

Grissom Band Parents Association, Inc. Newsletter

May 2004

Editors - Mitzi Crawford & Judy Hardwick



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

This will be my last newsletter contribution as president. It's hard to believe another year is over. Where does the time go?

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the board members. You are a great team and I was very fortunate to have such valuable resources at my disposal. You made my job easier.

I also want to thank the committee chairs and ALL of the volunteers. The parents are the oil for this machine we call a band program and without each of you, things would "grind to a halt".

Most of all, I want to thank my family for allowing me to steal time from them to serve as your president this year.

In our search for colleges this year, we were told time and time again how fortunate we were to be a part of the Grissom Band program. All of our children are indeed fortunate to have such a loyal group of parents working for the common good of the entire organization. Your continued support for this wonderful organization is what makes it all possible.

Sincerely,
Teresa Montgomery
President 2003/2004

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!

The scheduled general meetings are as shown below. Be sure to mark your calendar so you don't miss them. They are a very important source for information concerning the band program.

August 30, 2004**
September 27, 2004
October 25, 2004
November 22, 2004
January 24, 2005
February 28, 2005
March 28, 2005
April 25, 2005

**The August meeting is being held one week later than usually scheduled due to the start date of the upcoming school year. There are no general meetings for December 2004 or May 2005.

GRISSOM BAND PARENTS EXECUTIVE BOARD 2003-2004

Teresa Montgomery, President
881-9387; tdmont@HiWaay.net
Greg Harris, 1st Vice President
880-7564; harris4au@knology.net
Karen Parker, 2nd Vice President
883-4622; parker23@knology.net
Doris Lewis, Secretary
881-3154; dslewis@knology.net
Julie Ashcraft, Treasurer
650-5043; julie22@ashcraft.net
Kathy Francica, Treasurer
883-7132; KFrancica@bellsouth.net
Bill Connell & Theo Vernon, Directors
881-1075 (bandroom)

Committees

Chaperones

Debbie Rose: 882-9694; ROSEDJSCJ@aol.com
Loren Foster: 885-0743; LBF8887@hotmail.com

Color Guard

Joyce Amos: 883-0168; joyce.amos@comcast.net

Concerts

Nan Kirk: 881-3690; Kirk195@comcast.net
Monica Geiss: 881-4314; MGeis@juno.com

Fruit Sales Scheduling

Dave Parkhill: dave@ddep.net

Hospitality

Janet Wade: 880-8116; JWadeSews@aol.com

Newsletter

Mitzi Crawford: 882-2115; mitzi.crawford@adtran.com
Judy Hardwick: Judhrdwk@knology.net

*Please send email corrections to us!

Webmaster

Ron Lewis: 881-3154; RCLewis@knology.net

Publicity

Kristi Fugit: 881-1072

Stadium Setup

Colleen Toth: 880-5852; drummom13@aol.com

Transportation

Karen Ivey: 881-5291; KarenI@HHSYS.org

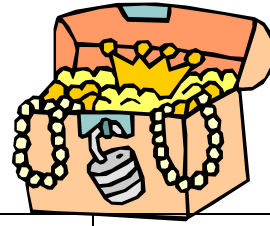
Trucks

Rick Cornelius: 650-5955; RHC@knology.net

Uniforms

Tiffany Hubbard: 880-3669; UniformFairy@msn.com

\$TREASURER'S BOX \$



BAND FEES FOR THE 2004 - 2005 SCHOOL YEAR

Band fees remain UNCHANGED AGAIN this year. They are as follows:

	Cash Portion	Cash or Equivalent Credits	Total Band Fees
Marching	\$300	\$200	\$500
Concert Only	\$245	\$200	\$445
Guard Only	\$270	\$100	\$370
Jazz Only	\$150	\$0	\$150

The **CASH PORTION** of your student's fees is due at uniform fitting **July 26-29**. You are encouraged to make smaller payments in each summer month. For example, you may pay \$100 in June, \$100 in July, with the final payment of \$100 made at the time of uniform fitting.

