

*To the Parents and Friends of the Phillipsburg High School Stateliner Marching Band Member,*

**Welcome to the Marching Band family.** We hope your student truly enjoys their marching band experience. In order for you both to get the most out of this and to be properly prepared for the season, we wanted to give you an overview of what you should know.

## Communication

There are a few mechanisms used to get information out to the band community. The communication mechanisms interact with each other so that information gets to as many fans as possible.

- **Band's website** – [www.phillipsburgband.com](http://www.phillipsburgband.com). All information is put on the site as soon as it comes out. Plus this is the place to find forms, upcoming events & fundraisers, latest news, etc.
- **Email Updates** – The detailed plans for the upcoming events via email. Please make sure that you provide the Band Boosters with your email so that you can be informed. Many times, the band member provides his/her personal email and parents don't get the info.
- **Facebook** - Band & Boosters' page (<https://www.facebook.com/pburgband>)
- **Twitter** - If you're stuck at home and want to know how a competition is going, Facebook or Twitter ([@phsdirector](#) or [@pburg\\_band](#)) is where you will want to be! Also, any last moment updates on arrival back at PHS when we're on the road.
- **Remind** – join Mr. Fleming's Remind notifications for last minute changes and up to date information. The app can be downloaded to your smartphone.

If your student is an 8<sup>th</sup> grader or attends Warren Tech, you will face a few unique challenges. Changes to plans are quickly communicated at the high school where the majority of students attend but this is harder for kids who attend other schools. Your best bet is to have a buddy (a parent of a PHS student) or for your student to have someone at PHS that they can count on to relay info as necessary. Facebook, Twitter, and email will also be used as often as possible but the buddy system is a great idea, trust us! We try to get the information out to everyone as soon as it becomes available.

## Calendar

The marching band has a calendar which can be accessed via the Band website. You should also subscribe to the calendar on your smartphone. Instructions can also be found on the calendar page or the website. There are 2 calendars that you should subscribe to (both can be done via the calendar tab on the webpage). One is maintained by Mr. Fleming so it has the most current rehearsals and events, and one is maintained by the boosters so it has current fundraising and booster events. Don't worry about the events which say all day, that will change as time gets closer and the actual start & end times can get populated. The upcoming week(s) details will be sent via Remind and/or email.

## How can you help

All of what's been stated so far might have you wondering if this is the right group to be joining. This is a tremendous experience for you both. The band members are like a large family. No one is left out, the veterans look out for the rookies. Before you know it, you are in on the jokes, speak the language and have become a part of an amazing organization.

As a parent, there are a lot of things you can do to help regardless of what you might be juggling as well. In fact, pitching in is the best way to stay informed and form a network group you can trade off favors and car

pools. Help as a Chaperone, attend Booster Meetings, load equipment as part of the Equipment Crew, sell programs at the games, or staff a table are just some of the ways. There are many fundraising activities which allows you to help your child and the band. It's not expected that you show up every week. However, the more you can help, the better the entire organization becomes. Any amount of volunteer time would be appreciated. If we all do a little here & there, the program carries on smoothly and effectively and the students get the benefits. It is vital that band parents become PHS Band Booster members. Only with the help of parent volunteers can the Booster organization continue to support the Band, and through membership in the organization, parents demonstrate genuine interest and support of their children's activities.

If you've been through the drill with sports or some other organization, you know how rewarding it can be to share in these types of events. The band is no exception. To see their faces when they come off the field after a particularly good performance, to cheer with them when they place in a competition, and to watch them support the football team and each other is something they will carry for life.

*Thank you,*

*The Phillipsburg High School Stateliner Band Boosters*

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We encourage you to attend **The PHS Band Booster Meetings** to get the latest information, updates, and help make decisions. The **PHS Band Boosters** meet monthly on the **1st Monday of the month**. The meetings are held in the **Band Room at 7 p.m.**