

BAND PARENT SURVIVAL GUIDE

This guide is the product of band parents who spent a large portion of our "rookie" year in various stages of confusion. In the many hours we spent together watching practices and performances, waiting to pick up our kids, and following yellow school buses, we asked hundreds of questions. This guide is our attempt to share with the "upcoming rookies" some of the answers to many of the questions we asked. We hope this helps you during your child's rookie year. Welcome to the Holliday Eagle Band family!

BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE HOLLIDAY BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION (HBPA)

- One of the first and most important things you can do to help your student is to become a member of the Holliday Band Parents Association.
- Dues for membership are \$25.00 for a band student's family.
- Membership dues help your own student as well as all the other students by paying for trips, contest expenses, equipment, etc.
- When you become a member you are allowed to vote on important decisions that are made at HBPA meetings. Your new ideas and input are welcomed and appreciated.

WEBSITE AND EMAIL

- The band has a website with an **UPDATED CALENDER** and ALL kinds of information.
- Please visit this website often! www.hollidayeagleband.com
- A listing of all officers and their email addresses are on the **PARENTS** page of the **Holliday Eagle Band website**.
- The minutes of monthly meetings are also posted on the band website.
- It is **VERY** important that we have your current email address.
- We use several forms of communication: Facebook, REMIND, email, and texting.

BAND PARENT MEETINGS

- Meetings of the HBPA are generally held at 6:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month. Please watch the band calendar in case these need to be changed. We usually meet in the HS band hall or MS band hall. Check the website for exact location.
- The minutes of monthly meetings are also posted on the band website.

FUNDRAISERS

- We do various fundraisers throughout the year to help with yearly expenses.
- Our main fundraiser is the **Concession Stand**.
- All fundraisers benefit band students from 5th -12th grades.
- The HBPA operates the **Home-side Concession Stand** for all Jr. High, JV and High School football games on Thursday and Friday nights.
- All band parents are asked to work at least three shifts during the football season at the concession stand. (a shift for a varsity game is half of the game)
 - There will be a sign up sheet at **SHOWCASE** and you can also **contact** one of the **Ways and Means members** listed on the website to volunteer to work. We have recently added on-line sign-up on Facebook too.
 - When you work in the concession stand, you do not have to pay admission to the football game.
 - You inform the gate attendant that you are working in the concession stand during the game.
 - When you work the concession stand, you are helping your student raise needed funds for contests, trips and various expenses.
 - After you sign up, email and text reminders will be sent out at the beginning of each week to remind you of your shift.
 - When you arrive for your shift, there will be a copy of the scheduled workers and you will need to indicate you are present to work.
 - We know that unexpected things happen sometimes. So, if you are unable to work your scheduled time, please contact someone as soon as possible. It would also be very helpful if you could help us find someone to work in your place.
 - Band students will sign up by sections to work the concession stand on Thursday nights. Parents and students who work the last shift on Thursdays will also need to help clean the stands.
 - The majority of the parent's assistance is needed during the Friday night games.
- We also sell cookie dough (5th-12th grades)—another major fundraiser. Other fundraisers that we have done and could possibly do are Red Wheel Pies, Spaghetti Dinner, Car Washes, Spirit Bag, Cookbook Sales, Car Window Decals, Yard Signs, and Princess Float at the Holliday Christmas Parade.
- We are always looking for new ways to raise money...so, if you have any ideas, please let us know!

FOOTBALL GAMES—MARCHING BAND PERFORMANCE

- The Holliday Band Parents' Association (**HBPA**) provides water for the band students at the beginning of each football game.
- The official band theme t-shirt will be worn under their band uniform at every band performance/contest. (Some parents purchase a second shirt, which comes in handy when we have a game on Friday and a contest the next day!)
- **BLACK** socks are a must! It is a good idea to have several pair on hand, they tend to disappear! (socks need to be long...when marching we don't want to see skin)
- **After HOME** games, the band students are required to clean the home stands. Please keep this in mind when you are waiting for them in the parking lot to go home.
- **Transportation:** Yellow school buses or the white athletic buses will be used to transport band members to and from all out-of-town football games and marching contests.
- The HBPA will work in conjunction with the band directors to secure charter buses for the trip to the State Marching Contest in San Antonio.
- Times to meet the buses are posted on the Holliday Band website.
- More information will be given to the students prior to the first out-of-town game.
- **Breaks:** Band students are able to visit the concession stand during the 3rd quarter of each football game. They will need to bring their own money. Two special side-notes: 1) Due to the long lines at some stadiums, including ours, you might want to get your child's food for them early so that they don't have to spend the 3rd quarter waiting in line. 2) The 3rd quarter break is at the discretion of the band directors and is not guaranteed.
- "Meal Deals" are offered at the home games for the band students. The forms can be picked up at the band hall, filled out with choices of food, and returned to the band hall with payment (\$5.00). The meals are picked up by the students at the HBPA cooking patio once they have been released by the directors.

