

OAK GROVE



High School Bands

2023 - 2024

Band Parent/Booster Handbook

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Welcome

As a parent of a student in the band at Oak Grove Middle or High School, you are automatically a member of the Oak Grove Band Booster Organization! The Band Boosters are committed to supporting **all** of the band ensembles throughout our band program. We want to ensure that your student's experience in the band is very memorable and benefits them for a lifetime.

The Band Boosters rely heavily on the participation of our band members' parents. The need for volunteering is especially heavy during the fall semester (August - December), when parents are called upon to help run our concession stand, help organize and feed the students before football games, cover shifts in our Dewey's Holiday store, organize and distribute fundraiser goods, etc.

Without the commitment of the band members' parents, we cannot support the band program in the many meaningful ways that are essential to the success of our program. Through attending booster meetings, volunteering, and fundraising participation, we can ensure that our band program continues to see success and growth. Our fundraising efforts, volunteering, and participation allow us to supply our students with the equipment and services that will make their time in the band something they will cherish for life.

In today's economy, arts programs are the first to experience budget cuts within the local school systems and the monies that the county provides to the band directors do not come close to fully supporting our band programs; therefore, we rely heavily on varied fundraisers throughout the year to earn the money it takes to provide our students with adequate equipment, music, instruments, uniforms, repairs, travel accommodations for concerts and performances, banquets, meals, etc. with our Band Booster funds.

The Band Boosters hold meetings monthly, or as designated by the Band Booster President or our Band Directors (Mr. Howell and Mr. Liner), in the high school band room. The purpose of these meetings is to provide vital information and discuss current events, needs, and plans. We also spend time with our fellow band parents. The band directors attend all of these meetings and provide updates on all of the band ensemble's activities, successes, and any needs or issues that are affecting our band program or students.

Communication is our best asset. Parents and student members should become familiar with our band app site because it contains important information about upcoming events, needs, and general updates. It also allows us to share pictures and videos of our band students performing, practicing, etc.

Becoming an active participant in the Oak Grove Band Booster organization is vital and directly impacts our success as an organization. We have a number of parents who routinely participate and volunteer their time. Our group has a great time together, develops friendships, and most importantly, we enjoy and cherish time with all of the band students making memories that will last forever and the ability to spend time investing in our own children and their chosen activity throughout their time in middle and high school.

How Can I Help My Student Succeed?

About 95% of the effort that is required for success in the band program must come from your student. Band participation requires discipline and commitment from each student; however, there are a number of things that parents can do to support their children and encourage their enthusiastic participation. Here is a list of proven suggestions, gleaned from several band parents that will help you and your student be well on your way to a great year in the band:

- Attend Band Booster meetings regularly. This is the easiest way to stay up-to-date on your student's band activities and learn of upcoming events.
- Be informed! Read the Band Parent Handbook and join us on the "Band App". Calendars of events are kept up to date, Band Director updates, etc. are posted regularly.
- Communicate concerns or conflicts to the band directors or a Band Booster Board Member immediately so they can be resolved.
- Develop contacts, friendships, and acquaintances through participation and message them through the band app if your child needs an unexpected ride to band practice!
- Support the very important ideals of a team effort and being part of a team. "Others before self" is the greeted attitude to encourage in your child.
- Volunteer your time for an activity with the band that interests you. This is the best way to get to know the students and the other parents. Your student will be aware and feel your support, even though they may not acknowledge it now, they will cherish this time with you for the rest of their lives. The band ensembles and band boosters need the support of every band parent to succeed!
- Encourage your student to stay ahead of the game by practicing regularly, and learning their music before the deadline. Encourage them to audition for All-County and All-District Bands. These auditions will give them skills that will help them in future interview situations throughout their lives.
- Offer assistance to your student when appropriate, but do not do everything for your student. Taking and learning personal responsibility is one of the most difficult, but most valuable life skills your student will gain through their band membership.
- Participate in the band's activities by cheering at competitions, football half-time shows, concerts, pep band performances, etc. It is hard to perform your best with an absent or silent audience.
- Remember that once your student graduates from high school, opportunities to enjoy this much time with them are few. Enjoy your student(s) and their interests while you can!
- Keep a positive attitude. Find things to compliment or praise. Avoid criticizing. If your student made a mistake, they know it. Leave the critique to the band directors or clinicians. If your child is upset about their performance, you might say that you are sure they did their personal best at that moment.
- Be prompt and encourage your student to be prompt. It is important to your student's development of self-discipline and it is important to the success of the entire band program. Quite often, the tardiness of even one student holds up an entire rehearsal. ***To be early is to be on time. To be on time is to be late.***

Oak Grove Band Boosters, Inc.

3507 Midway School Rd ~♪~ Winston-Salem, NC 27107 ~♪~ Ph: (336) 474-8280

- Remember that everything we do, we do for the students and the program.

