

**Cheshire High School Band  
Parents' Association, Inc.**

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Cheshire High School Marching Ram Band Begins 2005 Season**

**CHESHIRE** – Time marches on and this fall it will move to the beat of the Cheshire High School Ram Marching Band.

Time and its passage is the theme of this year's field show for the school's perennial powerhouse marching band. The music for this year's field show is once again composed by John Meehan, a California composer who also created the original piece used last year, said John Kuhner, Cheshire High School's marching band director.

The band began its preseason practice sessions last week with 132 student musicians and color guard members, an increase of 25 over last year, Kuhner said. This year's band includes 45 freshmen, he said.

"It's a pretty strong group, even though there are a lot of younger members," Kuhner said.

The beginnings of the field show can be traced to last winter, when Kuhner commissioned Meehan – who created the music for last year's show-stopping program "The Storm" – to begin composing this year's show. The completed composition was delivered to Kuhner and his staff in March.

"We listen to it thoroughly and do a little brainstorming, try to come up with some ideas for visual elements," Kuhner said.

The music is divided into three movements, the first of which is meant to conjure up an image of an analog clock, he said.

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"The music is like the ticking of a clock," Kuhner said.

The second movement takes the listener back in time, using slower progressions of music that are meant to evoke the natural passage of time, like the change of seasons, he said.

The third piece is a more modern one, called “Cesium Atomic Clock.”

The pre-season practices offer the band members and staff an opportunity to hone the performance, Kuhner said.

“A lot of the details are still coming into play,” he said.

The Ram Band opens its 2005 season on Saturday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, with a competition at East Lyme High School. For more information, visit the band’s web site at [www.ramband.com](http://www.ramband.com).