death in the family or involvement in wedding. A written advance notice of participation in a wedding must be provided to the band director.

3. Illness or surgery. **If a student is ill at the time of a performance, it is his or her responsibility to call or email the band office at school.**

4. Other considerations will be on an individual basis.

**Absences without prior notification will be considered unexcused.**

***Items which are non-excusable:***

1. **Work/Babysitting.** Students are to arrange their work and/or babysitting schedule around the school schedule unless a rehearsal or performance is scheduled "at the last minute."

2. To make up work in another class, unless the reason for making up the work is due to band and it is **cleared in advance**.

Each unexcused absence from a performance and/or rehearsal will result in the lowering of the student’s grade.

**REHEARSALS**

Rehearsal time is at a premium. Therefore, certain understandings must be had by all to ensure effective rehearsals.

**All** band members are to be in their respective places **by** the assigned time. This means that the student **must** have his or her instrument out and be ready to go **before** the assigned time.

**UNIFORMS**

**Marching Band** (Marching Season):

The regular marching uniform consists of bibbers (pants), jacket, hat and plume, hatbox, and a garment bag, all of which are provided by the school. Tuba and percussion players will need to purchase a beret (purchased through the band). It is the responsibility of the student to obtain **navy** socks to wear with the marching uniform. **White gloves and white marching shoes** are also needed (at the student's expense-purchased through the band). These items are ordered when the marching season begins. Parkas are available when weather dictates. When uniforms are issued each student pays $10.00 to cover *end of the year dry cleaning.* A summer uniform consisting of t-shirt and shorts is also purchased through the band for $25.00 per set. Color guard will purchase their uniform and shoes through the color guard coordinator-costs vary from year to year.

The Homecoming Pep Assembly uniform consists of a theme T-shirt (**purchased** **by the student** through the school), blue jeans, socks and tennis shoes.

Proper care of the marching uniform will be taught to each band member at the beginning of the school year**. All long hair (male and female)** **must** be put up underneath the hats for performance. **The summer marching T-shirts are to be worn under the jacket.** **No** jewelry is to be worn...leave it at home so nothing happens to it**. If you have pierced ears, wear only plain silver or gold studs. All other types of earrings are not permitted.**

**Each student** is responsible for their marching uniform and their appearance. ***Anyone who is not in the required*** ***uniform may not march, and their grade will be affected***. The uniform will need periodic cleaning through out the season in addition to the end of year cleaning done by the band. Any stains should be cleaned immediately. **Bibbers (or pants), jackets, hats, hat boxes, and garment bags are to be returned in the spring. Plumes and parkas will be returned after each use. *Items not returned on time will result in fines charged to the student's account.***

**CONCERT UNIFORM**

The concert uniform for the Fraser Bands consists of the following:

Ladies: Black short-sleeved jumpsuit (**purchased** by the student at the cost of approx. $55), pearl necklace (provided by the band), black hose and black shoes (provided by the student). Measurements and fittings for the jumpsuits will be taken in late September of each school year to ensure delivery of jumpsuits before our Holiday Concert. A small number of used jumpsuits are generally available each year at approximately half the cost of a new one. Students interested in used jumpsuits should mention this when fittings are taking place. Jumpsuits are machine wash and dry. A material usage fee of $5.00 is paid in the fall to cover costs of fixing and replacement pearls. **Pearls are returned each year in the** **spring. *Pearls not returned on time will result in fines to the student's account.***

Men: Black tuxedo and bow tie (provided by the school), white wing collar tuxedo shirt (**purchased** by the student at the cost of approx. $20), black socks, and black dress shoes (provided by the student). Measurements for shirts and tuxedos are done in the early fall. A $10.00 fee is collected in the fall to cover the end of the year cleaning. A $5.00 material usage fee is collected to cover replacement of ties. **Tux pants and jackets are returned in the spring. Bow ties will be returned after each performance. *Items not returned on time will result in fines to the student's account.***

**You** are responsible for your concert uniform and for your appearance. ***If you are not in the required*** ***uniform you may not perform and your grade will be affected***. Keep your uniform clean. Any stained uniforms should be cleaned immediately (at your expense).