Our Band Booster Board-

The Oak Grove Band Booster Board is excited to have your student in one of our band ensembles and looks forward to getting to know you, their parent(s), too! We vow to support this program and work with you to ensure that our students see continued growth and success as individuals, musicians, and Oak Grove Band members. You can reach the Band Booster Board members on the Band App. Our current board members are:

President- D Martin

Vice President- Joe Rose

Secretary- Wendy Ellington

Treasurer- Tonya Cecil

Fundraising Chair- Brooke Hamby

Middle School Liaison- Vacant

Our Ensembles and Performances:

Middle School-

The middle school currently has 3 performing ensembles: 6th Grade Band, Advanced Middle School Band (7th and 8th grade), and Pep Band.

Pep-Band performs at home football and some basketball games.

Both Middle School Concert Ensembles will perform the following concerts at Oak Grove:

- Christmas Holiday Concert
- Spring Concert

The **Advanced Middle School Ensemble(s)** (7th and 8th graders) will perform:

- a Fall Concert at Oak Grove
- a Pre-MPA concert in early spring (to prepare for their MPA performance)
- Will travel to Lenoir to perform and participate in Music Performance Adjudication (MPA) each spring.

Both Middle School Concert Ensembles will perform a Christmas Holiday Concert.

Both Middle School Concert Ensembles will perform a Spring Concert.

High School-

The high school currently has 3 performing ensembles: Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, and The Sound of Grizzly Pride Marching Band.

- The **Marching Band** performs at Home Football games and competes at Marching Festivals throughout central North Carolina throughout the fall.
- **Both High School Concert Ensembles** will perform the following concerts at Oak Grove:
 - **Fall Concert**
 - **Christmas Concert**
 - **Pre-MPA Concert**
 - **Spring Concert**
- **Both High School Concert Ensembles** will travel to Lenoir to perform and participate in Music Performance Adjudication (MPA) each spring.

All Oak Grove Band Students-

Our students are highly encouraged to try out and participate in All-County Band, All-District Band, etc. They are given ample amounts of instruction and time for practice to get ready for these auditions.

Annual Fundraising Activities-

Each year, our Band Boosters and Band Students run multiple fundraisers to earn the additional funds needed to run a successful marching band and multiple concert band/wind ensembles. Our Band Boosters set a selling goal for students for each fundraiser, and offer incentives to students for meeting those goals.

In lieu of fundraising, the Band Boosters also set a buy-out fee, comparable to the profit amount that would be brought in by students meeting the Band Booster's goal, that parents can pay instead of participating in the fundraiser.

We typically have the following fundraisers each year:

- **Marching Band Camp Fundraiser-** varies in type, and offers Marching Band members the ability to earn money towards their marching band fees.
- **Mid-Fall fundraiser-** typically a fruit sale.
- **Dewey's Holiday Store-** our LARGEST FUNDRAISER each year. We open and operate a Dewey's Partner Store Locally from Mid-November thru December 24th. We will have a mandatory parent meeting/training before the store opens. There are multiple 2-person shifts each day (11am-2pm, 2pm-5pm, and 5pm-8pm Sunday-Friday) and (8am-11am, 11am-2pm, 2pm-5pm, and 5pm-8pm each Saturday).
- **A winter/early spring fundraiser-** varies in type, offers Marching Band members the ability to earn money towards their marching band fees/deposit.
- **An occasional mid-late spring fundraiser (depending on need and the success of our other fundraising efforts)-** varies in type, and offers Marching Band members the ability to earn money towards their marching band fees/deposit.

*** If a Marching Band member owes money on their marching band "fair share" dues, they will not be eligible for any monetary incentives/rewards offered by the Band Boosters as those incentives/rewards will be applied to the unpaid balance.

Annual Volunteer Opportunities-

Supporting our band programs requires parent participation throughout the year. There are numerous opportunities to be a part and help out. Here are some of the various volunteer activities the band boosters do each year. The boosters post sign-up genius sites for our various volunteer needs and distribute through the band directors, our FaceBook page, and the Band App.

Davidson County Band Night-

Last year, Oak Grove hosted Davidson County Band Night for the first time. This event is a mini-competition / exhibition for all of the Davidson County Marching Bands to showcase their field shows for one another and requires ALL HANDS ON DECK to be successful. This is also an excellent fundraising opportunity for our Band Programs. Many times our marching students compete against various bands from our county; however, they rarely get the opportunity to watch and cheer on their Davidson County band peers. This night gives Davidson County Band Marching Band Members and family members an opportunity to support each other and the arts in the Davidson County Schools. There are many volunteer areas for this event including- Concessions, Admission, Janitorial Duties, Pit Crew duties, Vendor duties for apparel/Grizzly Grams/etc. We will create a sign-up genius for this event that will be shared soon.

High School Football Concessions -

Each year, the band boosters operate the concession stand on the visitor side of our Football Stadium for all home football games (JV and Varsity). We need a minimum of 4 volunteers for each game to prep food, take payments, and serve guests. We have a new square register this year and will be able to take more forms of payment including apple pay and cash app! All football game concession stand evenings will be on the volunteer sign-up genius. (All concession volunteers must wear a hair net or hat while inside the concession stand).

Marching Band Pit Crew -

Our marching band parent Pit Crew is one of the most essential parts to getting our band on and off the field after each performance. Being a member of the Pit Crew is a larger commitment as it requires the same group of people to work together for each and every performance to assure the props are placed correctly and the pit percussion equipment gets on and off the field efficiently. This is a group of 10-20 parents/supporters that orchestrate loading and unloading equipment and taking equipment and props onto and off of the field before and after performances.

