

# **ONW Raven Pride Band Boosters' Parent Handbook**



**ONW RAVEN BANDS**  
Olathe Northwest High School

**2016–2017 School Year**



# Band Booster Handbook

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# Welcome

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## Welcome Letter

Hello New Raven Pride Parent!

On behalf of the Raven Pride Band Boosters, welcome to ONW. We are so pleased that you and your student will be involved in one of the largest high school band programs in the Midwest. The growth we've experienced over the last several years is a happy consequence of our band program mission: Our purpose is to provide the highest quality music education possible for every student at every level.

As you enjoy watching the band program over the next few years, you'll see that Mr. Davis, Mr. Maddux, and their team use several very effective strategies to achieve that lofty purpose.

- Morale is incredibly high in our band because it is an optimistic, positive, passionate place for music. Band is cool at Olathe Northwest.
- Outreach to 5th through 8th grade students in the ONW area is extremely important to Mr. Davis, Mr. Maddux, and company. That doesn't happen everywhere, but it happens here, and with amazing results.
- We maintain an active, involved, and well-organized volunteer organization called the Raven Pride Band Boosters. Mr. Davis, Mr. Maddux, their staff, and all the band members recognize and greatly appreciate the support that we provide.

We've created this book for you because it is the book we all wish that we'd had, back when we were first-time high school band parents. It describes nearly everything that goes on with band here at ONW, all from a band parent's perspective. The thickness of this book should also suggest that there are numerous opportunities for you to be involved in the Raven Pride Band Boosters.

Band is the largest student group at Olathe Northwest. And with well over 300 musicians this fall, the Raven Pride Band Boosters need your help. We want to meet you, to see you at Booster meetings, and to enjoy your company as we all work together to support the most dynamic high school music program in the state. We encourage you to read through this book and consider where you might be of service. Once again, welcome to ONW, and we look forward to meeting you soon!

Diane and Jim Adam  
Co-Presidents, Raven Pride Band Boosters

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# Basics on the ONW Band Boosters

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## Our Mission

The primary objectives of the Olathe Northwest Raven Pride Band Boosters are to collaborate with the Olathe Northwest High School Band Directors, High School officials, and the Olathe School District officials to promote the advancement of the Olathe Northwest Raven Bands music program; and to encourage the growth and development of an exceptional music program that complements and expands the educational opportunities of Olathe Northwest High School students.

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## Why the Handbook?

The Raven Bands and the Band Boosters get busy during the school year because at any point in time there's usually something we're working on! And for incoming band families, it's sometimes a lot to take in at first. The information on the following pages will familiarize you with our organization, its functions, projects, and committees. Because the Raven Bands family is so large, it's difficult to speak to everyone at once. So we came up with this handbook in the hopes that it would give you a solid base to work from. There is a lot more information, including an online calendar, is available at our website, [www.ravenbands.org](http://www.ravenbands.org)

Any questions can be directed to any Band Booster Officer, Committee Chair, or the Band Director (all listed below under *Band Boosters' Executive Committee*).

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## Who are the Band Boosters?

The Olathe Northwest High School Raven Pride Band Boosters is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization to which all parents and guardians of Olathe Northwest Raven band students automatically belong. Our organization welcomes not only the parents/guardians of students participating in the Olathe Northwest Raven Bands program but also anyone interested in supporting the Raven Bands.

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## What We Do (and Don't Do)

First, and foremost, The Olathe Northwest Raven Pride Band Boosters support the Band Director and the students of the Olathe Northwest Raven Bands. Our support typically functions through fundraising and volunteering "back stage". The Band Boosters manage an annual budget in order to support the Raven Bands program. We do not make policy or curriculum decisions for the Raven Band; that is the role of the Band Director, assisted by the band staff.

Raven Bands activities are not completely covered by the Olathe Schools Board's Budget; therefore, the Band Boosters assist with raising money to support the band program. Some of our fundraising efforts include the annual Blues & BBQ Jazz Banquet, Speedy Car Washes, Dine Nights, Holiday and Spring Plant Sales, and Bake Sales. The money we raise helps supply the Raven Bands with things like festival fees, clinician expenses, trailer fees, and instrument repairs.