The "CASH OR EQUIVALENT CREDITS" portion of the fees is the portion formerly known as Fair Share. We are phasing out the use of this terminology because it seemed to confuse everyone. That \$200 can either be paid with cash OR it can be paid by credit earned by working at certain eligible fund-raisers (i.e., fruit sales, VIPERS, flower sale, rummage sale) or by buying scrip.

*** Please Be Aware!! Our band runs on VOLUNTEER SPIRIT. The vast majority of volunteer hours that we all put in have no credit value attached to them. We do it because we love our kids and they love this band. A few specified activities are eligible for band credits at a rate of approximately \$5 per hour worked.

Scrip is an excellent way to earn credit to pay the "CASH OR EQUIVALENT CREDITS" portion. We all spend hundreds of dollars at the grocery store. Those credits really add up fast. (Call Karen Parker for details.) The first \$100 of this CASH/CREDITS portion is due **Nov. 1, 2004**. The final \$100 is due **March 31, 2005**.

PARENTS - Please plan to accompany your student to Uniform Fitting nights **July 26-29**. There will be mandatory paperwork that only you can fill out and sign. You will need to pay in full your cash portion of the fees at that time, as well.

TO SUMMARIZE: If your student marches, total band dues are \$500. \$300 must be paid at uniform fitting. With the remaining \$200, you have the option to pay in cash or pay with earned credits. Half of this amount is due in November, half in March. Because a majority of the band's expenses are incurred during marching season, prompt payment of your fees is crucial to the band program! A 20% penalty will be applied to the unpaid fees if not received by **September 1st**. Students who are exempt from school fees based on their family income are exempt from all band fees.

SUMMER RENTAL DUE!

If your student rents an instrument from the band or uses the band's equipment as part of the percussion/pit section, your \$45 summer rental fee is due now!

All checks are to be made out to Grissom Band Parents Association - or GBPA.

Mail them to:

Grissom Band Parents Assoc.

P.O. Box 4335

Huntsville, AL 35815

Feel free to contact us with any questions. We'll do our best to help!

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Another year down and we have already begun the next with a bang! We have about 85 new members of the band working hard at Rookie Camp with Percussion and Color Guard rehearsals beginning soon. The music for this year is Stormworks by Stephen Melillo arranged by Mr. Ed Gaston of Walt Disney World. Our drill will again be designed by Mr. Dale Warren from The University of Arkansas. We hope to have Mr. Warren here this fall for a couple of rehearsals which will be exciting! Mr. Bryan Barley will be our percussion instructor and Mr. Stan Gillispie will be our color guard instructor. We look forward to working with all of these fine talented people to help us put together a wonderful show for the fall.



As many of you already know we will not be sponsoring a marching contest this fall. We are postponing it until the fall of 2005. There are a few glitches we want to be sure are worked out prior to planning something of this magnitude and make it a truly positive experience for all participants including us, the Grissom Band Family. We will however participate in two marching contests this fall. The first one will be **September 25th** and the second one **October 2nd**. **September 25th** will probably be back to the Columbia High School show in Columbia, Tennessee. Both of the Saturdays will be all-day events beginning in the morning with a rehearsal then travel to the show to perform and returning late that evening. These performances are required for all marching band members and are fabulous opportunities for fun and adventure.

Please refer to the band website for all upcoming band events. We have included in this newsletter information for all New Grissom Band members. It would be a good idea for everyone to review this information because it applies to everyone.

Percussionists and color guard have rehearsals throughout the summer that are required. Please refer to the dates listed in this newsletter and make arrangements to be here. These rehearsals are very important to the quality of these two sections. We have hired instructors that will be here to work with you, so any time you miss you could be chosen as an alternate and/or you could be VERY behind. It is very difficult to catch up when you miss a rehearsal.

The marching music will be posted on the website prior to Pre-Camp for you to download and practice. All of the stand music is already posted so you can begin learning it too. You will need the following to access the music. Name: student and Password: bandontherun. Please download this and print out your parts. We ask that each playing member of the band, with the exception of the pit percussion, have a flip folder by Pre-Camp to hold all music for the fall.

