

May2009



Band Notes

Important Dates for May:

- May 7 - MS concert
- May 8 - Tiki Torch pick up
- May 11 - Parents Meeting
- May 14 - Ensemble concert
- May 15 - MS trip to Dorney Park
- May 19 - Tiki Torch pick up
- May 21 - SH concert

PARENT MEETING - Spring 2010 Trip to Williamsburg, VA (For parents with students presently in 8th-11th grades)

WHEN: May 11, 2009

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: GSHS Cafeteria

Join us as the representative from New Horizons, Dirk DeYoung speaks to us about the upcoming trip, tentative itinerary and cost of the trip. We are asking for one parent and the student attend the meeting. Paperwork will be handed out during the meeting to be filled out and the first \$100.00 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit may be paid that evening (but not necessary). NOTE: The \$100.00 Non-Refundable deposit cannot come from the student's account. All other payments can come from the account. All paperwork and first \$100.00 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit will due by June 1 in the white box in the band room to ensure a space for your student to attend the trip.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THAT MEETING - SOS!

There will be a meeting the same evening concerning **S.O.S. (Save Our Strings)** program in Community Hall. Please continue to support this effort to ensure the strings program is not discontinued. See letter on page 2 for more information concerning this endeavor.

Middle School Dorney Park Trip

The Middle School band and jazz band students will be travelling to Dorney Park on May 15 for the annual Music in the Parks festival. This trip will give our students an opportunity to perform for well-known music educators, composers, professional musicians, and other middle school music ensembles. In addition to performing, the students will also have an opportunity to enjoy Dorney Park and attend an awards ceremony. Good luck and have fun!

Next Band Boosters Meeting is the parents meeting May 11 at 7pm

Cancellations and corrections can be found on the band calendar at : www.gsband.com

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Fundraiser forms can be found on the Garden Spot Band Booster Website;
www.gsband.com/forms.htm



SOS! (Excerpt of letter from Mr. Stephany in response to April 28 School Board meeting)

The goal was accomplished of getting Board attention for the string program's importance and value. One Board member commented, "I thought this was a done deal until I heard you!" We sincerely appreciate the attendance and testimonials of approximately 40 concerned parents, children, and supporters, who made their heartfelt emotions known to all present about the passion and love they have for Strings in their life. The testimonials of the children were extremely impactful and extremely moving.

The Board has now turned the task back onto Dr. Hollister to "find a way" to fund the program and prevent its loss. The perceived "done deal" has been given life.

By the end of the meeting, the Board was so impressed, that there was an initial proposal put forth by Board President, Loren Martin, to preserve the String program and the Arts in our community! We sincerely appreciate his earnest remarks. However, he also suggested to either make it a part-time position or a "club" for those students interested in Strings.

WE MUST ASK: HOW CAN THE PROGRAM GROW POSITIVELY AND 100% EFFECTIVELY IN THIS MANNER?

In that light, our next goal is that we must now convince the Board that this is still not the way a String Program and Orchestra can exist in its naturally perfect form of a full-time program with a dedicated teacher.

There are also an additional 14 elementary level (Third Grade) incoming students alone now applying for the String program just at the time of the possible loss of the program!

From what can be interpreted from Dr. Hollister's actual comment at our initial Monday April 27 meeting, the Board's comments and budget, and audience questions, there ARE funds available for this program IF the effort is put forth to reallocate them. There are also many State and Federal Grants that are, or have not been taken or approved, many of which will occur AFTER the budget is approved and closed. We must also make sure that these monies are addressed and captured by the Board and the budget adjusted accordingly to help save the String Program.

Therefore, with the perceived staunch position of Dr. Hollister against this program, very strong efforts must be made by all of us!

We need:

Large attendance at all of the upcoming board meetings

Your help in getting the word out and support signatures in every way possible

Organize your own efforts to get support for the Program

To convince the Board that this program CANNOT be part-time or a Club because Dr. Hollister could use this as a way to make the program fail at a later time

Find an interested instructor (possibly a Suzuki-based person) to take this position and make the program expand despite any roadblocks presented

Provide us with your creative ideas to help preserve the program

Examine the total school curriculum to see what extra-curricular programs can be evaluated to eliminate and preserve this curriculum Strings Orchestra program

IT WOULD HELP TO HAVE THE ADVICE OF ANY ACTUAL MUSIC DIRECTORS ON "HOW" TO PROCEED FROM HERE.

Much thanks for your support.