Our other form of support – Volunteering to help "back stage" – is equally important. Parental involvement is essential to the success of the entire band program. When parents offer time and effort to chaperone, assist with uniforms, serve with the Raven Roadies, help at band camp and competitions, and help with fundraising – we are giving our time and effort to our sons and daughters and the ultimate success of the program.

There's one more thing that Band Boosters do...We have fun!! You'll find many opportunities to meet new people, form relationships and have a great time. Band families have a lot of school spirit and sit together in the stands at football games and competitions to show their support of the band.

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## Why We Need Your Help

It takes a group of dedicated students and parents to keep the Raven Bands program great!

The Olathe Northwest Band Boosters is devoted to the support and advancement of the Raven Bands program. With increasing numbers comes the obligation for new uniforms, music, fixing or replacing more instruments and buying meals for more students during competitions. These items are typically not funded by the Olathe School District. You have a unique opportunity to help promote a band program with a proud legacy in our area. To continue and expand on our 13-year tradition of excellence, the Band Boosters need every parent to become involved! Whether it's fundraising, chaperoning, event organization, volunteering, or just showing up for monthly meetings, all that we ask is that you share with us your ideas and a little of your time and energy.

Everyone has something to contribute and we need each and every one of you!

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## Basics on the ONW Band Boosters, Continued

### When Do We Meet?

All Band Booster board meetings are at 6:30pm in the Band Room on the second Thursday of each month unless otherwise noted. We will post an agenda online a few days before each meeting for your review. Despite the fact that they are titled "board meetings", all Boosters are welcome to attend. Upcoming board meetings are as follows:

2016 – 2017 Board Meeting Dates	
June 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2016 (Thurs.)	January 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2017 (Thurs.)
July – No Meeting	February – No Meeting
August 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2016 (Thurs.)	March 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2017 (Thurs.)
September 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2016 (Wed.)	April 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2017 (Thurs.)
October 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2016 (Thurs.)	May 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2017 (Thurs.)
November 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2016 (Thurs.)	June 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2017 (Thurs.)
December 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2016 (Thurs.)	

If you miss a meeting, don't worry. Meeting minutes are available online at:

[www.onwravens.net/ravenbands.board-meeting-minutes/](http://www.onwravens.net/ravenbands.board-meeting-minutes/)

### 2016-2017 Band Booster Executive Committee

Below is the preferred means of communication with the ONW Band Booster Executive Committee:

Position	Name	Contact Information
<b>Band Director</b>	Robert Davis	Email: <a href="mailto:rdavisonw@olatheschools.org">rdavisonw@olatheschools.org</a> Work #: (913) 780-7150 Cell #: (913) 963-6524
<b>Band Director</b>	Joshua Maddux	Email: <a href="mailto:jmadduxonw@olatheschools.org">jmadduxonw@olatheschools.org</a> Work #: (913) 780-7150
<b>Presidents</b>	Diane and Jim Adam	<a href="mailto:president@ravenbands.org">president@ravenbands.org</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	Dana Solomonson	<a href="mailto:vp@ravenbands.org">vp@ravenbands.org</a>
<b>Banquet &amp; Senior Gifts</b>	---	<a href="mailto:banquet@ravenbands.org">banquet@ravenbands.org</a>
<b>Blues &amp; BBQ Coordinator</b>	Dana Solomonson	<a href="mailto:bbq@ravenbands.org">bbq@ravenbands.org</a>
<b>Blues &amp; BBQ Auction Coordinator</b>	Michelle Hovick	<a href="mailto:auction@ravenbands.org">auction@ravenbands.org</a>
<b>Food Coordinators</b>	Stacy Knipp and Jana Ruskanen	<a href="mailto:foodcoordinator@ravenbands.org">foodcoordinator@ravenbands.org</a>
<b>Fundraiser Coordinators</b>	Debbie Underwood, Jennifer Wilson, and Theresa Sahar	<a href="mailto:fundraising@ravenbands.org">fundraising@ravenbands.org</a>
<b>Historian / Scrapbook</b>	Barbara Enright	<a href="mailto:historian@ravenbands.org">historian@ravenbands.org</a>
<b>Raven Props Coordinator</b>	Darren Bradley	<a href="mailto:props@ravenbands.org">props@ravenbands.org</a>
<b>Raven Roadies Coordinator</b>	Karen and Tim Cunningham	<a href="mailto:roadies@ravenbands.org">roadies@ravenbands.org</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Laurie Emerson	<a href="mailto:secretary@ravenbands.org">secretary@ravenbands.org</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Christine Schauf	<a href="mailto:treasurer@ravenbands.org">treasurer@ravenbands.org</a>
<b>Uniform Coordinators</b>	Jennifer Wood and Melanie Hamilton	<a href="mailto:uniforms@ravenbands.org">uniforms@ravenbands.org</a>
<b>Volunteer Coordinator</b>	Becky Cumley	<a href="mailto:volunteers@ravenbands.org">volunteers@ravenbands.org</a>
<b>Webmaster</b>	Sheryl Higgins	<a href="mailto:webmaster@ravenbands.org">webmaster@ravenbands.org</a>

