



Cheshire High School Band Parents' Association

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A Warm Welcome from Our Band Director!

On behalf of the entire **Cheshire High School Marching Ram Band** organization, I would like to welcome all of you to the 2007-08 Cheshire High School Marching Ram Band! We especially would like to welcome the 40+ freshmen who will be joining us this year!

We started planning this year's show back in March and we are very excited and pleased with both the musical score and visual concept. The show is entitled "Frida, a musical celebration of the artist". The show will have a dramatic, bold, and passionate "Spanish" flavor and will depict some aspects of the artist Frida Kahlo's life. The musical arrangement by Jim Wunderlich and Michael Blancaflor brilliantly incorporates Copland's El Salon Mexico, and the sound score

from the movie "Frida" by Elliot Goldenthal. Our drill writer, Jay Murphy, from the Blue Devils Drum and Bugle Corps, Concord, CA is presently designing our drill. We will be all set to go starting on Monday, August 13!

This fall the band will travel and perform at shows in CT, RI, MA, culminating at our USSBA Championship performance at Giant's Stadium!

We look forward to seeing all of you on Monday, August 13 as we begin another incredible season for the CHSMRB! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at jkuhner@cheshirect.org.

Warm regards,
John L. Kuhner

From the President Ken Baranoski

As we plan ahead for the 2007-08 school year, I would like to say "Thank you!" to those who have agreed to be responsible as chairs for many of our activities. We do have a few slots left to fill – give me a call, or I will be calling you...

As many of you know, we have lost a wonderful person and instructor – Mr. Dennis Banks. Dennis was one of those special people with a keen eye for perfection and helped make the Cheshire High School

Marching Band and WinterGuard what it is today – World Class. He will be sorely missed. Donations can be made to the Dennis Banks Memorial Scholarship. Make checks payable to CHSBPA- Dennis Banks.

A special note to new parents: volunteering is a great way to meet other parents and to show your student you are there for them. From my own experiences, being involved, even just a little, is fun, rewarding and gives one a

chance to make a difference! Please call or email any Board Member or committee Chair and say, "Yes, I'll help".

The upcoming ad campaign, wherein the students sell ad space in our Music in Motion program guide, is a great way to reduce or even eliminate the second installment of dues. For more on this, please see From the Treasurer on page 3.

See you all soon!!

*Memorial Day Parade
Highlights - 2007*



From the Secretary John Begina

Forms!!!!

Marching Band and BPA forms for 2007-08 (there are several) will be available on our website after August 1st. We will be mailing the forms to you if we do not have an email address for you. **Completed forms are due on the first day of preseason rehearsals (August 13).**

The Student Medical Form must be notarized before it is returned. For your convenience, a Notary will be available (at no charge) on Monday, August 13, and Tuesday, August 14 from 7-9 PM in the Band Room. Bring in your whole packet when you come for the Notary service and be done with it!

If sending in forms with your band member, have them delivered to the crate marked "Band Forms" located in the hallway by the band office near the lockbox. I would truly appreciate your timely return of all forms- every late forms packet makes a LOT of extra work for me.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES:
Please pay particular attention to the email

address section on the Student Data Sheet. Please supply us with an email address that is checked regularly for the parent and the student. Email is a very efficient, cost effective way to get us all "in the loop". We utilize electronic delivery for various communications.

I will send reminders of upcoming deadlines, opportunities for fundraisers and changes made to the CHSMRB Calendar to all CHSBPA members. Should your email address change, please remember to send us an update so you don't miss anything!

Emails that you receive from the BPA will normally come through me, identified with the address of Secretary @ Ram Band. If you have any questions, please email me at secretary@ramband.com.

Preseason Physicals

As with all sports, a current physical exam is required to participate in Marching Band. *All students must either have a physical at CHS or show proof from their doctor that they have been examined*

and are physically capable of participating in marching band. If your child will be a sophomore in September, this requirement is met because he/she must have a physical before entering school.

All other grades (9th, 11th and 12th) must either have a Sports Physical or bring in a notice from their doctor clearing them. We do not supply this form. Most pediatricians have this form in their office. If they do not, a note on their stationery is acceptable. Bring or mail your doctor's form to CHS school nurse Barbara Ruddy by August 1st.

Sports physicals are also administered by Cheshire High School. Your child does not need to bring anything with him/her for this physical. Physicals are scheduled for Marching Band members at the following time:

Wednesday, August 8th; CHS Nurses office; arrive by 9:00 am and no later than 10:30 am.

Alternate date: Thursday August 16th, same time and place; this date is intended primarily for the football team students.



From the Internal VP Paul Veiga

The 2007 season is in the planning stages and Preseason will be here before you know it. The design of props and visuals will begin soon, followed by their construction; many hands are needed. Whether you are available for an hour or two, or have many hours to offer, it all contributes to the final product: a visually exciting show to match the fine talent of our children.

Our Parent Volunteer Form includes a brief description of many of the volunteer opportunities. Please read through the descriptions and complete and submit the Parent Volunteer Form. There will also be sign-up sheets at the Parent Picnic

and the General Meeting.

