**Troy Band Booster Welcome Letter**

Dear Band Families:

On behalf of the Troy Band Boosters, we would like to welcome you to the band program. This communication includes very important information that you will need to have throughout the school year and it should act as a guide for you to follow in order to stay informed of the Band Booster activities and events. The best way to stay in contact & informed of band booster activities is via the following:

Email – Troy.band.boosters@gmail.com

Volunteer - Visit Charms office Assistant www.charmsoffice.com (School code: Troybandboosters)

Facebook – Troy Bands

Website – [www.troybandboosters.org](http://www.troybandboosters.org)

**Who are the Boosters?**

The boosters are a group of parents dedicated to helping “boost” the band program through various ways. There is no cost to join the boosters, but rather a volunteer requirement per family. Our work allows the band directors to focus on what they do best, and allows our students to participate in special events while minimizing the costs to the families.

**What do the boosters do?**

* Provide chaperones for trips, contests and parades
* Organize various fundraisers
* Plan & organize annual band trips for 7th & 8th Grade students
* Coordinate uniform cleanings and fittings
* Pay for special guest instructors
* Provide year end awards for students
* Provide Summer Band Camp Scholarships\* (see below for more information)
* And much, much more

**\***The Troy Band Boosters have allocated funds to assist students wishing to participate in summer band camp. These camps are often held at University campuses, churches, or other destinations, and cost money. The scholarships provided are available to all band students who are in good standing with the Troy Band Boosters (have fulfilled their mandatory fundraising and volunteer requirements) and are not based on need.

**Meetings**

The Boosters hold monthly meetings in the TMS band room and are open to all band students and their families. This is the best way to stay informed of upcoming events and to see where you can help. Meeting dates can be found on our Troy Bands website calendar. The Boosters generally meet the 3rd Monday of every month.

**Fundraising and Volunteering**

Fundraising and volunteering are the two most important actions that families can do in order to support the Troy Band Boosters. Without these two actions, the Troy Band Boosters would not be able to function, or support band students to such an excellent degree. This is why the Troy Band Boosters have the expectation that families participate in one mandatory fundraiser, and fulfill certain volunteer expectations, every year. See below for details regarding these two expectations.

**Fundraising**

We have two types of Fundraisers; those that help the boosters fund items needed by the band, and fundraising for your student’s individual account. There are several ways for you to make money for your child’s account by the opportunities provided by the boosters. This account can offset your child’s uniform fees, trip wear, and their annual band trip. We have limited the amount of fundraisers this year.

For an overview of upcoming fundraisers for the year, contact the Boosters at troy.band.boosters@gmail.com

**Volunteering**

There are many opportunities for families to volunteer as Chaperones, committee chair, Spaghetti dinner & IGSMA events. Volunteering is mandatory for any student wishing to receive the booster funds offset afforded for the end of the year band trip and to qualify for scholarships.In order to qualify, each family must fulfill 4 “volunteer hours” every year, by participating in one of the following events:

* Chaperone for concerts and performances (need 4 “volunteer hours” total)
	+ 1 concert= 1 volunteer hour
	+ 1 contest = 2 volunteer hours
	+ Downstate (all day trip)= 4 volunteer hours
	+ Parades = 2 volunteer hours
	+ Band Booster End of the Year trips do not count towards volunteer hours
* Committee Chair (any committee- see below for committee opportunities) = 4 volunteer hours
* Uniform Committee Member = 4 volunteer hours
* Uniform fitting event volunteer = 4 volunteer hours
* Spaghetti dinner committee member/ event volunteer = 4 volunteer hours
* IGSMA event committee member/ event volunteer = 4 volunteer hours

**Committees**

Standing committees, appointed by the President, shall serve for the duration of the year and shall report to the membership at each regular meeting. Selected committees may be appointed by the President from time to time for specific projects and shall report to the membership at each regular meeting. All committee chairpersons are the main contact for questions/information. We are in need of both Chair & members of all committees. Please email the boosters at troy.band.boosters@gmail.com to sign up today. **We can’t do it without you!**

**Nominating Committee:** A nominating committee of three members shall be appointed by the organization at the regular meeting in February. It shall be the duty of this committee to nominate candidates for the officer’s positions to be filled at the May meeting. The nominating committee shall report at the regular meeting in March. Before the election at the May meeting, additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted.

**Uniform Committee:** The Uniform committee consists of helping at uniform fitting night, transporting marching band uniforms to get alteration and cleanings completed, and assisting with inventory of marching and concert and symphonic band uniform. Ideally, we would want a uniform rep at school prior to each event to assist with any uniform changes/emergency repairs. Must be willing to brainstorm ideas as to how to improve uniform fittings.

**Fundraising Committee:** This Committee is responsible for the various fundraising events throughout the school year, including Spaghetti dinner and IGSMA/Committee Chaired by the Vice President

**Chaperone** **Committee:** This committee should be comprised of 1 chair for WBO Bands & 1 Chair for TMS bands. Chaperones are responsible for making sure we have adequate supervision for all band concert, contest, parades & trips.

**Website Committee:** This committee will be responsible for keeping the website updated with meeting agendas and minutes on a monthly basis, general Band Booster Information, and update PayPal and other links deemed necessary. (Requires consistent contact with the Secretary).

**Spaghetti Dinner Committee:** This is a selected committee to prepare for the annual spaghetti dinner. This is a short term committee that runs from Sept- January. Positions will be appointed in August.

**IGSMA Committee:** This is a selected committee to prepare for the IGSMA State Festival. This short term committee that runs from January – April. Positions will be appointed in January.

**Trip Committee:** This committee is responsible for planning the annual band trip. This committee will be chaired by the Board Treasure each year.

Scroll down to the next page for a handy chart of upcoming volunteer opportunities!

Volunteer Opportunities

 Month Event Volunteer Hours

| August | Uniform Fitting Event, TMS~~Shorewood Crossroads Parade, chaperone~~ | 4 “volunteer” hours per shift2 “volunteer” hours |
| --- | --- | --- |
| September | ~~TMS Parade Dress Rehearsal & Morris Corn Parade, Chaperone~~ | ~~2 “volunteer” hours~~ |
| November | 5th Grade & TMS Band Concerts Chaperone~~Light Up the Holidays Parade, Chaperone~~ | 1 “volunteer” hour for entire shift2 “volunteer” hours |
| December | 6th Grade Band Concert Chaperone | 1 “volunteer” hour for entire shift |
| January | Troy Bands Spaghetti Dinner | 4 “volunteer” hours for entire shift |
| February | IGSMA Solo & Ensemble Contest Troy Chamber Concert Chaperone | 4 “volunteer” hours for entire shift1 “volunteer” hour for entire shift |
| March | IGSMA District Contest Chaperone | 2 “volunteer” hours for entire shift |
| April | IGSMA State Festival Chaperone |  2 “volunteer” hours for helping out with your child’s band.4 “volunteer” hours if you are staying to help more than one band. |
| Other | Booster Board member, committee head or member |  4 “volunteer” hours for entire shift |

We look forward to another exciting year of working with you!

Sincerely,

Your Troy Band Boosters