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## Basics on the ONW Band Boosters, Continued

### Band at ONW by the Hour

In total there are eleven (11) different bands within the ONW Raven Bands program. Not all of them are full year programs, but to help explain the whole Raven Bands program the following gives a basic description of each individual band.

1 <sup>st</sup> Semester Class Schedule		
Class Hour	Band Name	Basic Description
1 <sup>st</sup>	Marching	This band is comprised of freshman through seniors. Auditions for this band occur in the Spring semester of the previous year. They rehearse in the summer and before school from August until the end of October. They will be performing at each "home" field varsity football game and several weekend band competitions.
4 <sup>th</sup>	Concert	This band is comprised of freshman through seniors who chose not to audition for Symphonic/Wind Ensemble/Raven Winds bands. Students who choose not to march during the 1st semester should enroll in this class.
5 <sup>th</sup>	Jazz Lab	This band is comprised of freshman through seniors who choose not to audition or have auditioned and not been selected for Jazz I / II / III Bands. <i>Students may not enroll in jazz band only.</i> Jazz classes may be taken in addition to either Concert or Marching Bands.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester Class Schedule		
Class Hour	Band Name	Basic Description
1 <sup>st</sup>	Raven Winds	This band is considered to be the Raven Bands advanced group. It is comprised of freshman through seniors who audition and qualify for the group. Auditions for this band occur in the Spring semester of the previous year. This band will begin immediately after the Marching Band season and will finish out the remainder of the school year.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Wind Ensemble	This band is a select ensemble made up of freshman through seniors who audition and qualify for the group. Auditions for this band occur in the Spring semester of the previous year. This band will begin immediately after the Marching Band season and will finish out the remainder of the school year.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Symphonic	This band is comprised of freshman through seniors who participated in Marching Band. This band will begin immediately after the Marching Band season and will finish out the remainder of the school year. Auditions for this band occur in conjunction with the Marching Band auditions.
4 <sup>th</sup>	Concert	This band is comprised of freshman through seniors who chose not to audition for Symphonic/Wind Ensemble/Raven Winds bands. Students who choose not to march during the 1st semester should enroll in this class.
5 <sup>th</sup>	Jazz I	This band is considered to be the part of the Raven Bands advanced group. It is comprised of freshman through seniors who audition and qualify for this group. Auditions for this band occur in the Spring semester of the previous year. <i>Students may not enroll in jazz band only.</i> Jazz classes may be taken in addition to either Concert or Marching Bands.
6 <sup>th</sup>	Jazz II	This band is comprised of freshman through seniors who audition and qualify for this group. Auditions occur in the Spring semester of the previous year. <i>Students may not enroll in jazz band only.</i> Jazz classes may be taken in addition to either Concert or Marching Bands.
7 <sup>th</sup>	Jazz III	This band is comprised of freshman through seniors who audition and qualify for this group. Auditions occur in the Spring semester of the previous year. <i>Students may not enroll in jazz band only.</i> Jazz classes may be taken in addition to either Concert or Marching Bands.
---	Pep Band	This band is comprised of freshman through seniors who volunteer to participate in the Ravens Basketball Pep Band. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No audition is required – Only an understanding that if a band member signs up, he/she is required to attend all games (unless otherwise excused).</li> <li>Basketball season runs from December through end of February/March.</li> <li>Practices are held each game day prior to the scheduled games</li> <li>There may be opportunities to perform during some of the school assemblies</li> </ul>



# Communications

## Background

Communications is essential for our organization to work properly, so we have opted to use several different electronic forms in order to get the information that you'll need to know about upcoming events.