Holiday Dewey's Partner Store-

Each Christmas Season, from early-Mid November through December 24th, our Band Booster organization has operated a Dewey's partner store in our area as our **program's largest annual fundraiser**. There will be a mandatory meeting a week or two before the store opens to provide brief training and explain how to run the store. There is also a notebook kept at the store with instructions on how to run each shift and band booster board members are available for questions throughout the time

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the store is open if necessary. This activity is easy and fun! Our store hours this coming season will be 11:00AM-8:00PM Sunday-Friday with three 3-hour shifts each day (11AM-2PM, 2-5PM, 5-8PM) and 8:00AM-8:00PM on Saturdays with 4 three hour shifts (8-11AM, 11AM-2PM, 2-5PM, 5-8PM).

Fundraising Organization-

Every year, our Band Boosters and Band Students run multiple fundraisers to earn the additional funds needed to run a successful marching band and multiple concert band/wind ensembles; therefore, conducting fundraisers is necessary and parent/member participation is essential. We typically do fundraisers at the following times each year: a Marching Band Camp fundraiser, mid-fall All Band Student Fundraiser, the Dewey's Holiday Store, a winter/early spring All Band Student Fundraiser, and sometimes a mid-late spring All Band Student Fundraiser depending on need and the success of our other fundraising efforts. Organizing a fundraiser requires you to become a contact person for the band boosters along with the fundraising chairperson for the company we are completing the fundraiser through. It also requires scheduling all dates for the fundraiser (start/stop/delivery) (with the help/input of the chairperson and band directors), helping create the letter that will be sent home with students, what rewards will be available for student participation, gathering order forms and monies from the band directors, entering or completing orders with the Fundraising company and organizing disbursement of goods if needed. The Fundraising chairperson will be there to assist you every step of the way and help be the liaison between you, the directors, and the fundraising companies.

Serving on our Band Booster Board-

Getting involved with the Band Boosters to help support your student in their activities shows them how invested you are in them and what they are doing. Being a part of the Boosters and serving in a Board position allows you opportunities to spend additional time with your student and the other amazing students that are a part of our Band Programs. Our board is like our band family, and we all enjoy the time we spend together to ensure the success of the Oak Grove Bands from both the Middle and High School. Our Band Booster Board members are present and active at almost all of our band activities. Our Band Booster Board currently has the following positions/responsibilities:

President-

Preside at all Board and General Membership meetings. Prepares meeting agendas. An unofficial member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. Signs or approves all contracts on behalf of the organization. Shall keep all contracts on file for the current and the preceding three years. Performs other duties as indicated by the office. Updates the Band Booster Facebook page and Band App as necessary.

Vice President-

Acts as Chairperson for the Transportation Committee and may appoint Transportation Coordinator(s). Preside at all Board and General Membership meetings in the absence of the President. Performs other duties as indicated to the office of the President in the absence of that director, or disability of the President. Ensure that all band volunteers are registered and approved through Davidson County Public School System. Handles special projects assigned by the Band Director or President.

Treasurer-

Keeps accurate records of receipts and disbursements. Provides financial reports for all Board and General Membership meetings. Prepares projected annual budget for the Board to recommend to the membership for approval. Reports delinquent dues/fees to the President and Vice President. Maintains accurate records of student accounts. Prepares required tax forms. Shall keep all financial records for this organization for the preceding seven years. Prepare cash boxes for any events where money will be collected and change may be required.

Secretary-

Acts as chairperson of the Communications Committee. Records minutes, attendance, decisions, and actions at all Board and General Membership meetings. Publishes minutes of all General Membership meetings on the website. Maintains Band Booster website and Facebook page. Updates the Band App. Conducts formal Correspondence. Informs and updates members of schedules and schedule changes. Maintains roster and registration paperwork. Creates Sign-Up Genius for volunteer activities.

Fundraising Chairperson-

Acts as chairperson of the Fundraising Committee. Helps to plan, coordinate, organize, and operate all fundraising activities for the Oak Grove Band Programs and the Oak Grove Band Boosters. Updates the Band Booster Facebook page and Band App as necessary for fundraising activities. Attends all Band Booster and Board Meetings throughout the year. Discretion to appoint individuals to organize and administer each fundraiser.

Fundraising Co-Chairperson-

Acts together with the Fundraising Chairperson to help plan, coordinate, organize, and operate all fundraising activities for the Oak Grove Band Programs and the Oak Grove Band Boosters. May assist with updating the band's FaceBook page or the Band App with fundraising information. Attends all Band Booster and Board Meetings throughout the year.

Middle School Liaison-

This position is for a middle school parent to sit in on Band Booster Board Meetings and Band Booster Meetings to serve as a liaison for the Middle School Parents in our Band Booster Organization. You may assist with collaboration with Mr. Liner for Middle School Band needs for the board to consider and distribute fundraising materials to Mr. Liner for the Middle School Band Students.



