

FRESHMAN PARENT SUPPORT

QUESTION & ANSWERS

What is a refrigerator decoration?

All of the dates and places of band activities.

What is B.O.A.?

One of the competition circuits that Milford participates in (Bands of America).

What is M.C.B.A.?

Another one of the competition circuits Milford participates in (Michigan Competing Bands Association).

Will my student manage homework and practice?

Yes, they know how much time they have and they will manage it well.

What is proper band etiquette?

Every band works hard, it's their turn to show everyone their accomplishments. We always want to be courteous by applauding each and every band, not talking, walking or standing during a performance and not to speak badly of any performance; their parents may be next to you.

How involved do I have to get?

Your involvement is entirely up to your own time schedule and desires, but you miss out on a lot if you don't get involved.

How much participation is required for fundraisers?

As much as you can reasonably do, not only does it reduce your child's costs, but the band needs the funding for trips, etc.

What is a band competition?

It's a fun filled Saturday where you can watch your child and his/her band as well as the other bands perform.

Should I go to band competitions?

Yes!! It's great fun and a chance to see what all of the practices have accomplished.

Does my child want me to go to band competitions?

Yes! Even though most students profess otherwise, your child needs and wants your support and encouragement.

What time should I pick up my child after band competitions?

Your child will bring home a schedule usually the Thursday before any competition; all information for that particular competition will be on it. If you don't see this information sheet, ask your child for it.

Where does my child change into his/her uniform (will there be changing rooms)?

Each host school provides a room for the band to use for changing into their uniforms, it is coed, this is why it is important that your child follows the rules for white boxers and t-shirt under their street clothes. Colorguard will be informed of what they will need to wear

When does my child eat lunch on Saturdays?

After a grueling morning of practice, Mr. Schreiber will let them know what time lunch is scheduled. The Band Parents generally organize lunch for the students and staff. If this is not the case, Mr. Schreiber will notify the students ahead of time of this change and they can either bring a sack lunch with them or you may deliver it.

Can I watch practice?

Absolutely!!!

Must my student ride the bus home after a competition?

Yes, unless a note is written and hand delivered to the chaperone...they keep a great watch on everyone (and that's where they celebrate and bond!).

What actually goes on at band camp?

A lot of hard work, making new friends and a lot of fun!

How much should my child pack for band camp?

Pack everything on the list that has been given to you. Keep in mind every weather condition, good shoes and lots of socks are very important. If you have additional questions on what to pack, your child's chaperone will be able to answer these questions for you.

Is my child allowed to leave at half time from a football game?

Not usually. It's important for them to support the athletic team and they do have fun.

What is a clinician?

A coach the band uses for certain portions of the band, such as drumline, colorguard, etc.

How are band competitions scored?

Each competition will have a program you can buy; it explains it all in there. (The programs are fun, it has information on all of the bands participating, fun messages from the families of the host school to their kids, etc.).

What is M&M, and what is a flight?

M&M is marching and maneuvering and a flight is the division of bands according to the size of the school.

What is colorguard?

The flag (dance) portion of marching band, it helps to portray the music.

Is it OK to send my child, on a bus hundreds of miles away?

Yes, it's a wonderful experience for them and one that gives them a lot of memories. They're perfectly safe.

What is a Friday night band party?

If your child asks to go to one, it's OK. Our experience has been a chaperoned home party, a place for the kids to go and be with their friends and just hang out. Until you get to know the kids and parents, ask someone to be sure.

What is a chaperone?

A brave, very special parent who accompanies the band to everything.

Do band people have a life?

This is one question everyone asks because it's so involved. We can honestly say YES! You'll be able to be involved with your child's life, experience and have fun right along with them!!