- The Raven Bands Website ([www.ravenbands.org](http://www.ravenbands.org))
- Charms Website ([www.charmsoffice.com](http://www.charmsoffice.com))
- Direct Emails
- Facebook page (ONW Raven Pride Band)
- Shutterfly Share Site ([ravenbands.shutterfly.com](http://ravenbands.shutterfly.com))
- Twitter account (@ravenprideband)

If you have any questions about:

*Raven Bands Website*, please contact our Webmaster -- Sheryl Higgins at [webmaster@ravenbands.org](mailto:webmaster@ravenbands.org)

*Charms Website*, please contact our Treasurer – Christine Schauf at [treasurer@ravenbands.org](mailto:treasurer@ravenbands.org)

*Facebook page*, please contact [admin@ravenbands.org](mailto:admin@ravenbands.org)

*Shutterfly Share Site*, please contact [admin@ravenbands.org](mailto:admin@ravenbands.org)

## Raven Bands Website

The Raven Bands have their own dedicated website ([www.ravenbands.org](http://www.ravenbands.org)) which contains a wealth of information about what's going on in the Raven Bands program.

- Band Calendar
- More details about upcoming fundraiser events such as Blues & BBQ Banquet
- Access to send emails to Mr. Davis, Mr. Maddux, and all members of the Band Boosters' Executive Board
- Access to Band Boosters' Board meeting minutes
- Access to retrieve previous emails sent out about band information
- Information on how to access your student's band ledger account and how to request reimbursements
- Link to Charms website
- Link to the Band's Shutterfly account (must be approved to be a member)
- Link to the ONW Raven Pride Bands Facebook account
- Link to the ONW Raven Pride Bands Twitter account

The screenshot shows the ONW Raven Bands website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'ONW Home', 'Activities', and 'Bands Home'. Below this is a search bar. The main header features the 'ONW RAVEN BANDS' logo and a background image of a band. A secondary navigation bar includes links for 'HOME', '16-17 FRESHMAN', 'CALENDAR', '2016 BLUES & BBQ', 'BOOSTERS', 'ABOUT', 'MUSIC', and 'NEWS ARCHIVE'. The main content area is divided into several sections: a '2016-2017 Band Calendar' article by Melody Baker, an 'ONW Performing Arts Video' article by Raven WebMaster, and a 'Contacts and Links' sidebar. The sidebar contains links to 'BAND ACCOUNTS', 'Band Emails & Info', 'E-mail Mr. Davis', 'E-mail Mr. Maddux', 'Staff & Booster Board Contacts', 'Link to CHARMS', and 'Band Photos on Shutterfly -- Members Only'. Below the sidebar is a 'Social Media' section with links to follow the band on Facebook and Twitter. At the bottom, there is an 'Upcoming Band Events' section listing an 'ONW Commencement' event on May 15, 2016, starting at 5:00 pm, located at Olathe Northwest High School, 21300 College Boulevard, Olathe, KS 66061, United States. The description for this event is 'Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble & Raven Winds'.

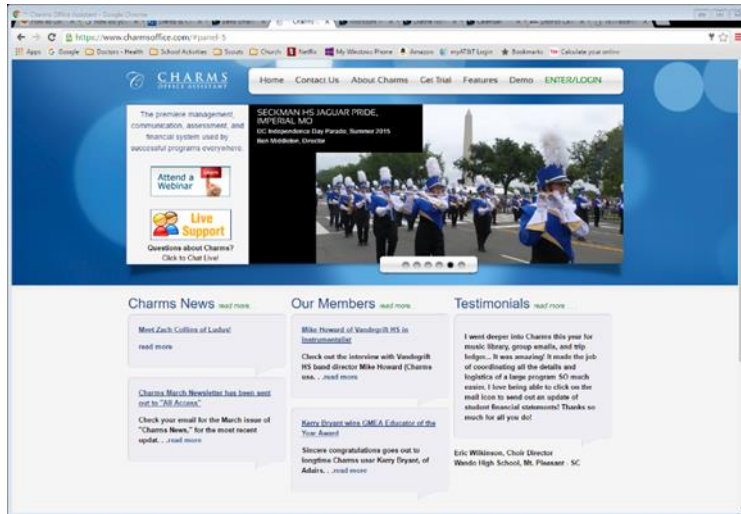
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# Communications, Continued

