

The Bands of Union Grove
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www.ughsband.org
Established 2000



Dear UGHS Band student and parents:

In just a matter of days, marching season will begin for all members of the 2011 edition of the UGHS Marching Wolverines. In preparation for camp, students (all woodwind and brass players) should make sure that they are familiar with and working towards the memorization of the music from the mail-out earlier this summer and the materials from the Foundations For Superior Performance book (the blue book- page 4 and pages 6-8 paying careful attention to chromatic fingerings for the woodwinds and valve/slide combinations for the brass). Any returning UGHS student should have a copy of this book. Rising 9th grade students may have used this book at some point in middle school. If not, we will work the first days of camp to familiarize you with the warm-ups that we use. The audio files of the show music can be found on the band's website. There are 2 recordings: 1 with a click track and 1 without.

Please Be Reminded

Physicals: This year for the first time all students participating in marching band in Henry County must have a physical in order to participate. All UGHS marching band members must have a completed physical form on file in the band office by Thursday, July 14th. I advise parents to also keep a copy of the completed physical form for their records. Physical forms can be downloaded from the school's website.

Band information: Parents and students should check the UGHS Band website regularly for the most up to date information concerning the UGHS Band program. This year the UGHS Band will be moving away from paper communications and will rely heavily on the band website and e-mail as a means of getting information to everyone associated with the UGHS Band. All calendars and vital information concerning the band will be on the website. Please do not always wait on me to send something home. Make sure to add www.ughsband.org to your favorites list on your computer's browser. The band will also continue to use the electronic Calling Post system to help relay information. Additionally, the band boosters will also be using Facebook for the first time as a method of communication with our band members and parents. The listing is Union Grove High School Band Boosters. Students and parents active on Facebook should visit and "like" to receive notifications and information about the band via your Facebook account.

Volunteers needed: Parents your help is needed and appreciated in order to have a successful camp, season and school year. UGHS will be a very busy place during band camp. We will not be the only group at school conducting summer activities, so parents please drop off/pickup your student(s) in front of the school. Parents please help make sure that your child(ren) arrive on time (early) to rehearsals/performances/activities and are picked up in a timely manner afterwards. Students who drive need to park in the front parking lot.

Volunteers are needed for each band activity including camp, football games, competitions and other events throughout the year. All parents will receive a volunteer form at the band camp meeting Tuesday, July 12. There will be a meeting of all volunteers for the Fall/football season in August sometime prior to our first football game.

School owned instruments: Mellophones and marching baritones are now ready to be picked up. Please call or e-mail me at the information listed above to schedule a pick up time.

Here are some things to take care of prior to and during camp:

- The letter that was mailed out in June as well as this letter can be found via a link on the band's website. Please make sure that you and your child(ren) are familiar with the summer rehearsal/camp schedule as well as the other information that was included in the letters.
- Please schedule non-emergency medical appointments, driving tests and other activities at times other than during scheduled practice times.
- Students who spend most of their time indoors should gradually increase the amount of time that they spend outdoors prior to the beginning of band camp. The band is usually outside during the cooler morning and evening times, but it can still be hot during these times.
- Clothing- Please dress in light colored clothes. Remember all clothing items must be appropriate for a school activity. Tennis shoes and socks are required. You can't march your best with sore feet. Bring a hat and sunglasses.
- Sunscreen- We will be spending time in the sun, so be smart. Take care of your skin. Also, please do not wear excessive amounts of perfume/cologne. They tend to attract insects.
- Re-sealable water bottle/thermos- It is important to drink a lot of water in order to stay hydrated. There are times when water may be provided for the students, but ALL students should bring their OWN container for water etc. Maintaining proper hydration is an ongoing process. Drink water prior to, during and after rehearsals. ONLY WATER in a re-sealable container will be allowed in the band room.
- Eat something each morning before you come to practice.
- Instrument- Make sure that your instrument is in working order and that you have your reeds, oil, drumsticks, mouthpiece, pencils, etc.
- Lyre - Each instrumentalist will need to have a music lyre for their instrument. These can be purchased inexpensively at one of our local music stores. If you have questions regarding what type of lyre is best for your child's instrument, please let me know and I will be glad to assist you. Flute lyres are optional and percussionists do not need a lyre. I have a few lyres for each of the following instruments available at a discounted price to be sold on a first come first serve basis: clarinet; saxophone; trombone. I will provide lyres for all school owned instruments.
- Identification- Please make sure that all of your personal items (instrument, lyre, water bottle, hats, sunglasses etc...) are labeled with your name. Many of these items look alike.

I am very excited about the upcoming season and school year, and I am looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Sincerely,

Stan Kramer, Director
Union Grove High School Band