Oak Grove Bands

“The Sound of Grizzly Pride”

info@oakgrovebands.com

www.oakgrovebands.com

EIN: 45-2980531

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

The Oak Grove Band Boosters Sponsor Program offers sponsorship opportunities to both businesses and individuals. Sponsorships range from our \$50 “Eighth Note” Level to our \$5,000+ “Sound of Grizzly Pride” Level.

How do Sponsors Benefit?

Businesses that “partner” with the band will receive varying levels of recognition based on their level of support. They gain community exposure (advertising) and are eligible for tax write-offs as we are a registered non-profit 501c(3). By partnering with local businesses, we are making community connections. Businesses that invest in a program that instills discipline, work ethic, music appreciation, fitness, camaraderie, and respect are investing in this community’s future leaders!

How Do Our Students Benefit?

Not only do our bands perform at concerts and most home football games, we also travel to competitions in various areas within North Carolina. These trips allow students to showcase their talents and represent our school. Our students both at the middle and high school levels also compete and perform in County, District, and State Honor Band Clinics, further representing our Community.

All funds collected through the sponsor program go directly into the general band fund to finance band travel, visiting instructor stipends, member sponsorships (for in-need families to help with MB dues), equipment cost and maintenance, music licensing and purchase, etc.

Finding Your Sponsors

To assist in the collection of all required information, we are providing information that details each level available to our community partners/individual benefactors. Start with companies that you support on a regular basis: your dentist, your exterminator, a local contractor, etc. Your positive testimony about the Oak Grove Band Program is the best pitch!

Please note: It is VERY IMPORTANT that you provide your contact information at the bottom of the Sponsorship Form. Having this information provides the potential sponsor contact for questions and provides the boosters with the information necessary to get in touch with you if needed.

Please remember that care must be taken to avoid repeated solicitations of businesses and a professional approach should be used.

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Sponsorship Levels and Details:

“Sound of Grizzly Pride” Level Sponsor \$5,000+

- Corporate Logo on OG Band Trailer- one 50”x12” or two 25”x10” spaces.
- Logo on the Band Show Shirt.
- Recognition on band social media sites.
- Recognition at home football games.
- Signature recognition in all band emails.
- Acknowledgement in concert programs.
- Two Golf Shirts with the OG Band Logo and the Sponsor Level embroidered on the shirt.
- Certificate of appreciation.

“Grizzly Bear” Level Sponsor \$2,500+

- Corporate Logo on the OG Band Trailer- one 25”x10” space.
- Logo on the Band Show Shirt.
- Recognition on band social media sites.
- Recognition at home football games.
- Signature recognition in all band emails.
- Acknowledgement in concert programs.
- One Golf Shirt with the OG Band Logo and the Sponsor Level embroidered on the shirt.
- Certificate of appreciation.

“Whole Note” Level Sponsor \$1,000+

- Corporate Logo on the OG Band Trailer- one 12.5”x10” space.
- Recognition on band social media sites.
- Recognition at home football games.
- Signature recognition in all band emails.
- Acknowledgement in concert programs.
- One Golf Shirt with the OG Band Logo and the Sponsor Level embroidered on the shirt.
- Certificate of Appreciation.

“Half Note” Level Sponsor \$500+

- Recognition on band social media sites.
- Recognition at home football games.
- Acknowledgement in concert programs.
- One Golf Shirt with the OG Band Logo and the Sponsor Level embroidered on the shirt.
- Certificate of Appreciation.

“Quarter Note” Level Sponsor \$100+

- Recognition at home football games
- Acknowledgement in concert programs
- Choice of one OG Blue Band T-Shirt or The Marching Band Theme Show T-Shirt.
- Certificate of Appreciation

“Eighth Note” Level Sponsor \$50+

- Acknowledgement in concert programs.
- Choice of one OG Blue Band T-Shirt or the Marching Band Theme Show T-Shirt.
- Certificate of Appreciation.

“Pre-game” Meal Sponsor-

- Recognition at the football game you sponsor the meal for or following home game if you sponsor an away game meal.
- Acknowledgement in concert programs.
- Choice of One OG Blue Band T-Shirt or the Marching Band Theme Show T-Shirt.
- Certificate of Appreciation

**** IMPORTANT NOTE ****

****All donors will be listed in our concert programs and other recognition above unless anonymity is requested on the sponsorship form.**

****All donations are Tax Deductible! We are registered as a 501c(3)!**

Whole Note - Sound of Grizzly Pride level sponsors:

Please email your artwork in an editable PDF or Vector file to Mike Howell (Band Director) at mhowell@davidson.k12.nc.us or Matt Liner (Band Director) at mliner@davidson.k12.nc.us.

Half Note - Pre-Game Meal Sponsors:

Please list your sponsor name below as you wish it to be printed.