Let's see this through so that we can give 150% back to these deserving kids for their futures and make sure that the String and Orchestra Program flourishes.

Thank you!

G. W. Stephany

MAY CONCERT SCHEDULE

Remember to support our Music and Fine Arts Department at the upcoming Music Concerts and Art Festival:

May 7 - Middle School concert

May 14 - Ensemble concert

May 21 - Senior High concert

The Art Department will also be showcased the evening of May 21st with art projects throughout Community Hall and the foyer area.

WE ARE IN NEED OF PARENTS TO BE GREETERS FOR THE THREE CONCERTS:

If you are able to help greet for a one of the three evening concerts, please contact Dawn Hare at (717) 445-0041. Those helping would need to meet in the foyer at 6:15pm. Your "duties" will be completed by concert time so you would not miss any of the concert. Please consider contributing in this way to help make these evenings successful!

TIKI TORCH FUNDRAISER:

Fundraising forms for the May Tiki Torch Fundraiser have been given to students. Money should not be collected from the customer until time of delivery because there is a limited amount of torches - 500 have been secured. This is a first come first serve fundraiser. Once we are out of product, the fundraiser is complete.

Students can pick up torches in the band room on the following dates:

Friday, May 8 from 2:30-5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 19 from 2:30-5:00 p.m.

Please take orders quickly. After the first day of pick-up we will let parents know how many torches are left for the second pick up day. All money will be due in the white box by Thursday, May 28 (no cash--check or money orders only).

EXECUTIVE OFFICER POSITIONS:

Nominations are still being accepted for booster officer positions for the 2009-2010 school year

The open positions include:

Vice-President (two year term)

Secretary

Treasurer

Financial Secretary

Student Accounts

Each position is filled with fulfillment and fun as we work alongside of the band staff to enhance band for the students. Anyone interested in being nominated for an officer position, please contact Abby Keiser at 413-6483 by **May 9**.

WEBMASTER FOUND!

Thanks to Bill and Laurie Sellers for stepping forward to take over responsibilities as co-webmasters! The Band Boosters appreciate your willingness to contribute your time and talents.

BAND CAMP: AUGUST 3-7, 2009

Parent Night will be Friday evening August 7, 2009.

Please put this these dates on your calendar for your band student!!!!!! It will be a great week!!

Fundraisers

Fundraiser forms and other important information can be found at the booster website: www.gsband.com - Check it out!

Yoder's Receipts Procedure

As of January 2009 we are no longer collecting Yoder's receipts to turn in. The process is now automated through Yoder's Gold Card Program. When you register your gold card, the system will automatically credit your student's account with the 1% back, without having to save the receipts or having the extra work of adding them up and having both the boosters and Yoder's double-check the totals.

There are two months of the system totaling, then one month off for administrative purposes. Yoder's has timed the "off" months to be lower volume sales months. They are January, April, July and October.

Each student has been assigned an ID number (which is designated during registration) to have their account credited. Friends and family members may register their Gold Card to be tied to your student's ID as well. For those who don't have a specific student to support but would like to be of help, there is a Band Booster ID they can use to support the group as a whole.

During the off month, Yoder's will send a report that lists each student's total for the month, as well as a check issued to the Band Boosters for the credited amount. The Boosters will then credit each student's account for use toward trips, etc.

If you haven't registered yet, go to the customer service desk at Yoder's for help or log on to mycommunityrewards.com and click on the Yoder's Market logo and then "Register your Gold Card" in the menu to the left.

Booster Officers 2008/2009

President—Abby Keiser—413-6483

V. Pres.—Dawn Hare—445-0841

Treasurer—Kelli Beaver—355-2256

Secretary—Wanda Reazor—445-6625

Student Account Secretary—Tim Heitz

Financial Secretary—Vickie Kahler

GSHS Band Officers 2008/2009

President—Emily Funk

Vice President—Carley Myers

Secretary—Meg Timpson

Treasurer—Sam Kulp

Historian—Ashley Weaver

Librarian—Lethia McFarland, Jess Horst

12th Grade Rep—Julia Smith

11th Grade Rep—Claire Depew

10th Grade Rep—Dani Dimon

9th Grade Rep—Darrick Martin

THE WHITE BOX

Reminder - We can no longer accept or be responsible for any cash placed in the white box for fundraisers. Please only place checks and/or money orders in the white box with the order forms. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Next Band Boosters
Meeting is the parents
meeting May 11 at
7pm