## Charms – Why is it Important?

The Raven Bands and the Band Boosters use a software program called Charms. Although you can link to it from the Raven Bands website, it is a separate application that allows us to:

- Integrate student and parent contact information
- Track the Raven Bands calendar
- Work on finances (including individual student accounts)
- Check out school-provided instruments



To log in to the student's account, follow the steps below:

Step	Action
1	Browse to: <a href="https://www.charmsoffice.com">https://www.charmsoffice.com</a>
2	Click on the "Enter/Login" button in the upper right corner
3	In the "Parents/Students/Members" section, please enter the following school code: ONWHSBand
4	Click on the "Enter Student/Parent Area" button
5	In the "Student Area Password" section, please enter your student's school ID <i>NOTE: Ignore the red box that might pop up requesting you to change your password – Instead just click on the "Home" icon located in the upper left corner.</i>

From here you will be able to find out just about anything you want that pertains to your student – from the band calendar to what's going on in your student's financial ledger account to sending an email to the Band Director and the Boosters' Board members.

\*\* When your student first joins the band please double-check the personal contact information (Click on "Update Info" icon). Don't forget to update the account anytime your information changes.

***It is VERY IMPORTANT that the phone and email information for both the student and their parents are current – AND that your student's t-shirt size is accurate.***

The contact information in your student's Charms account is what we use to send out Band updates and information -- that includes emails from Mr. Davis as well. The t-shirt size in your student's profile is the size we use when ordering band shirts (No changes will be allowed after the order has been made).

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## Communications, Continued

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### Emails

We have found that emails are a great way to reach everyone so expect to see a few of them in your “Inbox”. We realize that people are typically inundated with a sea of email from here, there, and everywhere. There are times when it’s hard to just keep up with it all. With that in mind we intentionally do our best to keep emails to a minimum while still keeping you and your student informed.

Most of the emails you will receive come from Mr. Davis, our Band Director. However, there will be times occasionally when someone from the Booster Executive Board will need to send information out to you; usually it will contain volunteer and fundraising information.

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### Do You Use Facebook, Shutterfly, or Twitter to Get Out Information?

Yes, Raven Bands has a Facebook page (ONW Raven Pride Band) but it is set up as a closed group so, you’ll need to get invited. Parents and students are allowed to post pictures and information about band events. It’s really helpful during marching band festivals/competitions or anytime one of the bands is traveling by bus outside of school hours.

To find our Facebook page, search for ONW Raven Pride Band and click the “Join” button. A member will then allow access for you.

We also use our Shutterfly Share Site so that parents and students can upload or download pictures of our band students at events such as band camp, 5<sup>th</sup> grade “Try It” night, football game performances, festival performances, concerts, pep band performances, etc. This Share Site is accessible by members only. You will need a Shutterfly account to request membership at [ravenbands.shutterfly.com](http://ravenbands.shutterfly.com).

Questions about Facebook or Shutterfly? Email [admin@ravenbands.org](mailto:admin@ravenbands.org)

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### Who Should I Contact if I Have Any Questions?

First of all, questions are good. We like questions! That means you’re engaged and we always appreciate that.

***If you have question about the Band Boosters or just want information from a band parent’s perspective, PLEASE ASK!!*** Anyone from the Boosters Executive Board would be happy to answer any questions you may have – please refer to the Basics on the ONW Band Boosters listed in the section above. If the person you contact doesn’t know the answer, we will make sure we get you in contact with someone who does.

This handbook has been formatted so that the following sections are broken down by our most common questions. At the beginning of each section there is a paragraph(s) titled “Background” which gives you an overall description of the section and includes a contact person that you may reach out to if you have any additional questions.

