

# Hilliard Davidson Marching Band

## 2011 Band *Parents Handbook*

(Everything you need to know but are afraid to ask)

# *Impressions of Russia*

Davidson Band Web Site

[www.davidsonbands.org](http://www.davidsonbands.org)

Davidson High School Main Office  
Davidson High School Band Office

771-2299  
921-7261

Director Email

[dave\\_handshue@hboe.org](mailto:dave_handshue@hboe.org)  
[donald\\_ley@hboe.org](mailto:donald_ley@hboe.org)  
[shawn\\_malone\\_hboe.org](mailto:shawn_malone_hboe.org)

Hilliard InPhonet

**777-2222**  
Marching Band Bulletin Board **3404**

### **The Hilliard Davidson Band Staff**

David Handshue, Director of Bands  
Don Ley, Head Percussion Instructor  
Shawn Malone, Assistant Director

## **Code of Student Conduct**

Marching Band members are required to abide by all school rules and policies including the Code of Student Conduct. The student Code of Conduct will be addressed during the first week of school with our administration in the class meetings.

## **Marching Band Rules**

Students received a Marching Band Handbook and the directors addressed these rules on the first day of band camp. The students were to bring the document home, share the information with a parent and have a parent sign the document. Copies were sent to the band email list and are available on the band web site.

## **“Unwritten” Rules and Expectations**

The directors’ job is to keep students safe and make sure they are representing our school and community at the highest level; then we worry about teaching. At times, you may think the rules are too strict or may take the fun away from the students. Students may have fun AFTER their safety is secure. Many times during our travels, instant decisions must be made and boundaries given to the students. When the students are under the care and supervision of the band staff, the band rules supersede family rules. (For a better understanding of the “unwritten rules, see the chaperone guidelines for more information).

## **Chaperones**

Parents who volunteer to travel with the band also take on the responsibility of keeping your band member safe and secure. When the band is in “travel mode”, the chaperones have the majority of the responsibility and have the authority to “say no”. Your band member is expected to treat all parent volunteers with the respect they deserve. All parents who chaperone or volunteer with the band are required to obtain a “Hilliard City School Volunteer Badge”. This requires a brief background check at Central Office.

## **Fees**

You received a mailing from the school district concerning “pay to participate” and “course fee.” All **marching band** students have a \$65 pay to participate fee paid to **Hilliard City Schools**. This fee will show up as part of the school fees from the office. All **concert band** students have a \$15 course fee. All other band fees are to be paid to The Hilliard Music Boosters. You may pay fees to the Hilliard Music Boosters online through Charms (see below) or by sending a check to: Hilliard Music Boosters, Davidson Chapter, P.O. Box 912, Hilliard, Ohio 43026.

## **Charms**

Hilliard Music Boosters utilize an online web site for managing student fees known as “Charms”. To log onto Charms, visit the Davidson Band web site and follow the link on the home page. Access for your student is their Hilliard City Schools Student ID Number. Please add your email address to your account in Charms for “non-school” communications.

### **Marching Band Budget/Student Fees**

The marching band budget is part of the Directors Account of the Hilliard Music Boosters. Currently, the marching band budget is over \$25000. Included in that amount is the cost of music arranging, drill designing, guard design, camp staff, seasonal staff, winter guard start up costs, flags, supplemental guard uniform/equipment, supplemental instrument maintenance, leadership/training camp for field commanders, field maintenance, new instrument purchases, and percussion supplies. Uniform fees go into a separate account for maintenance, replacement and future purchase of new uniforms. Instrument rental fees are in a separate account for instrument repair.

**Communication:** Weekly communication is a key to our bands' success. These weekly communications come in the form of "The Blurb".

**Hard copies:** The Blurb is copied and placed in the "Blurb Box" outside the band office. Ask your band member to bring a copy home.

**Web Site:** The Blurb is placed on the band web site in the parent's corner. There is also a link on the main page that takes you straight to the blurb.

**Band email list:** The Blurb is emailed to the 2011 Davidson Band Email List. Visit the band web site to subscribe to the email list.

**Student attendance to rehearsals and performances:** Student attendance at rehearsals and performances is critical to the success of the band. Directors are to be notified of all advanced absences (rehearsal and performance) in writing two weeks prior to the absence. Parents do not need to notify the directors when a student is absent from school. **If a student is in school, they are expected at an after school rehearsal unless a director has been previously notified.**

**After school rehearsals:** Rehearsal begins at 3:10 and will conclude at 5:10. We know students have lives outside band and we have tried to work out a policy to help matters. The key is communication. PLEASE do not schedule anything for your band members on a Thursday. Last rehearsals before performances are critical.