***** Forms & Artwork due by May 26, 2023 – Sponsorship will run through May 2024 *****

Please make all checks payable to:

Oak Grove Band Boosters

(OGBB are an IRS 501(c)3 Corporation - Federal Tax ID# 45-2980531)

Please mail forms and payment to:

**Oak Grove Band Boosters
3507 Midway School Road
Winston Salem, NC 27107**

For questions, please contact a Band Booster Board Member on the Band App or at the contact information below:

D Martin (President) - (704) 692-3080 ashcadkenmom@yahoo.com

Joe Rose (Vice President) - rjrose0079@gmail.com

Tonya Cecil (Treasurer) - oakgrovebandboosters@yahoo.com

Wendy Ellington (Secretary) - info@oakgrovebands.com

Brooke Hamby (Fundraising Chair) - (336) 997-1323 bgodfrey1983@gmail.com

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Oak Grove Sound of Grizzly Pride Sponsorship Form

Sponsor Level: (check one)

___ "Sound of Grizzly Pride" Level Sponsor \$5,000+

___ "Grizzly Bear" Level Sponsor \$2,500+

___ "Whole Note" Level Sponsor \$1,000+

___ "Half Note" Level Sponsor \$500+

___ "Quarter Note" Level Sponsor \$100+

___ "Eighth Note" Level Sponsor \$50+

___ "Pre-Game" Meal Sponsor

Business/Individual Information:

Company Name/ Individual Name: _____

Main Contact: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Donation Amount/Sponsor Level: _____ Check #: _____

OG Band Family / Student Name for Sponsorship : _____

I would like my name/organization to remain anonymous: (Circle one) **Yes** **No**

Dear Sound of Grizzly Pride Marching Band Families and Supporters,

Welcome to the 2023 - 2024 Sound of Grizzly Pride Marching Band! Our band has been growing and competitive throughout central North Carolina, and we are delighted to have you as part of our program this year.

The show theme for this year is : 'xxxxxxx'

- The band participates in local competitions throughout the fall season.
- Several talented individuals are employed by the Band Boosters to assist with training the marching band and color guard and for field show design and music development.

Parents, Our high school students will be with us for only a few more years before they move on to college or a career. Use this time to create some meaningful memories with your student. Show your student/s how important they are to you by becoming involved in support of their chosen extra-curricular activity. Enjoy the camaraderie of other parents as we work together to provide this activity for our students.

The Oak Grove Band Boosters, Inc. is a non-profit organization formed to support all aspects of the Oak Grove Middle School and Oak Grove High School band programs. The Band Boosters provide three key components to the band program:

- Communication with the parents.
- Technical/Labor Support.
- Financial Support

Communication

For all the latest information about the Sound of Grizzly Pride, check us out on these sources:

- The Oak Grove Band's Facebook page.
- The Band App.
- **Band booster meetings are held the First Tuesday of every month @ 6 PM in the OGHS Band Room or at the discretion of the Band Directors or Booster President.**
- **Please note:** our first booster meeting of this marching season will be **Sunday, August 6, 2023**, in conjunction with our Band Camp Kick-Off Mandatory Parent Meeting.

Technical / Labor Support

- Technical / labor support is provided through adult volunteer hours.
- We need help from all families to share the work and lighten the load. If young children or weekend jobs limit your ability to help at football games or competitions, consider coordinating one of our fundraisers.

Financial Support

- Your annual dues commitments make up about 40% of our total budget.
- **Fundraising** is essential to pay for equipment, uniforms, music, marching shows, instructors, parades, wind ensembles, concert bands, classroom activities, and needs. Every family and student is strongly encouraged to **actively fundraise and/or pay an opt-out fee** to meet the needs of the program.
- All opt-out fees made in lieu of fundraising are tax-deductible.

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Marching Rehearsals- will be held **EVERY Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday after school** unless otherwise noted. Tuesday and Thursday rehearsals are **3:30-7:00 PM** and Friday rehearsals take place before football games from **3:30-5:00 PM** before dinner and dressing out for the games. Our band members also rehearse at mini-camps multiple Saturday mornings throughout the season before leaving to travel for competitions.

Students should bring a healthy snack to eat quickly after school before practice to carry them through until you get home for dinner. Don't forget to drink/bring plenty of water too!

- Rehearsals will end at **7:00** on Tuesdays and Thursdays
- *Parents, picking up students, please allow 15-20 minutes after **7:00** for students to help put equipment and instruments away at the conclusion of rehearsal.*

Attendance Policy-

Attendance is mandatory at all band performances! Any absences from all or part of a rehearsal will require a written excuse from parents or a doctor giving an explanation for the absence. Excuses should be submitted in advance of the absence when possible. Students with jobs will be expected to be at all rehearsals, so please inform your employer accordingly. If a member has one unexcused or two excused absences from rehearsal within a one-week period, the member will not be allowed to march that weekend but required to attend. Attendance issues will be handled on an individual basis.

Parent Release Policy-

Students are expected to return to school after **ANY** performance and help unload and put away all equipment. Parents, please make sure you have downloaded the "Band App" to receive crucial information for each event. *Please allow 15-20 minutes after we arrive back at school to help unload and put equipment and instruments away. Example: band app announcement posted at 9:30 pm "Arrival at the school in 30 minutes". Expect to pick your child up by 10:15-10:20.*

Performance Guidelines Expected of Students-

1. Make sure all of your uniform parts are clean and fitted properly. Improper uniform care will not be tolerated.
2. Proper care of the hat and hat box is expected.
3. Black marching shoes must be cleaned for each performance and LONG Black socks MUST Always be worn.
4. You must wear your Blue Band shirt or Show theme shirt as directed under your uniform.
5. You will be required to wear shorts or biker shorts under your uniform pants - NO JEANS.
6. Make sure your instrument is in good repair so you may perform to the best of your ability.

