

## Welcome to the Marysville High School Band!

Dear New MHS Band Members and Parents,

Welcome to the Marysville High School Band Program! Joining the MHS Band is one of the best decisions you could make to help you transition to Marysville High School. As you participate in summer practices and band camp, you will see old friends and make new ones, giving you a "head start" in experiencing high school life. Fun and musical accomplishment will be combined all year to give you many lasting memories!

### **In this packet:**

#### **MHS Band Calendar**

- hard copy included with this letter; also available ONLINE at <http://www.mhsbbi.org>
- be sure to refer to this often!
- freshmen band members do not participate in the July 4th parade
- **attend all practices, starting on Wednesday, July 8th!**
- *by the way, the word "winds" refers to all woodwind players AND brass players!*

#### **Medical Form**

- available ONLINE at <http://www.mhsbbi.org>
- please fill this out and bring it to the first July practice!
- if you have asthma or another respiratory condition that requires you to have a "puffer" for emergencies, please bring an extra puffer that can be stored in the MHS Band Medical Kit, which will be available at all practices and performances; please clearly mark your name on it, with the expiration date of the puffer.

It is your responsibility to provide a new one as soon as the old one expires.

- ***Without the above items, you will not be permitted to practice or perform with MHS!***

#### **School-Owned Instrument Usage Fee**

Please be aware that if you are planning to use a school-owned instrument, you will need to submit a \$50 Usage Fee, payable to MHSBBI. This is non-refundable. When you turn in the instrument at the end of the school year, you are responsible to pay for any repairs needed beyond normal wear & tear.

#### **Marching Season (July - November)**

In the summer, we start practicing in July with some Tues. and Thurs. practices and our pre-camp followed by our mandatory band camp. In the fall, the MHS Marching Band rehearses everyday during the school day during 9<sup>th</sup> period, and twice a week after school, on Tuesdays & Thursdays, 3-5pm. Performances include football games, contests, and parades. Please follow the calendar.

#### **Concert Season (November - June)**

This schedule is much like the concert schedule of Middle School Band, with a few exceptions. Based on auditions, students are placed in one of three bands: the Wind Ensemble, the Symphonic Band, or the Concert Band. In our MHS Band facility, all three bands practice simultaneously in different rooms. All the bands participate in the Winter Concert and the Spring Concert, with potential opportunities to perform at an Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) contest. Individuals may also participate in OMEA Solo & Ensemble Contest in the winter. During the winter, all band members play in "Pep Band" or "Big Jazz" for three or four basketball games. This has always been a fun activity which helps out our basketball teams as well. After the Spring Concert, the bands combine to get ready for the Memorial Day Parade and Commencement Band.

### **Jazz Ensembles**

During the concert season after we finish with marching band, the MHS Jazz Ensemble will focus on jazz, rock and pop music. This group rehearses 2-3 times per week, after school (schedule to be announced). Depending on the number of people showing interest, auditions may be held. The MHS Jazz Ensemble performs at concerts and various other venues during the winter and spring.

### **Trips**

Every two years, the MHS Band takes a major trip to perform in different parts of the US. While there, we not only perform, but we have FUN! With all kinds of sightseeing, dinners, and good times with friends, the MHS Band Trips have become a traditional highlight for virtually every band member! On the odd numbered years, the MHS Jazz Ensemble usually goes on a short trip. In March of 2010, the MHS band will be performing in the St. Patricks day parade in Chicago, Illinois. This trip is available to all MHS band members.

### **Fundraising**

How does each student come up with the money for these trips? Fundraising, gifts from parents, grandparents, or a combination of these things. Individual student accounts are set up through the MHS Band Boosters, and students may use the funds they raise toward any band expense, such as the trips or band camp. Some students pay for their entire trip by doing the fundraisers that are provided (which can earn you upwards of \$20 per hour, if you really work it)! Where there is a will there is a way, and these trips are worth it! You will build fond memories that will last a lifetime on these trips... don't miss out!

### **Uniforms**

Our official uniform is supplied by the booster organization and the school. While the actual uniform itself is provided at no cost to you, you are responsible for the dry-cleaning and maintenance fees (please see the Band Fees page), as well as any excessive wear & tear or damage. Most people do a good job of taking care of their uniform, and no extra fees need to be assessed.

### **MHS Band Handbook**

- parents and students: please read this together! *Will soon be Available* ONLINE at <http://www.mhsbbi.org>

### **Parent Booster Group**

The Marysville Band and community is blessed to have parents that are very supportive of their band and school system. Our parent group helps the band by raising money to operate and to help the students with their band fees and any trip costs. The booster group is open to all parents of band members. They meet on the fourth Thursday once a month for about an hour in the high school bandroom. We really could use your help!

### **Summer Vacations**

We hope that you and your family will have a nice summer vacation. If you will need to miss a practice or two, due to family vacation, please have your parents provide a note **prior** to the absence. If this is impossible, please call the school at 642-0010, ext. 1318 and leave a message, or email Mr. Thissen at [wjthissen@marysville.k12.oh.us](mailto:wjthissen@marysville.k12.oh.us)

As a staff, we are really looking forward to the upcoming school year, and working with over 200 talented students at MHS! See you soon!

Bill Thissen, Director

Robb Hildreth, Associate Director