**Reporting an absence:** To report an absence, notes may be hand written or emailed to Mr. Malone. Please give us two weeks notice for a missed performance. That will allow us an opportunity to prepare the band with the absence in mind.

**Return Times:** These are nothing more than an educated guess. If the posted return time will be drastically different, the Inphonet box 3404 will be updated upon our departure for home. Please be prompt when picking up your band member. One of the directors always stays until the last kid is gone – we want to go home too!

**Picking up your band member:** when you arrive to pick up your band member at Davidson High School, please do not park along the curb. The busses pull up from the stop sign back and the trailers pull up by the band room. This helps us make a timely unload and departure. THANKS!

**Students not riding the bus:** All students will ride the bus to a performance unless there are extenuating circumstances (ACT/SAT testing is a good example). If a student will not be riding the bus to a performance, advanced contact must be made with a director. If you wish to take your band member home from a performance, please give a note to the director before the event. At the event, please see one of the directors before taking your band member. If we are ready to depart and a band member is waiting for a ride, they come home with the band. Under no circumstances will any band member be left at an away performance waiting for a ride, nor will the band wait until the ride arrives.

### **Performance information**

**Performance Calendar:** The performance calendar is posted on the band web site. Please place the dates on your family calendar and look for conflicts. If there are performance conflicts, please send a note to the directors as soon as possible.

**Ice Cream Social:** We will begin serving desserts around 6:15. The band will begin playing at 6:40. We will play our favorites as a sit down concert. Around 7:30 we will go out to the band practice field for a quick physical warm up and then present the portion of the competition show that we have learned at camp. Thank you in advance for volunteering to help with this event.

### **Football games**

**Home games:** student report times are generally around 5:45 pm. We finish around 10:00 pm. Students are expected to remain with the band at all times. (Exception on third quarter – see below).

**Away games:** student report times are between 4:45 and 5:45 depending on the distance to the game. Students will ride the bus to and from the event unless we have a parents note **prior** to the event. I do not allow students to ride home with other students unless I have a meeting with the parents involved. There must be extenuating circumstances for me to even consider this option. Return times are 10:30 to Midnight depending on the length of game and distance to the event.

**Third Quarter:** at home games, we do a “cookie patrol”. Each week we ask that students in an assigned section bring in 2 dozen cookies to share with the visiting band. Students have the third quarter off to relax and visit with family and friends. Please note; non-band members are not permitted to hang out with the band while we are in the bandstands. Parents are always welcome if you need to see your band member. Students are to be back in the bandstands with 2 minutes remaining in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.

### **Contests**

**First a word about contest.** We do not go to beat another band. We go to do our best. We cannot control others – only ourselves. If we prepare physically and mentally, both during rehearsal and performance time, we will be rewarded with a superior performance. Winning does not happen on contest Saturdays, it happens every day in rehearsal! If another band is first and we are second, applaud the other band. Respect the efforts of all of these young musicians.

**Report times for Saturdays:** I will not know the performance time until two weeks before the date. The day's time line is structured around the performance. As soon as I know the time, you will know the time. Most Saturday events are an "all day" event. Look for the information in "The Blurb" usually posted on Tuesdays.

**OMEA Contests.** The contests run 4 to 6 hours in length. Tickets cost \$4 to \$7. We are a "AA" band and usually compete with 3 to 6 other bands in that class. As an observer, please go to the event and watch other classifications. You will REALLY appreciate what we have in Hilliard by watching the smaller schools. On the blurb, I will post event start time and AA start time. Return times from OMEA contests will be anywhere from early evening to after midnight. Band goals for OMEA contests – Superior rating. If you would like more information about OMEA, please visit their website. [www.omea-ohio.org](http://www.omea-ohio.org)

**OMEA State Finals:** This is an extension of the OMEA contests. All bands that qualify with a Superior Rating at a local event have the opportunity to perform at Finals. We are not competing with these other bands, only against a standard. Our goal is a Superior rating. On the Performance Calendar, there are four dates for OMEA State Marching Band Finals. Please put all four dates on your calendar. We will perform on one of these dates. That date will be known after we qualify and are given the performance date by the OMEA State Marching Band Organizer – usually around October 1. After the performance date is established, remove the other three dates from your family calendar.

**Attending a Marching Band Contest:** When attending contest, you are encouraged to arrive early and sit in a large group of Hilliard Parents. Wear your Hilliard blue and cheer! Don't sit on your hands – applaud when you think it appropriate. You can influence the students' performance! FYI, OMEA rules state no air horns be used at band competitions – local events or State Finals.