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# Calendar of Events

## Background

Below is a list of this school year's Raven bands calendar which is broken up by the specific band(s) that your student is in. Odds are you have already received a copy of the 2016-2017 master band calendar from Mr. Davis which contains all of the band schedules intermixed together. This is the same information – it's just split up by band in the hopes to make it easier for you and your student to identify which dates pertain specifically to you.

Our master band calendar is stored in Google and can be accessed by anyone at [admin@ravenbands.org](mailto:admin@ravenbands.org).

If you have any questions about the band calendars, please contact the Band Directors:

Robert Davis at [rdavisonw@olatheschools.org](mailto:rdavisonw@olatheschools.org) or Joshua Maddux at [jmadduxonw@olatheschools.org](mailto:jmadduxonw@olatheschools.org)

As you're looking through these calendars you'll notice there are a lot of auditions, concerts, and festivals. For questions about specific events, please refer to the section below titled "What Are All These Events About?"

## Marching Band (1<sup>st</sup> Hr. – 1<sup>st</sup> Sem.)

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Groups Involved</b>
May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Band Leadership Camp	8am – 4pm	Band Student Leadership Team
May 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup>	Full Band Camp	8am – 2pm	Marching Band Students (Required)
July 11 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup>	Marching Pre-Camp	8am – 12pm	Marching Band Students (Recommend)
July 25 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup>	Drumline Camp	8am – 4pm	Marching Drumline (Battery & Front Ens.)
Aug. 1 <sup>st</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> & Aug. 8 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup>	Full Band Camp	8am – 4pm	Marching Band Students (Required)
Aug. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Bowling Party @ Mission Bowl off Hwy 56	9pm – 11pm	All Band Students
Aug. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Uniform Fitting Day	By Appt.	<b>Returning Marching</b> Band Students
Aug. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Meet the Band Night and Parent Meeting	6:30pm – 8pm	All Band Students & Parents
Aug. 13 <sup>th</sup>	Uniform Fitting Day	By Appt.	<b>New Marching</b> Band Students
Aug. 29 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band/Strings "Try It"	6pm – 8pm	Selected Students & Leadership Team
Sept. 8 <sup>th</sup>	Old Settlers' Days (Stand & Blow – Downtown Olathe)	7pm – 8:30pm	Marching Band Students
Sept. 9 <sup>th</sup>	March to Meadow Lane & PRT	7am – 10am	Marching Band Students
Sept. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Old Settlers' Day Parade	AM	Marching Band Students
Sept. 15 <sup>th</sup>	** Football vs. Lee Summit	4:30pm Call	Marching Band Students
Sept. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Olathe Dist. Marching Band Festival @ CBAC	7pm – 9pm	All Band Students
Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup>	** Football vs. Leavenworth (Homecoming)	4:30pm Call	Marching Band Students
Oct. 8 <sup>th</sup>	Lee's Summit North Marching Invitational ( <i>Competition</i> )	<i>All Day</i>	Marching Band Students
Oct. 14 <sup>th</sup>	** Football vs. Olathe North	4:30pm Call	Marching Band Students
Oct. 15 <sup>th</sup>	Festival of Champions @ UCM ( <i>Competition</i> )	<i>All Day</i>	Marching Band Students
Oct. 18 <sup>th</sup>	ONW Fall Concert	7pm – 8:30pm	Concert, Marching, & Jazz Lab
Oct. 20 <sup>th</sup>	John P. Sousa Honor Band Audition Recordings Due	By End of Day	All Freshman Band Students
Oct. 21 <sup>st</sup>	** Football vs. SM South (Senior Night)	4:30pm Call	Marching Band Students
Oct. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	KBA Marching Invitational in Topeka, KS ( <i>Competition</i> )	<i>All Day</i>	Marching Band Students
Oct. 28 <sup>th</sup>	** Football vs. TBA	4:30pm Call	Marching Band Students
Oct. 29 <sup>th</sup>	Heart of America Marching Festival @ KU ( <i>Competition</i> )	<i>All Day</i>	Marching Band Students

\*\* All Football Games are played at CBAC (College Blvd Activity Center) which is located directly across Lone Elm from ONW. We will always enter the field from the west side of the stadium so please park in the west parking lot which is furthest away from ONW.