Be sure you all get out over the summer and have a lot of fun but also PLEASE GET SOME EXERCISE. Marching Band is a physical activity and it will be hot, so we will have to deal with it just like all the others bands. The better shape you are in, the better the band will be. Everyone needs to keep their "chops" in shape too so PRACTICE your instrument.

All students, whether returning or new, are required to have a notarized medical form on file to be able to participate in band activities. All veterans must fill out a new form each year! Please take care of this prior to **July 28th**. A form is included in this newsletter or you can download a form from the website at: <http://www.hsv.k12.al.us/dept/forms/Outoftown.doc>.

Summer Schedule

Percussion Weekly Clinics	Thursdays: From June 3-July 29 6-9pm
Percussion Weekend Clinic	Thursday, Friday, Sat. June 24-26 24 th : 6-9pm/25 th : 5-9pm/26 th : 2-7pm
Color Guard Camp (All guard members)	June 7-11 8-11am/12-3pm
Color Guard Camp (All guard members)	July 5-9 8-11am/12-3pm
Percussion Camp (All percussion members)	July 19-23 8am -12pm and 1- 5PM
Color Guard Camp (Sabres/Rifles)	TBA 8-11am/12-3pm
Band Pre-Camp (ALL BAND MEMBERS)	July 28-30 8am-12pm
Band Camp (ALL BAND MEMBERS)	Aug. 2-6 8am-12pm/1:30-4:00pm/6-9pm

BAND CALENDAR 2004-2005

Please refer to the website for the 2004-2005 Band Calendar of events, which includes rehearsals, football games, competitions, concerts, trips, etc. All of the events posted are required attendance for all members. We will hand out copies of this schedule during band camp and when school starts. Refer to the online handbook for information concerning rehearsal/performance attendance: <http://www.grissomband.org/handbook.pdf>

Grissom Band Member Information

Listed below are important dates and reminders for all Grissom Band Members. If you ever have any questions, please call the band room at 881-1075 or email the band directors:

Mr. Connell lennoc1@aol.com or Mr. Vernon jtvjazz@knology.net

***Grissom Band Website**, a plethora of information. Check it often! www.grissomband.org

***Grissom Band Handbook** posted on the website for downloading. **Please read this handbook.** It will answer many of your questions about the Grissom Band Program.

***Summer dates.** Please check the website for all band activities throughout the summer. These are very important rehearsals that will put you behind if you miss.

***Band Fees and uniform fittings.** Band fees are \$500.00.

The \$300.00 CASH PORTION of your student's fees is due at uniform fitting **July 26-29**. You are encouraged to make smaller payments in each summer month. For example, you may pay \$100 in June, \$100 in July, with the final payment of \$100 made at the time of uniform fitting.

The CASH OR EQUIVALENT CREDITS portion of the fees is the portion formerly known as Fair Share. We are phasing out the use of this terminology because it seemed to *confuse everyone*. That \$200 can either be paid with cash **OR** it can be paid by credit earned by working at **certain eligible** fund-raisers (i.e., fruit sales, VIPERS, flower sale, rummage sale) or by buying scrip. \$100.00 is due **November 1st** and the final \$100.00 is due **March 31st**. Because a majority of the band's expenses are incurred during marching season, prompt payment of your fees is crucial to the band program! A 20% penalty will be applied to the unpaid fees if not received by **September 1st**. Students who are exempt from school fees based on their family income are exempt from all band fees. Payments can be mailed or placed in the treasurer's box in the bandroom. Check only NO CASH.

***Car Washes.** Each section will have a couple of car wash fund-raisers for our Max Hammond Instrument account. These are held at Advance Auto on South Parkway on Saturdays throughout the summer. The schedule is posted on the website and section leaders will be calling you to remind you about your weekend. We need a parent from each section to be there during their section's car wash to handle all money and get it to our treasurers.