A Word of Warning-

Marching rehearsals, especially at the beginning of a season, can seem a lot like boot camp. For some members, this is a very intense experience that can leave them feeling frustrated. Talk to them, support them, and encourage them to hang in there. Before you make any final decisions, talk to the band director or maybe an experienced band parent. Perhaps they can offer insight and suggestions on how to get past this hurdle.

Drop-Off Times-

On-time is **LATE!!!** Members must be in the band room 10 minutes before any event or practice. Example: Rehearsal begins at 3:30 means to arrive by 3:20 and being ready to begin rehearsing at 3:30. Earlier is even better. Occasionally, a section will have an earlier-than-usual start or an additional day of rehearsal for sectionals. Your child should know about this in advance and keep you informed. It helps to check in with your child regularly and/or the “Band App” for changes or adjustments in the schedule.

Pick-up times - Rehearsals / Games / Competitions-

For Rehearsals- If rehearsal ends at **7:00 pm**, the band members still need to put equipment/instruments away. Some sections will have a brief section meeting right at the end of practice. Do not be surprised if **7:00 becomes 7:15 or 7:20**. Your member will have to stay until released by the band director or student leader.

For Games- Plan to pick your student up by 10:00 PM but be flexible... The time does vary depending on the length of the game and putting away equipment and instruments.

For Competitions/Parades- please make sure you have downloaded the “Band App” to receive critical information for each event. The directors will post information about when the band will arrive back at school for each event. **DO NOT PARK IN THE CIRCLE!** (This is where we will park the buses and we need to get the trailer/s backed in). Be patient and understand that competition days are long for members, parents, and staff but we still have responsibilities when we arrive back at school.

Performances this Season-

Davidson County Band Night- put this date on your calendar now, we will need all hands on deck for this event.

XX

2023 FOOTBALL GAMES

Students will rehearse after school and our boosters typically arrange for sponsored meals before each home game.

8/18 - Home against SW Guilford

8/25 - HOME against West Forsyth (Community Night)

***9/1- AWAY against Ragsdale

***9/8- AWAY against North Forsyth

***9/15- AWAY against Dover (a new school for this season)

***9/22- BYE

9/29- HOME against Asheboro

10/6- HOME against North Davidson (Homecoming)

10/13- AWAY against Ledford

10/20- HOME against Montgomery Central (Senior Night)

10/27- AWAY against Central Davidson

11/3 and beyond - NCHSAA Playoff Games

*** denotes games we may / may not be in attendance at and/or travel for.

2023 Marching Competition Schedule (TENTATIVE)- reserve these entire days (morning, afternoon, and evening)

XX

XX

XX

XX

XX

XX

XX

2023 Parade Schedule (TENTATIVE)- reserve these days. More details will follow on the Band App.

11/11/2023 - Veterans Day Parade (Lexington, NC)

11/25/2023- Midway Christmas Parade (Midway, NC)

The Top Seven Things You Should Know as a Marching Band Parent

7. Your student is probably more capable than you realize.

Even if you have all the time in the world, you will start to feel like a personal servant if you don't ask your kids to take some responsibility for their own stuff. Water jugs, lunches, props, laundry— it never ends. Your student can make a sandwich, fill up a water jug, and set out their “stuff”. If you are inclined, help them create checklists so that they remember everything they need to bring. It will be a lot of stuff, so be ready.

6. Learn to manage your time and teach your student/s how to manage theirs.

You WILL be busy— especially from August through November. You will receive calendars in emails and on the band app, but you MUST find a way to keep track of everything. More importantly, your student will have to balance band and school work. Many of the band kids are honor students, and the time management skills they learn will help them throughout their life.

5. Bring cash, warm clothes, and something to sit on.

Most school functions require that you bring cash. Competitions charge admission (usually \$5-10 per person). Children under the age of 5 are usually admitted free. You MUST bring cash. Concessions are typically cash only, as are some souvenir vendors.

4. Band Directors are people, too.

But they are BUSY people. They work long hours and their main focus is the kids. If you have a specific concern about your child and the band program, set up a time to discuss it. If you need general information, the directors are probably not your best resource. Try a fellow parent or another band booster.

On another note: Marching band requires dedication and discipline from your student. The job of the directors is to help your student excel in the band. Directors can speak loudly, pointedly, and sometimes without pleasantries. When mistakes are made, especially due to inattention or lack of effort, there are consequences. Try to relax and allow the process to work. Encourage your student/s to do their best, listen, and work hard. *Everyone wants your child to be successful.* You will learn this as you move through the season.

3. We can't do it without you — Volunteer and come to our booster meetings.

You will be asked to commit time, energy, and band fees to the band program. Unlike many sports programs, the Sound of Grizzly Pride must have parent volunteers to run smoothly, and it is the best way for you to get to know others. Plan to attend as many booster meetings as you can. They are only once a month and typically last around an hour. Mr. Howell and Mr. Liner typically address the parents with updates for all of the Oak Grove Bands and will answer parent questions. It is time well spent. About volunteering, no experience is necessary. There are some tasks that require specific skills, but most opportunities do not. If you can pull a soda from a cooler, take tickets, use scissors, sew, or use a hammer or drill— you have all of the skills you will need. There are many opportunities, so you are guaranteed to find something you actually enjoy doing. Volunteering helps to keep band fees at a minimum and can have fun doing it. Trust us, we have been there and now have friendships to last beyond our time with the band.