*Continued on next page*

## Calendar of Events, Continued

### Raven Winds (1<sup>st</sup> Hr. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sem.)

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Groups Involved</b>
Nov. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Honor Band Auditions @ Olathe East	All Day	Sophomores, Juniors, & Seniors
Dec. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tuba Christmas @ Kaufman Center	All Day	Tuba & Euphonium Players
Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Regional Honor Band Festival Concert	All Day	Selected Sophomore, Jr., & Sr.
Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Cookie Baking Party (for Concert Reception)	Afternoon	Selected Students & Parents
Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Band Winter Concert	7pm – 8:30pm	All Band Students
Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA All State Auditions @ Salina	All Day	Selected Sophomore, Jr., & Sr.
Jan. 14 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA All State Auditions (Contingency Date)		
Jan. 27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup>	Sousa Honor Band @ KU Lied Center	Fri PM & Sat AM	Selected Freshman Band Students
Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup>	ONW Area Band Concert @ ONW Gym	7pm – 9pm	All Band Students
Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Piano Solo Festival @ Baker Univ.	By Appt.	All ONW Pianists
Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Blues & BBQ Fundraiser	PM	All Band Students & Parents (Optional)
Feb. 18 <sup>th</sup>	State Piano Solo Festival @ Wichita State Univ.	By Appt.	Selected ONW Pianists
Feb. 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA State Convention @ Wichita	All Days	Selected ONW All State Musicians
March 24 <sup>th</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup>	Retreat to the Lake of the Ozarks	2-Nights	Raven Winds
March 30 <sup>th</sup>	Raven Winds Pre Contest Concert @ Olathe East	AM	Raven Winds
April 8 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Solo & Ensemble	By Appt.	Open to All Band Students
April 12 <sup>th</sup>	KSHSAA State Large Group Festival	TBA	Wind Ensemble & Raven Winds
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	ONW Percussion Show	7pm – 8:30pm	ONW Percussionists
April 29 <sup>th</sup>	State Solo & Ensemble @ Washburn Rural HS, Topeka	By Appt.	Selected Students
May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	ONW Spring Band Concert	7pm – 8:30pm	All Band Students
May 8 <sup>th</sup>	ONW Band Banquet	6pm – 8pm	All Band Students & Families
May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Senior Commencement	5pm Call	Symphonic, Wind Ensemble, & Raven Winds

*Continued on next page*

## Calendar of Events, Continued

### Wind Ensemble (2<sup>nd</sup> Hr. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sem.)

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Groups Involved</u>
Nov. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Honor Band Auditions @ Olathe East	All Day	Sophomores, Juniors, & Seniors
Dec. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tuba Christmas @ Kauffman Center	All Day	Tuba & Euphonium Players
Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Regional Honor Band Festival Concert	All Day	Selected Sophomore, Jr., & Sr.
Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Cookie Baking Party (for Concert Reception)	Afternoon	Selected Students & Parents
Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Band Winter Concert	7pm – 8:30pm	All Band Students
Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA All State Auditions @ Salina	All Day	Selected Sophomore, Jr., & Sr.
Jan. 14 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA All State Auditions (Contingency Date)		
Jan. 27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup>	Sousa Honor Band @ KU Lied Center	Fri PM & Sat AM	Selected Freshman Band Students
Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup>	ONW Area Band Concert @ ONW Gym	7pm – 9pm	All Band Students
Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Piano Solo Festival @ Baker University	By Appt.	All ONW Pianists
Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Blues & BBQ Fundraiser	PM	All Band Students & Parents (Optional)
Feb. 18 <sup>th</sup>	State Piano Solo Festival @ Wichita State Univ.	By Appt.	Selected ONW Pianists
Feb. 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA State Convention @ Wichita	All Days	Selected ONW All State Musicians
March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Wind Ensemble Pre Contest Concert @ Olathe Northwest	AM	Wind Ensemble
April 8 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Solo & Ensemble	By Appt.	Open to All Band Students
April 12 <sup>th</sup>	KSHAA State Large Group Festival	TBA	Wind Ensemble & Raven Winds
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	ONW Percussion Show	7pm – 8:30pm	ONW Percussionists
April 29 <sup>th</sup>	State Solo & Ensemble @ Washburn Rural HS, Topeka	By Appt.	Selected Students
May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	ONW Spring Band Concert	7pm – 8:30pm	All Band Students
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Festival Trip	TBA	Concert, Symphonic, & Wind Ensemble
May 8 <sup>th</sup>	ONW Band Banquet	6pm – 8pm	All Band Students & Families
May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Senior Commencement	5pm Call	Symphonic, Wind Ens., & Raven Winds