***Kroger Fundraiser.** On predetermined Saturdays this summer, we ask that Grissom Band students participate in this easy fundraiser for the band. For a few hours we will have students sit out in front of Kroger on Logan Drive and play their instruments and sell a \$1.00 orange card that will be put up in the window of the store. The Grissom Band receives the dollar for each one we and the check out staff sells. Our presence alone will encourage folks to support us. Check the website for future Saturdays.

***Percussion/Color Guard** summer rehearsals. Please refer to the calendar posted on the website and in the newsletter for all summer rehearsal dates. These are very important in the development of these sections which require many hours of preparation prior to our Pre-Camp and Band Camp.

***Section Get-Togethers.** During the summer your section leaders will have a couple of get-togethers so everyone can get to know each other prior to Pre-Camp in July. These will be fun activities and we encourage you all to attend.

***DCI show at MTSU.** We are planning a trip to a Drum Corp Show at Middle Tennessee State University on **Friday, July 30th** after Freshmen orientation which begins at 1:00pm at Grissom. We will plan on leaving around 3:00pm and return after midnight. The cost of a ticket will be \$15.00 plus transportation costs of approx. \$15.00. Your section leaders will take your reservation and the **deadline to register is July 1st**. We cannot guarantee your ticket will be seated with the rest of the group if your order after **July 1st**.

***Summer band uniform** for the first few football games. Each band member is required to have a pair of Khaki shorts and WHITE tennis shoes to wear along with the band T-shirt for the first few football games when it is so hot. We prefer a knee length (or as close to that as possible) Khaki pant for everyone.

***WHITE TENNIS SHOES.** We ask that each member of the marching band wear a pair of WHITE tennis shoes to all marching band rehearsals. These do not have to be \$200.00 shoes. Please make sure the color of the shoe is majority WHITE. This helps the directors fix many foot problems during the season when they all are close to the same color. Thank you!

***Instrument Rental.** If you are playing a Grissom Band owned instrument, you will pay a per-semester rental fee of \$45.00 for summer, fall and spring. The following instruments have a rental fee: Sousaphones/Tubas, all percussionists, Mellophone (marching French Horn), Concert Baritones, Bass Clarinets, Baritone Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone (as available), piccolos (as available) and Bassoons.

***Marching Band music.** All of the stand music for the marching band is posted on the band's website under Show Music. To access it you must have the username: student and password: bandontherun. Get a head start on this music by

downloading it and practicing it. There are even some sound files that you can listen to. Parts will be divided up at Pre-Camp. Once we get all of the show music arranged, we will post it as well. All files will be in pdf format. Adobe Acrobat Reader files. Our theme for the show is Stormworks with music by Stephen Melillo.

***Uniform Fitting. July 26-29.** Each class will be assigned a specific night for fittings. Please refer to your July newsletter for specifics. All new marchers will be required to order a pair of black marching shoes from the band at approx. \$30.00. Any veteran marchers who need new shoes will order at this time also. Black gloves will be sold prior to the first performance in uniform.

***Pre-Camp and Band Camp.** These rehearsals are required for all marching band members and are part of your grade for the first nine weeks of school. Pre-Camp for all marching band members is **July 28-30** from 8am-12pm. Marching fundamentals and music will be practiced. Band-Camp is **August 2-6** with three sessions:

1. 8:00am-12:00pm (outside learning the show)
2. 1:30-4:00pm (inside working on music and equipment work)
3. 6:00-9:00pm (outside working on show).

We get so much done during these camps and have a great time doing it!

***Rehearsal Attendance.** Attendance at all scheduled rehearsals (full band and sectionals) and performances is required of all members of the band program. Unexcused absences or frequent tardiness will lower your grade and hinder you from performing. It is your responsibility to notify the band director in advance (**at least 2 weeks**) with a signed note from your parent if you will miss a rehearsal. You must make up all missed rehearsals (excused or unexcused) by staying after school, making up the lost time, and passing off music with the director. Failure to do so within one week will result in your grade being lowered 10 pts. per missed rehearsal during that 9-week period. We request that **2 weeks prior** to a performance no rehearsal is to be missed; no excuses except family emergencies. The student will not be allowed to perform with the band and as a result they will receive a failing grade for that 9 weeks. This is why we hand out activity calendars at the beginning of each school year and post on the web site in late June or early July.

