



Bearden High School Band Boosters is an organization consisting of the band members, including their parents/guardians, and any other interested adult. The Band Boosters work in cooperation with the band directors, offering support for all band activities. It is important that all involved understand that the Bearden program is a “total band program.” There are many different ensembles or units, all belonging to one program: The Concert Band, The Symphonic Band, The Marching Band, Color Guard, Percussion Ensemble, and Jazz Band. These ensembles comprise the “total band program”. The purpose of the Bearden Band Booster organization is to provide financial assistance to all BHS band organizations, encourage parental involvement, and to provide adult supervision and assistance to all BHS band organizations and their directors as needed. During the school year, our band students will have many opportunities to share their musical talents, and the Band Booster organization supports the band in many ways. They are the moral support of the band, attending performances, festivals and contests, cheering for the BHS Band. Members of the organization act as chaperones as needed for all band functions and on band trips. They also help to maintain and repair band uniforms and other equipment used by the band. The Band Boosters also sponsor the fund raising activities of the band program. Each of us has different talents and time available to contribute to our organization. The Board of Officers hopes to become acquainted with all the band parents and encourage you to use your talents and time to support this very talented group of students.

## **Marching Band Frequently Asked Questions**

### **How much money will my student need for band camp?**

If your student doesn't bring a lunch or dinner, or go home for meals, they need to be prepared to go with friends to a nearby fast food restaurant. There should be no other need for money.

### **How much money will my student need for ballgames or competitions?**

Again, the primary need for money will be for your student to purchase a meal/snack or drink. At competitions there are vendors as well, so your child may want to bring a bit extra.

### **What will my student *really* need for band camp?**

A FULL WATER BOTTLE! Sunscreen. A towel (especially a cooling towel or Chill-It). A mechanical pencil. Extra socks.

### **When does my student need to have their uniform items?**

So the uniforms can be properly fitted, your student should have their compression wear, marching shoes, socks, and gloves by band camp.

### **Is it true my student can't dye their hair during marching season?**

Your student's hair must be a natural color and, if colored, be permanent color. Vivid colors detract from the uniformity of the band, and semi-permanent color can bleed onto the uniforms.

### **Does my student get snacks & water during band camp? During marching season? When?**

Yes. During band camp, students take regular water breaks and time is allotted for eating snacks brought from home. We take snacks and water to away games to give the students on the bus after the game. And during each game, coolers of water are available in the stands for the students.

### **Can my student eat and drink in their uniform?**

Students can drink only water while in uniform, and must be careful while eating.

### **How will I know when things are happening?**

It is very important that you give the band an active email address, and that you check for messages from the band directors or the band boosters. The directors will send out itineraries, updates, and announcements and the band boosters will send volunteer requests, event announcements, and

reminders – don't miss these important emails! You can also sign up for **Remind 101** to receive text reminders. Parents and students can join by texting **@1617ban** to **81010**

**When do I need to have my student at the school for ballgames/trips?**

For each event, the band directors will send out an itinerary. Please have your student at the school 15 to 20 minutes early. Remember, early is on time . . .

**Will my student be home when the itinerary predicts?**

While our band directors do their best, the return times on itineraries are approximate.

**Can I watch my student prepare & warm up for the games in the band room?**

This warm up time is a closed rehearsal – a time for the students to focus, get last minute instructions, and make last minute adjustments. Their attention needs to be on the directors and on their team performance. Tip: A great place to be before the game is along the walk to the stadium for the band's march!

**Can my student stay at the school between school and a ballgame?**

Yes. Frequently groups of students will go to dinner at a nearby fast food restaurant or hang out in the band room eating food from home.

**Can my student leave a ballgame or trip with me instead of riding back on the bus?**

Knox County policy is that students should ride back with the rest of the band. If necessary, however, a parent may provide a note to the band directors before the trip so the student will be excused from the trip back to the school.

**Can I drive my student/can my student drive themselves to a ballgame or competition?**

No.

**Where can band parents sit at home games?**

The "parent section" is behind the band and color guard in the end of the bleachers closest to the school. Join us there!

**Can my student's friends/family sit with them in the band section?**

No. Only band students should be in the band section.

**Do parents get into ballgames for free?**

Only parents who are actively assisting or traveling with the band (chaperones, equipment crew, hospitality) do not pay admission.

**How does my student earn money for fees?**

Funds raised at the car wash and Booster sponsored fundraisers are put in your student's account and can be put toward Band Booster fees.

**Does my student have to participate in fundraisers?**

Students are strongly encouraged to participate in all fundraisers. In addition to earning money for fees, these fundraising activities are great opportunities to socialize, set goals, and work with their friends.

**Do I have to purchase a band show shirt or spirit wear?**

It's not required, of course, but wearing the show shirt or band spirit wear not only helps the band financially, it's a great way to show your support of your band student and their chosen organization.

**Can I come to the parent activities?**

Absolutely! We tailgate at competitions, get together for dinner, carpool to away events – just watch for announcements . . . or better yet, join the boosters or volunteer!

**How do I know if the band needs my help? How do I volunteer?**

Your student's band needs your help. To volunteer you can sign up during a freshman parent night, call or email a booster parent, or just show up at an event and ask how you can lend a hand!

**How do I join the boosters?**

Joining the boosters is as simple as coming to the meetings on the second Thursday of each month. No application or approval is needed! We welcome any and all band parents that want to be a part of making band a fantastic experience for every band student.