

BE PART OF



THE BAND

AN INFORMATIONAL
PACKET FOR
PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS
AND PARENTS



The Beyer Marching Band & Colorguard

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Dear Parents:

As your child prepares for the exciting transition from middle school to high school, I wanted to reach out to you and share a few thoughts about our program and its benefits for your son or daughter.

With this new chapter comes new opportunities and some difficult decisions. You want your child to be engaged, challenged, and prepared for high school and beyond. Just as important, you want to know that your child is in a supportive and safe atmosphere that will allow them to not only survive but to thrive. I know that in the Beyer High School band program, we can provide all of that and more!

Music is more than an artistic endeavor. It is a science, a foreign language, and a sport all rolled into one. Being a part of the band program means your child has a home base at school for the next four years. A place where they will be engaged at the highest levels and surrounded by the best students; a place where they will be supported and challenged physically, mentally, and musically; a place that teaches character, commitment, and cooperation; a place that will allow them to grow and blossom as a student, a musician, and a leader.

Setting aside all of the academic and brain-based research, band also immerses your child into a culture of high achieving students who are committed to high standards of behavior and character development. On an almost daily basis we talk about teamwork, commitment, dedication, and issues related to personal development and character education. These are the values and skills that will help your child to be successful in everything they do.

In this packet there is some information that I hope will help you to better understand the importance of music in your young person's life. Should you have any questions about these materials or band itself, please feel free to contact me by the means listed.

I want you to know that I am committed to your child's happiness and success. I want you to know that whether or not your child performs after high school, participation in the Beyer Band will help them to be successful throughout their lives.

Sincerely,

Mr. Richard Winkler
Director of Bands
Beyer High School School



COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

What if I am not sure if I want to do Marching Band?

Remember when your children wouldn't eat the food you made for them? You always said, "Try it before you decide you don't like it." Marching Band is the same way. You should sign up for band even if you are unsure. If at some point you decide that it is not for you, drop the class. *It is much easier to drop something after trying it, than to join late when you decide you miss it.*

How is band different in high school?

While the actual act of playing your instrument is similar, the social network and safety net that high school band provides is very different from junior high. From day one, your child will be musically and personally mentored by successful upperclassmen who have a vested interest in their success. They will have dozens of new and like-minded friends before school even begins and have experiences (Friday night football games and trips) that are unlike anything they have experienced in junior high.

Can I do band and sports?

YES. There might be occasional conflicts, but know that our faculty works hard to resolve as many conflicts as possible *before they occur and to work collaboratively* to solve them when they arise.

How much out of school time is required?

During the summer there are one day a week clinics and Band Camp at the end of July. From August to November we have full rehearsals in the evening twice times a week with one variable sectionals day. After November the schedule opens up significantly. Generally, the greater the level of commitment, the greater the reward and memories. Regardless of the ensemble, a calendar will be provided well in advance to help you plan for these events.

What are the costs?

The costs associated with band depend on which ensembles your child participates in. The Beyer Band Boosters and staff work together to provide fundraising opportunities for each and every child and ensure that **NO ONE IS EXCLUDED** due to financial issues. The more the group is able to fundraise as a whole, the more performance opportunities we will encounter in a season. Please do not hesitate to contact the BBB and find out how you can help!

What if I have other questions?

Please know that we are here to answer any and all questions that you may have. Due to the busy nature of our program, it is difficult to contact us by phone. The best way for you to reach us is electronically at Boosters@beyerband.org. This will allow us to respond to your query, whether you are available by phone or not. You may also visit our website at www.BeyerBand.org for more information.

Student Information Sheet

Please fill out the following information as completely as possible.

Student Full Name: _____

Middle School attended: _____

Instrument(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Student Email Address: _____

Parent Email Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Do You Have Any Questions?

----- (for director use) -----

Director Notes:
