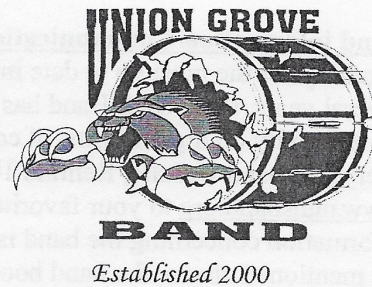


*The Bands of Union Grove*  
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[www.ughsband.org](http://www.ughsband.org)



Dear UGHS Band student and parents:

It is hard to believe that in less than two weeks the marching season will begin for the members of the 2018 edition of the UGHS Marching Wolverines. I hope that all of you are as excited about the upcoming season and year as I am. Woodwind and brass players should be learning and memorizing the materials from the Foundations For Superior Performance book (the blue book: page 4 exercises 1A-1D and pages 6-8 paying careful attention to chromatic fingerings for the woodwinds and valve/slide combinations for the brass-this book was mentioned in the previous letter). Also, in preparation for camp, all woodwind and brass players should make sure that they are familiar with and working towards memorizing the music included with this letter. I realize those of you that use school instruments do not have access to those right now. Students without school instruments should work to make yourself as familiar as possible with the music: unusual accidentals; tough rhythms; fingerings etc. We will begin the music pass off process for all students during camp.

**\*\*\*Please Be Reminded\*\*\***

**Physicals:** All students participating in marching band at a Henry County school must have a physical in order to participate. Colorguard members and percussionists must have a physical form on file in the band office by Monday, July 9<sup>th</sup> and all other marching band members by Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. I advise parents to keep a copy of the completed physical form for their records. Physical forms were included with the first letter than was sent home in early June. If you need another copy of the physical form or first band letter, you can find it on the band's web page in the documents section.

**Band Fees and PayPal:** Information has been distributed regarding the fees for marching band throughout the spring and in the letter mailed earlier this summer. Fees may be paid by cash, check, money order or PayPal. There is a link to our PayPal account on the band's website should you chose to make a payment using this method. Please be sure to include your child's name in the payment description/subject area along with the reason for the payment.

**Band information/Communication:** Parents and students should check the UGHS Band website regularly for the most up to date information concerning the UGHS Band program. During the past several years, the UGHS Band has been moving away from paper communication and is working to rely more heavily on digital forms of communication as the primary method of getting information to everyone: band website, Remind 101, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Make sure to add [www.ughsband.org](http://www.ughsband.org) to your favorites/bookmark list and visit the site often. All calendars and vital information concerning the band is on the website, so please do not wait on me to send something home. As mentioned above, the band boosters and I will continue to use Facebook as a method of communication with our band members and parents. The listing is Union Grove High School Band Boosters. The UGHS Band is also on Twitter and Instagram: @ughsband Please like/follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

**Parking/student drop off during camp activities and practices/events for the year:** UGHS will be busier than usual during band camp and for the foreseeable future. The school is going through construction and renovation for approximately the next year. Parents please drop off/pickup your student(s) in front of the school, and please help make sure that your child(ren) arrives on time (early) to rehearsals/performances/activities and are picked up in a timely manner afterwards. Students who drive should park in the front parking lot. Please follow these procedures throughout the entire school year.

**Volunteers:** Parents your help is needed and appreciated in order to have a successful camp, season and school year. 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 10th. There will also be a band camp specific volunteer sign-up sheet at the meeting. We will have a meeting of all volunteers for the Fall/football season in August sometime prior to our first football game/event. We need help from ALL parents in order to make sure that the students have the best experience possible.

**School owned instruments:** Mellophones, marching baritones and bass clarinets can be picked up beginning Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-4:00p.m. Should the date for instrument availability change, I will notify the affected students.

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

- The letter that was mailed out in early June as well as this letter can be found via a link on the band's website (Documents) should you need another copy. Please make sure that you and your child(ren) are familiar with the summer rehearsal/camp schedule as well as the information for the season included in the letters.
- The band handbook is on the band's website. The handbook contains information about our band including operational, procedural, performance and behavioral expectations. All parents and students should make themselves familiar with this document.
- Please schedule non-emergency medical appointments, driving tests and other activities at times other than during scheduled practice/performance times.
- Students who spend most of their time indoors should gradually increase the amount of time that they spend outside prior to the beginning of band camp. The band is usually outside when it is cooler in the morning and evening, 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/athletic type 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. Maintaining proper hydration is an on-going process. Drink water prior to, during and after rehearsals even if you don't think you are thirsty.

ONLY WATER in a re-sealable container will be allowed in the band room.

- Students should eat something each morning for breakfast and during lunch and supper.
- Instrument- Make sure that your instrument is in working order and that you have your reeds (at least a minimum of 3-4), valve 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 or ordered on-line. 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 will provide lyres for all school owned instruments. Please let me know if you have questions about which type of lyre is best for your child's instrument.
- Identification- Please make sure that all of your personal belongings (instrument, lyre, water bottle, hats, sunglasses etc...) are labeled with your name. Many of these items look alike.

Please feel free to contact me via the e-mail address or phone number listed above if you have any questions. I am very excited about the upcoming season and school year, and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Sincerely,



Stan Kramer, Director  
Union Grove High School Band