**COSTS Some costs are charged every year-please note.**

Female marcher $10 cleaning fee marching uniform (every year)

$ 5 material usage fee (every year)

$ 3 gloves (as needed)

$ 9 beret (as needed-percussion/tuba players)

$30 marching shoes (as needed)

$55 new jumpsuit (as needed)

$25 summer marching uniform (as needed)

Female non-marcher $5 material usage fee (every year)

$55 new jumpsuit (as needed)

Male marcher $10 cleaning fee marching uniform (every year)

$ 5 material usage fee (every year)

$ 3 gloves (as needed)

$ 9 beret (as needed-percussion/tuba players)

$30 marching shoes (as needed)

$10 cleaning fee tuxedo (every year)

$20 tuxedo shirt (as needed)

$25 summer marching uniform (as needed)

Male non-marcher $10 cleaning fee tuxedo (every year)

$5 material usage fee (every year)

$20 tuxedo shirt (as needed)

#### STUDENT ACCOUNTS

Each of the band students has an account that is kept by Mr. Rodgers & Mrs. Fiedler. All profit from individual fund-raisers is deposited directly into their account. Parents/guardians do not have access to the accounts. Account totals are available to students/parents at any time; just contact Mr. Rodgers or Mrs. Fiedler by phone or e-mail.

Some students make regular deposits into their accounts in addition to fund-raising. Money not used this year is automatically carried over to next year. Funds in the band account can *only be* *used for band related items* such as: band trips, uniform fees, band supplies (reeds, flip folders, etc.), marching band camp, and solo and ensemble fees.

***Deductions to accounts*** will be made when a student does not turn in school assigned items (uniforms, tuxedos, pearls, instruments) or money owed for items such as: fund raisers, band camp, marching shoes, homecoming t-shirts, band trips, tuxedo shirts, jumpsuits, etc. ***Student accounts that are in the negative will be forwarded to the school bookkeeper***. ***Funds owed by the student will then be posted on Power School by the bookkeeper. Students cannot receive books or purchase tickets for school dances until accounts are paid up.******Seniors******will not receive their cap and gown or diploma until their account is paid up. It is the******responsibility of each student to check on the status of his or her band account periodically during the school year.***

Please see the band booster booklet for descriptions of band fundraisers.

**MUSIC**

Music is distributed in during class periods. Everyone should have a copy of his or her own music and should bring it to class daily. **THE STUDENTS** are responsible for their music, both for learning it and for keeping it in good shape. Students are expected to turn in all music when it is requested. Music should be prepared at home so productive rehearsals may take place during class time**. Music left in the band room randomly may be collected and will result in the lowering of the student’s grade.**

**INSTRUMENTS**

All students are responsible for their instruments whether they be personally owned or borrowed from the school. All students are expected to have proper equipment (reeds, valve oil, etc) at all times. No instruments are to be left in the band room. Instruments should go home on a regular basis to encourage and remind students to practice. **All students who continually forget to put instruments away will have their grade affected.**

**ATHLETICS**

The band department will gladly work with students in resolving conflicts with practices and games (meets), when done in **advance.** The calendar of performances and activities for the band is available early in the year. It is the **student's** responsibility to work out all conflicts with us and with coaches. Please remember that band is an **academic class** for which students receive credit. We are willing to work out a "shared-time" agreement with athletics; we are not willing to always release students.

**IN CONCLUSION**

The band program strives for excellence in all aspects. We truly believe in the ten two-letter words to live by: ***"If It Is To Be, It Is Up To Me!"***

Band is one of the few academic classes that rely totally on the combined output of **all** students for the end result. There are no "bench" players in band. All students must perform with everyone else and strive to achieve. All actions by an individual (whether good or bad) affect everyone.

The secret to success is communication. We need to keep the communication lines open between parent, student, and teacher. With all of us working together and with good communication between us, we will have a positive educational experience.

James Rodgers April Fiedler

Director of Bands Teaching Assistant

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BAND BOOSTER ORGANIZATION

[fraserbandboosters@gmail.com](mailto:fraserbandboosters@gmail.com)

Just as the students need parental support to achieve and succeed, so does the Fraser Band. The Band Booster organization is designed to give support to both students and staff. **All parents are automatically members of the Band Booster organization once your child reaches high school.** The Band Booster group plans many activities and fund-raisers throughout the year. Meetings are held monthly in the Band Room. Become involved **now** in Band Boosters, support the activities, and make the organization a success. Meeting dates are usually the first Thursday of the month, unless conflicts arise with the school calendar.

**BAND BOOSTER OFFICERS 2018 - 2019**

President Patty Stumpf 746-1463

Vice President Michelle Cole 663-8089

Recording Secretary Lara Sucharski 296-8726

Corresponding Secretary Kathy Roberts 484-1404

Treasurer Heather Ziegenfelder 773-3803

Elections for the band booster board for next school year will take place in May.

The success of this organization depends exclusively on the parents. Having a student in the high school band program automatically makes you a Booster member. There are no dues, but there are many ways you must help...from simply giving a ride to a student, to chairing or working on an activity. Your level of involvement depends entirely on you and your schedule. Do not hesitate to call the band booster officers or the band office if you have any questions or if we can assist you in any way.