PIT PARENTS

- The **PIT PARENTS OR CREW** helps the pit members get all of their equipment on and off the field during football games and contests.
- They have some very large and heavy equipment and it is impossible for them to do this by themselves.

- If needed, we have the use of an ATV and have 2 small trailers in the semi that are used to transport PIT equipment to and from the field.
- This is a great opportunity for dad's to become **PIT POP** and help the kids transport the equipment. Mothers have also helped as well as older siblings.
- If you are interested, please sign up. We'd love to have you.

SHOE CREW

- The **Shoe Crew** helps clean off last minute dust/dirt from the band students shoes just prior to entering the field of a marching contest.
- This is a great opportunity for Moms, Dads and Siblings to assist in this task and offer a last minute word of encouragement to the band.
- If you are interested, show up at the entrance area of the contest and you will be provided a wet rag/ cloth to assist.

PICTURES

- During summer band group pictures are taken of the band to be placed in the FOOTBALL PROGRAM at home football games.
- You can also purchase a space in the FOOTBALL PROGRAM for a picture of your student. The Athletic Booster Club needs to be contacted for that.

SHOWCASE BAND NIGHT

Each year toward the end of summer band, the parents come out for one night to

- See the first presentation of part of the new show for the year.
- Order and pay for student t-shirts, parents shirts, decals, etc.
- Sign up to be a part of the Holliday Band Parents Association (HBPA)- memberships help support your student in many band activities and trips.
- Sign up to work concession stand for football games
- For Showcase date, see Holliday Band Website.

TRIPS

- Major trips are taken at the discretion of the band directors. In the past, the band has traveled to Chicago, Disney World, Disney Land, Washington, D.C., Branson, and Colorado.

- The band students are required to pay their own way for the trip.
- Parents are welcome to go on the trips and must pay their own way as well.
- Seating on buses is sometimes available but not guaranteed for parents so please be prepared to provide your own transportation.
- During **STATE MARCHING CONTEST** years (**odd numbered years for 3A, 4A and 6A**), we make plans to advance to the State competition at the Alamodome in San Antonio. The State Competition is held the first Monday in November. More information will be available during October when contests begin.

HOMECOMING

- The senior girls of the band are presented at half-time (this is in lieu of the half-time marching performance, which is sometimes done AFTER the game).
- Band members vote (by secret ballot) for Band Sweetheart and the results are announced at half-time. Mrs. Hadderton presents the Band Sweetheart with a sash after the announcement.
- The girls are responsible for selecting a male member of the band as their escort.
- Fathers (or designee) of senior girls will present the girls with bouquets and tiaras at the half-time presentation.

CONCERTS AND CONTESTS

- Parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends are invited to attend all contests and concerts.
- Yes...PLEASE feel free to YELL and CLAP at all marching contests and performances! There are some contests whereby there are requests to not celebrate during the performance itself.
- Many students have commented on how awesome it is to see and hear all of the Holliday supporters in the stands.
- All supporters try to wear their red or their band theme shirt and sit together at contests. Feel free to make signs to hold up, shake pom poms, bring noise makers, and paint your windows on your vehicle, anything to show your support!
- At marching contests, vendors are set up to sell t-shirts, lapel pins, buttons, etc. They also sell patches that go on letter jackets. The cost of the patches is usually \$6-\$10.

- There are usually several marching contests, depending on **STATE** years. We have attended the Birdville Marching Festival in the past, and usually always attend the WFISD Marching Festival. We always attend the UIL Marching Contest (held at Memorial Stadium in W.F.). In State years, 2 additional contests are added to the schedule: **AREA** (either at Denton or Birdville) and **STATE** in San Antonio. An admission fee is charged at almost all venues. A parking fee is also charged at the State contest. Dates of contests are posted on the band website.

BAND BANQUET

- The annual band banquet is held in May each year.
- Parents and students are invited.
- We have a band video every year that features pictures and videos of all the activities the band has participated in throughout the year.
- Both parents and students submit photos and video to the band directors for the band video.
- There is always good food, awards, and lots of decorations. Many parent volunteers will be needed to decorate before and to take down after.
- There is a dance following the Band Banquet. It is usually held in the band hall. Chaperones for the dance will also be needed.
- HBPA offers scholarship money. See Band Directors for details.

We know we couldn't possibly answer all of the questions you might have as your student begins their band career, but hopefully this will be a good start for you. If additional questions arise please feel free to contact anyone of the board members. Contact info for board members is located on the band website. Again, welcome to the Holliday Eagle Band Family! We are looking forward to a great year! Go Eagle Band!!!