Of immediate need are volunteers for summer activities, if you are available for any of these activities, please call me at 250-0867 or email me internal_vp@ramband.com:

Band Student Picnic- August 17th from 1:00 to 3:00 at the Cheshire Community Pool. We will need to set-up, cook, clean-up, chaperone. Please call me if you are available. In addition, anyone who has access to a pickup truck, we need your help to bring the barbecue grill back and forth to the pool from CHS.

Parent Picnic August 23 from 6:00 to 8:00. Veteran band parents are

needed to help with set-up, cooking and clean-up.

The Chaperone Orientation Meeting will be held at 7:00 P.M. on September 6. If you are planning on chaperoning any events this season, you **MUST** attend this meeting. A chaperone will ride one of the busses with students to & from competitions and lend a hand with uniforms, musical instruments, or props. This is a great way to participate with the Band and we need you!!

Your participation is essential to the success of the 2007-2008 season!

No Experience Necessary – We Train!

From the Treasurer Yvonne Petrin

BPA Membership Dues for 2007-2008:

The Membership Dues for the upcoming year were set by the BPA Board at \$415 per family with 1 child in the Marching Band and \$180 for each additional child participating in Marching Band. These dues help fund about 33% of the costs of our program, so we encourage everyone's financial support. We'll have the 2007-08 operating budget in the next FTB issue.

The Membership Dues are payable as follows:

\$215 by August 16th.

\$200 by September 15th.

The payment of \$200 due in September may be offset by the sale of ads in the Music in Motion Program Guide and Yearbook. For families with more than one child in the band, the additional \$180 is also due by September 15th; **this entire amount may be offset by the sale of yearbook ads.**

Payment coupons are part of BPA

Form 1. All checks should be made payable to: "CHSBPA" and please indicate "Dues" on the memo line of your check.

About band jackets: At the Parent Picnic we'll be taking orders (and your checks) for the popular student "band jackets". We expect the cost of a jacket to be approximately \$90. Samples will be on display at the Parent Picnic for new students to try on for size.

Music in Motion!



Preparations for the October 13th Music in Motion® have begun. We already have twelve bands scheduled up to attend!! We need the help of each band parent [alumni included!] to make Music in Motion® a success. Sign up sheets will be available at the August Picnic. Or you may contact Lynne Cariglio (272-3202) or Mark Zotti (271-0603) with your committee selection or questions.

See Form 8 for the available positions and a description of each!

From the Quartermaster Daille Varsanik

Freshman Uniform Fittings

Freshmen uniform fittings will be held on Monday Aug. 13th and Tues, Aug. 14th from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm both days. The Quartermasters will be sending out guidelines for the uniforms and specific appointments for all student fittings in the very near future.

If you have any questions, please call or email:

Daille at 271-1888, rvar@cox.net

CHSBPA
 PO Box 463
 Cheshire, CT 06410



Contact the CHSBPA Board:

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|----------|----------------------------|
| Band Director: | John Kuhner | 250-2534 | jkuhner@cheshire.k12.ct.us |
| President: | Ken Baranoski | 272-1958 | president@ramband.com |
| Internal V.P.: | Paul Veiga | 250-0867 | internal_vp@ramband.com |
| Financial V.P.: | Joanne Tenney | 272-1854 | financial_vp@ramband.com |
| Treasurer: | Yvonne Petrin | 272-2840 | treasurer@ramband.com |
| Secretary: | John Begina | 271-1861 | secretary@ramband.com |

Our Website – www.ramband.com

Our website is regularly updated and includes links to everything you need to know. Some of the things you can find there are:

- The latest Band and Music Department Calendar which includes upcoming rehearsals, events and the event day's activity schedule (click on the event to see the day's schedule)
- Forms and Handbooks – all of the season's required forms are available for download.
- Fundraiser Information– including amazon.com
- Links to other sites – including USSBA and other music sites

| CHECK THE CALENDAR @ http://www.ramband.com/pages/calendar.htm | | |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| Wednesday | August 8 th | Marching band pre-season physicals |
| Monday | August 13 th | Start of band pre-season rehearsals (thru Friday, August 24 th) |
| Friday | August 17 th | Student Picnic @ Bartlem |
| Thursday | August 23 rd | Student / Parent Picnic @ CHS |
| Saturday | October 13 th | Music in Motion |
| Saturday | November 10 TH | USSBA Group V Open Championships |
| Sunday | November 18 TH | Train Show |
| Thursday | November 22 ND | Thanksgiving Day Pancake Breakfast & Game |
| Wednesday | November 28 TH | Marching Band Banquet, Aqua Turf Club, Southington |

Upcoming Events!!!

The next main event coming up is the annual **Band Parent picnic & meeting**. At this meeting, we will discuss the upcoming season, fundraising opportunities and positions still in need of someone to step up and make a difference.

We will also be kicking off our car raffle to help defray the cost of new uniforms! As always, keep an eye on the calendar at <http://www.ramband.com/> for all the latest upcoming vents, practices & competitions!