2. Join us on the BAND APP and read your email.

This could be said 1,000 times and still not be enough. As the season progresses, you may get multiple updates each day. READ THEM. Check the APP daily. You may not always completely understand what is posted, but READ THEM. If you are completely lost, you can message a board member on the Band App.

1. Yes, it is WORTH IT!!!!

All of the rides, time, and effort that as a parent, you put into getting your child to rehearsals are worth every second. You may not be able to appreciate that in the beginning. Your student may get discouraged at first. There is a lot of repetition, hot and sweaty days, failures, and disappointments. Then the show comes together and everything changes. New energy emerges, and excitement grows. This is the point where they will fall in LOVE with the marching band or decide to do something different next fall. Most of the kids LOVE the band by the end of the season, so make them tough it out for the whole season. It will be worth it.

We look forward to meeting all of you and working with you to provide a successful program this season!

Your Booster Board

President- D Martin

Vice President- Joe Rose

Secretary- Wendy Ellington

Treasurer- Tonya Cecil

Fundraising Chair- Brooke Hamby

Fundraising Co-Chair- Vacant

Middle School Liaison- Vacant

Oak Grove Band Boosters, Inc.

3507 Midway School Rd ~♪~ Winston-Salem, NC 27107 ~♪~ Ph: (336) 474-8280

2023 Summer Band Camp Schedule

Attendance at all camp dates is required. Please DO NOT make other commitments on these dates!

MARCHING BAND SEASON KICK-OFF PARENT MEETING

08/6/2023 at 6:30 PM

Booster Board Members will be available to answer questions and accept dues payments and other required forms from 5-6:15 PM. First-year members/parents should arrive at 5 PM. Second-year members/parents should arrive at 5:30 PM. Third-year members/parents should arrive at 5:45 PM. Fourth/Fifth-year members/parents should arrive at 6:00 PM.

There will be a required meeting with the Parents/Boosters and the Band Directors at 6:30 PM in the Auditorium.

Mandatory Camp for ALL MEMBERS

CAMP WEEK 1- Monday, August 7 - Friday, August 11

CAMP WEEK 2- Monday, August 14 - Friday, August 18

MARCHING BAND END OF BAND CAMP SHOW PREVIEW AND MEAL

At the end of Band Camp on the 2nd week, our students will showcase their hard work by performing a portion of their show for parents and supporters at our First Home Football Game for the Season.

We will have an end-of-Band Camp Celebration Meal for Students before the Football Game.

What your student/s should bring to Band Camp Every Day

- Instruments (flags, sticks, mallets, etc.)
- Music folder, pencil, pen, highlighter.
- Water jugs (HYDRATION IS IMPORTANT, IT IS HOT OUT THERE!!!)
- Hats, Sunscreen, Sunglasses
- Towel (to lay instruments on outside)
- Lunch and drinks (carbonated/caffeinated drinks are discouraged) - you must bring lunch to camp every day. No one will be allowed to leave campus for lunch during band camp. (Some students order pizza delivery or have other foods delivered to them)
- Tennis Shoes (no slides, flip flops, or sandals allowed - the band "farmer tan" is cool!)
- Shorts, shirts (must follow DC Dress Code Standards, no Sports Bras or bathing suit tops permitted).

"Fair Share" Dues Commitment and Schedule

This year, the boosters are completely changing our Marching Band Dues Payment Options and Amount. The marching band receives NO FUNDING from DCS; therefore, It is necessary for our boosters to collect fees for participation. These funds help cover the cost of band camp, instruments, extra staffing, music, charting, equipment, props, transportation, and other needs.

Due to recent inflation, our expenses have been higher than usual, and our available funds are low. We need to make adjustments in our fee amount/s to accommodate for the growth and sustainment of our program's growing tradition of excellence and success.

We are implementing a new "Fair Share" Dues Commitment Program for participating in the marching band where families can choose a payment option that best fits them and will increase volunteer efforts to support your students. These options include a full-price plan and two separate options for reducing fees by participating in various volunteer activities that are completed by the band boosters. Credits that partially offset fees are earned by volunteering for a set number of activities (Pit Crew, Concession Stand, Band Night, Dewey's Store shift/s, Fundraiser Organization, and Serving on our Booster Board). (One of the volunteer activities must be working a shift at our Dewey's Holiday Store).

If more than one parent volunteers together in one activity, it counts as two activity credits. (Example: if both parents volunteer in the concession stand one night, that will fulfill two volunteer commitments; however, if the standard "fair share" plan is chosen, this family will still need to cover one Dewey's Holiday Store shift).

Student's that owe a balance on their band account from previous years must pay the balance in full in order to be eligible to enroll for the upcoming marching season. Families with demonstrated financial need may apply for financial aid to assist with their unpaid balance.