Excused absences included the following reasons: (Must be made up within one week)

1. sickness – must have signed note from parent/guardian
2. death in the family
3. pre-arranged conflict -- must be cleared in advance (**at least 2 weeks**)
4. emergency doctor's appointment.

Unexcused absences include the following reasons: (Cannot be made up)

1. skipping
2. forgetting
3. employment conflict
4. babysitting
5. birthday
6. club meeting
7. make-up test that could be scheduled at a different time
8. doctor and other appointments that could be scheduled at a different time
9. trip made in disregard of band commitment
10. any other conflict not cleared in advance with the band director
11. any conflict that is not school related

APPENDIX A (105-12)

Huntsville City Schools
Out-of-Town Field Trip Medical Release Form

Student's Name: Date of Birth:
Street Address: City: Zip Code:
Parent/Guardian #1 Name: Parent/Guardian #2 Name:
Address: Address:
Home Ph #: Home Ph #:
Phone # @ work: Phone # @ work:
Employer: Employer:
Cell Ph # or Pager: Cell Ph # or Pager:
If unable to reach parent/guardian, please notify:
Name: Relationship:
Home Ph #: Cell Ph # or Pager:

Student's General Health Information:

- 1. Does your child take medication? YES NO
(A completed and signed School Medication Prescriber/Parent Authorization Form is required for each medication (prescription or over-the-counter) medication to be administered during the field trip).
2. Does your child have any allergies? YES NO If yes, please list:
Does your child require medication to treat severe allergic reactions to insect stings/bites, food, etc.?
(If yes, a copy of the completed and signed Emergency Plan for Severe Allergy form and the form(s) for related medication(s) must accompany this form).
3. Does your child have asthma? YES NO
(If yes, a copy of the Student Asthma Action Plan Form and related medication authorization forms must accompany this form).
4. Does your child wear contact lenses? YES NO
5. Date of your child's last Tetanus Booster shot:
6. Is there any health history that may assist the person in charge if this student should become ill?

Family Physician:
Address:
City: State: Zip Code:

Authorization to Treat/Administer Medication:

I hereby authorize medical or surgical treatment of if any emergency should arise. I give permission for decisions to be made by the certified teacher in charge and/or Huntsville City Schools representative.

NOTE: Your signature on this form acknowledges your acceptance of financial responsibility for any medical or dental care your child requires.

Signature of Parent/Guardian Date

Signature of Notary Date

State County Date Commission Expires

**GRISSOM HIGH SCHOOL
GRISSOM BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 4335
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35815**

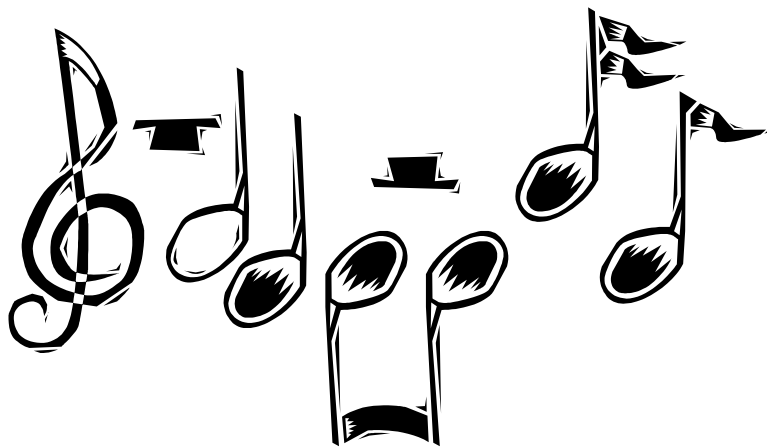
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HUNTSVILLE, AL
PERMIT NO. 495

**BAND PARENTS
MEETING
MONDAY
August 30
7PM - Auditorium
See you there!**



GHS BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION

MAY NEWSLETTER



www.grissomband.org