**ADOPT-A-ROAD PROGRAM**

The Fraser High Band and the Band Booster Organization is participating in the Macomb County Adopt-a-Road Program. We have adopted 14 Mile Road between Garfield and Hayes. We are responsible for clean up twice a year taking place in the fall and spring. Parents and students alike are asked to contribute to this effort when needed. There were 9 students for our first clean up who did the work in approximately 1 hour. Community service hours are available.

**PART I - FUND-RAISING**

The band does a wealth of fund-raising thus giving every student ample opportunity to earn money for trips, accessories, band camp, solo & ensemble, etc. It is not mandatory that you participate in every fund-raiser. Some parents/students decide to pick and choose which one is best for them. Most of the fund-raising comes in the fall to aid the students/parents in raising the necessary funds. Fund-raising falls into two categories: **individual** - where the profit earned goes directly into your child’s account and **general** - where the profit goes into the band fund for music department/booster operating expenses.

### INDIVIDUAL FUND-RAISERS

#### STUDENT ACCOUNTS

Each of the band students has an account that is kept by Mr. Rodgers. All profit from individual fund-raisers is deposited directly into their account. Account totals are available to students/parents at any time; just contact Mr. Rodgers or Mrs. Fiedler by phone or e-mail. Please see the Band Handbook for more information about student band accounts.

**CHEESECAKE** October 1-12 2018

There are many varieties of cheesecake to choose from. This is a great way to have dessert ready at any time. Cheesecakes come frozen and pre-sliced; they may be refrozen. Delivery is planned to be in time for Thanksgiving.

**COOKIE DOUGH** October 8-19 2018

##### Ever dream of easy cookies and gourmet popcorn? This is it. They come frozen in tubs and taste great!

**BED SHEETS** November 5 -16 2018

1,500 thread count bed sheet sets!!There are many colors and sizes to choose from. $35 a set any size. There are pillows and an alternative down comforter also available to order.

**Mattress Sale** February 2019

Many styles of mattresses will be on display in the school cafeteria to look at and lay on. Mattresses come with full warranties and are delivered to your home.

**FORD/FREEDOM HILL/DTE CONCESSIONS ETC. (PULSE)** Ongoing All Year

### Parents volunteer to work the concession stands, earning money per event that can be deposited into your student’s account. Contact any band booster officer for more information regarding membership in PULSE.

### GENERAL FUND-RAISERS

**TAG DAYS**  October 12 + 13 2018

Students *sign up* in groups to go “door-to-door” within the Fraser School district neighborhoods seeking donations to benefit the entire band program. Adult help is needed both days as drivers, counters, and chaperones, etc.

**Spring Craft Show** March 9, 2019

THIS IS A HUGE AND TREMENDOUSLY SUCCESSFUL EVENT! Watch for updates. Many hands (adults and students) are needed to help set up on Friday, March 9, as well as working the show on the 10th. Sign-up sheets will be available in the March.

**FRASER HIGH SCHOOL AFGHANS** Ongoing all year

The band has sponsored the design and creation of a Fraser High School throw. These throws are 100% cotton and available for $40. For an additional $5 you may have your name and year of graduation machine embroidered on it. Please see Mr. Rodgers to order. This makes a great Christmas or graduation gift for your child or for any Fraser High School alumni.

**FRASER BAND MERCHANDISE** Ongoing all year

Show your pride in the Fraser Band program. Items available for purchase may include: T-shirts, hooded sweatshirts (can be personalized), jackets, hats, buttons, seat cushions, scarves, key chains and lanyards.

**PART II – OTHER COMMITTEES**

The success of every organization depends on the members doing the work. Committees required outside of fund-raising include:

**MARCHING BAND**

Assist with the distribution of water to students at home marching camp, football games, and parades. Act as parade marshals when needed. Act as chaperones for away marching camp.

**HOMECOMING**

With the pep assembly, parade, and game all on Friday night, the students are nourished with a “*gourmet* “meal of a hot dog, chips, cookie, and water immediately following the pre-game performance at the football game.

#### CONCERTS

Organize ticket sales, ushering, distribute programs, assisting with students

and crowd control.

**CONCESSIONS**

The selling of water, candies, and merchandise during concert events.

**UNIFORMS**

Organize the issuance and maintenance of marching and concert uniforms and their accessories. Help to sort uniforms before they are sent out to be cleaned in the spring.

**SENIOR BABY PICTURES FOR YEARBOOK**

Collect and organize senior band students’ baby pictures to be included in the yearbook. Works with the yearbook advisor to pay for and produce the pages.

**BANQUETS**

Organize and set up the Fall Marching Banquet and assist the senior class with the Spring Band Banquet.

**MERCHANDISING**

Organizing the purchasing and distribution of band wear and accessories

**PURCHASING**

Research any purchases boosters vote on before purchase is made.