Financial Assistance

Sponsorships are available through our booster organization for students who demonstrate financial need. No student should be discouraged from joining due to financial obligation; we will assist every family willing to contribute their "fair share". We recognize that the Marching Band can put a financial strain on some families. We want everyone who wants to participate to be able. So that we understand financial needs and can assist all families who need it, communication is essential. All financial communications are completely confidential between the family in need and the Booster Board. Financial Aid/Sponsorship information is available by contacting a Booster Board member or Mr. Howell. Please fill out the Financial Aid or Sponsorship form as well.

Financial Aid/Alternate Payment Arrangement Form

<https://forms.gle/hdUUw6bpPbmw8Y9W7>

Sponsorship Application Form

<https://forms.gle/CdPWeA628DZfjL5C7>

If you would like to contribute to our sponsorship funds that help students with financial challenges, please see a Booster Board member or the Band Directors.

Families with Two or More Students in Marching Band

Families with more than one student in the marching band program will receive a discount.

- Non-Refundable Deposit: \$100 for the first student; \$80 for each additional student.
- Fair Share Payment totals: There is a 20% discount on all "fair share" dues for each additional student. Therefore, subsequent payment amounts will be \$80 for each additional student.
- Having more than one student in the marching band **will not increase volunteer activity requirements**. Parents with more than one student will only have to fulfill two volunteer activities or 5 volunteer activities for the season depending on the "Fair Share" Dues Commitment they choose.

Payment Information

The Band Boosters accept a variety of payment forms including cash, check (made out to Oak Grove Band Boosters), square link, apple pay (in person only with our square register), cash app (in person only with our square register) (a convenience fee will apply to electronic fee payments).

Please note, dues totals will increase by \$50.00 if your child plays a school-owned instrument and should be paid at the time of deposit which is due on May 26th.

"Fair Share" Dues Commitment Plans

Option 1: Convenience Plan

**(No Volunteer Commitment) and
adds \$100 to the fee amount to a total of \$500).**

Deposit of \$100 + any back fees due by May 26th. \$400 due at Band Camp Registration.
Volunteering is still encouraged and Fundraiser Participation / Buy-Out is Essential.

Option 2: Standard Plan

**(Requires 2 volunteer activities and allows for
staggered installment payments to total \$400).**

Deposit of \$100 + any back fees due by May 26th. \$100 due at Band Camp Registration, \$100 due September 1, 2023, and \$100 Due Oct 1, 2023. Parent/s must complete 2 volunteer activities during the fall semester (One of the volunteer activities must be a shift at our Dewey's Store) (or \$100 will be added to my member's dues and must be paid before registration for next marching season) and Fundraiser Participation / Buy-Out is Essential.

Option 3: Volunteer Plan

**(Requires 5 volunteer activities and allows for
Staggered installment payments to total \$300)**

**** PREFERRED PLAN ****

Deposit of \$100 + any back fees due by May 26th. \$100 due at Band Camp Registration, \$100 due September 1, 2023. Parent/s must complete 5 volunteer activities during the fall semester (One of the volunteer activities must be a shift at our Dewey's Store) (or \$200 will be added to the member's dues and must be paid before registration for next marching season) and Fundraiser Participation / Buy-Out is Essential.

Non Refundable Deposit Payment of \$100+ and any back fees - By May 26th

This is the 1st payment towards your "fair share" dues commitment plan. A non-refundable \$50 will be added to this total if your child plays a school-owned instrument. We accept the following payment methods: Checks can be made out to Oak Grove Band Boosters, cash, or you can use our square link (there will be a convenience fee), electronic in-person payment at Marching Band Registration night. **Please write your member name in the memo line to ensure the credit is given to your student's account.** Student statements with any remaining owed fees from previous years will be available at Marching Band Registration Night or can be requested by contacting our treasurer Tonya Cecil via the Band App or email: oakgrovebandboosters@yahoo.com or contacting Mr. Howell.

“Fair Share” Dues Volunteer Credit Opportunities: The following are volunteer opportunities you can participate in to fulfill your "Fair Share" Dues Commitment Plan. We will be creating several sign-up genius links for you to sign up for your volunteer activities. *****Please see the descriptions of the following volunteer activities on pages 6-8 of this handbook.*****

Band Night-

Volunteering on Band Night allows you to earn 1 Volunteer Activity Credit towards your Dues Commitment.

Football Concessions -

Volunteering in the Concession Stand allows you to earn 1 Volunteer Activity Credit towards your Dues Commitment per shift.

Pit Crew-

Volunteering to be a Pit-crew member and helping at all events will allow you to earn 3 Volunteer Activity Credits at the end of the season.

Dewey's Store-

Volunteering to work in the Dewey's Store allows you to earn 1 Volunteer Activity Credit towards your Dues Commitment per shift. *****One Volunteer Activity Credit must be working a shift in the Dewey's Store.**

Fundraising Organization-

Volunteering to organize one of our fundraisers will allow you to earn 2 Volunteer Activity Credits towards your Dues Commitment.

Serving on our Band Booster Board-

Serving in a Band Booster Board Member Role allows you to earn 5 Volunteer Activity Credits towards your Dues Commitment.