**Recording a contest:** If you are familiar with OMEA Adjudicated Events, you know there are guidelines for recording and photography. These rules apply to "winter events" (Concert Band and Solo & Ensemble). You are permitted to record all marching performances provided you do not interfere with another audience member's ability to watch the show. State Finals may be recorded for personal use but not for resale.

**Fundraisers:** Each year, the funds available to the music department from the school district have been diminishing. Our district pays for music and an occasional instrument. All repair, maintenance and 90% of instrument replacement is through fees and fund raisers.

**Tag Day:** Tag Day is the one fundraising activity that is required of the students. On Saturday, August 27, the band members will go door to door to ask for donations to support the Davidson Band Program. These funds go directly to the maintenance, repair and purchase of instruments for the band program. If you do not want your band member going door to door, we have other jobs that they can do that day to support the band. Please see Mr. Handshue if you have any concerns.

**Concessions.** Many hands make for less work. Concessions are the other MAJOR fundraiser that goes directly back to the students. The last few years, we have cleared between \$15,000 and \$25,000 per year to support the band. Keep in mind that this money is not just for marching band, but supports the entire band program. In recent years, we have purchased \$35,000 worth of instruments for both marching and concert bands. Our booster group is responsible for ALL fall concessions. There are activities in the stadium on many days other than Friday night football. Please consider donating your valuable time to this activity.

## **Hilliard Music Boosters, Parent Support and Volunteering**

### **Venue Fundraising**

The two major fundraisers for the band program are Concessions and Tag Day. Venue fundraising was established several years ago for parents and students to raise funds for their individual accounts. Venue fundraising includes working concessions at OSU winter events and Clippers games among others. Funds raised through Venue Fundraising can pay for any Hilliard Music Booster Fee including future trips. Janet Prior manages these events through a separate email list. Contact her for more information.

**Music Boosters.** The Hilliard Music Boosters, Inc is the organization of which our band parents are just one group. Many of our activities involve cross disciplines (band, choir, and orchestra) or cross school with Darby and Bradley. The Davidson Chapter of the Hilliard Music Boosters usually meets on the second Monday of each month (except July). There are two district wide booster meetings each year that include band, choir and orchestra from all attendance areas. By definition of the Hilliard Music Booster by-laws, all parents of music students are music boosters. We encourage you to attend a meeting and get involved.

**Volunteerism.** If it were up to the just directors and staff to run the Davidson Marching Band, we would not get very far. Between uniform, chaperones and transportation we have approximately 40 parents directly involved with the band every time the band takes the field; add concessions, uniform washing and Tag Day, the number grows exponentially. We are always looking for more assistance.

**New parents:** Don't be shy. Our "experienced" (i.e. old) parents have been together for several years and have developed friendships with the students, other parents and directors. Many of the "groups" may seem like they are "full". We may not be able to use you exactly where you requested, but we can ALWAYS use you somewhere. If you wish to become involved, please see one of our committee chairs. Jump in and be part of our band family!

## **Committees**

Tag Day, Concessions, Band Festival, Cookie Patrol, Transportation, Chaperone, Uniforms, Venue Fundraising.

### **You can help:**

**Tag Day.** Morning activity, one day only. 8:30 – NOON. We use parent drivers to take the students to the neighborhoods. 40 volunteer drivers needed.

**Concessions:** Times vary. Parents willing to work the concessions should receive a call from our volunteer coordinator. Concessions are our largest fund raiser (\$15,000 - \$25,000 annually) and in conjunction, is the largest need. 30 – 50 volunteers needed each week.

**Band Invitational, September 17:** Needs: everything from the day of the event to several months of advanced planning. 100 volunteers on the day of the event.

**Uniforms:** Needs: Washing of uniforms. Every two weeks or so, the uniforms are sent home for washing. Parent volunteers take ten uniforms to wash and return them by Wednesday of the following week. 20 volunteers each time we wash uniforms.

**Cookie Patrol:** Home games: Students bring in cookies to be served to the visiting band and our students during third quarter. We need a few parents to assist with the serving and clean up. 8 – 10 volunteers

**Transportation (pit crew):** Every time the band travels, we need 10 – 15 parents to help load/unload the trailer and drive the trucks. This is one area that we have had more volunteers than we can use on a weekly basis. We don't want to turn anyone away, but we are limited to the number of parents that can enter away games and contests as chaperones. Pit crew parents are not just percussion parents. All parents are welcome!

**Chaperone:** When the band travels, we like to have 3 adults per bus. Chaperones are organized through our Chaperone chair. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the chaperone chair. 18 – 24 volunteers.