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## Calendar of Events, Continued

### Symphonic Band (3<sup>rd</sup> Hr. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sem.)

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Groups Involved</b>
Nov. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Honor Band Auditions @ Olathe East	All Day	Sophomores, Juniors, & Seniors
Dec. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tuba Christmas @ Kauffman Center	All Day	Tuba & Euphonium Players
Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Regional Honor Band Festival Concert	All Day	Selected Sophomore, Jr., & Sr.
Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Cookie Baking Party (for Concert Reception)	Afternoon	Selected Students & Parents
Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Band Winter Concert	7pm – 8:30pm	All Band Students
Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA All State Auditions @ Salina	All Day	Selected Sophomores, Jr., & Sr.
Jan. 14 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA All State Auditions (Contingency Date)		
Jan. 27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup>	Sousa Honor Band @ KU Lied Center	Fri PM & Sat AM	Selected Freshman Band Students
Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup>	ONW Area Band Concert @ ONW Gym	7pm – 9pm	All Band Students
Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Piano Solo Festival @ Baker University	By Appt.	All ONW Pianists
Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Blues & BBQ Fundraiser	PM	All Band Students & Parents (Optional)
Feb. 18 <sup>th</sup>	State Piano Solo Festival @ Wichita State Univ.	By Appt.	Selected ONW Pianists
Feb. 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA State Convention @ Wichita	All Days	Selected ONW All State Musicians
April 8 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Solo & Ensemble	By Appt	Open to All Band Students
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	Concert Band Festival @ JCCC (Tentative)	TBA	Concert & Symphonic Bands
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	ONW Percussion Show	7pm – 8:30pm	ONW Percussionists
April 29 <sup>th</sup>	State Solo & Ensemble @ Washburn Rural HS, Topeka	By Appt.	Selected Students
May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	ONW Spring Band Concert	7pm – 8:30pm	All Band Students
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Festival Trip	TBA	Concert, Symphonic, & Wind Ensemble
May 8 <sup>th</sup>	ONW Band Banquet	6pm – 8pm	All Band Students & Families
May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Senior Commencement	5pm Call	Symphonic, Wind Ens., & Raven Winds

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## Calendar of Events, Continued

### Concert Band (4<sup>th</sup> Hr. – 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Sem.)

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Groups Involved</b>
Aug. 5	Bowling Party @ Mission Bowl	9pm – 11pm	All Band Students
Aug. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Meet the Band Night/Parent Meeting	6:30pm – 8pm	All Band Students & Parents
Aug. 29 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band/Strings "Try It" Night	6pm – 8pm	Selected Students & Leadership Team
Sept. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Olathe Dist. Marching Band Festival @ CBAC	7pm – 9pm	All Band Students
	Uniform Fitting Day	By Appt.	All Band Students
Oct. 18 <sup>th</sup>	ONW Fall Concert	7pm – 8:30pm	Concert, Marching, & Jazz Lab
Oct. 20 <sup>th</sup>	John P. Sousa Honor Band Audition Recordings Due	By End of Day	All Freshman Band Students
Nov. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Honor Band Auditions @ Olathe East	All Day	Sophomores, Juniors, & Seniors
Dec. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tuba Christmas @ Kauffman Center	All Day	Tuba & Euphonium Players
Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Regional Honor Band Festival Concert	All Day	Selected Sophomore, Jr., & Sr.
Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Cookie Baking Party (for Concert Receptions)	Afternoon	Selected Students & Parents
Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Band Winter Concert	7pm – 8:30pm	All Band Students
Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA All State Auditions @ Salina	All Day	Selected Sophomores, Jr., & Sr.
Jan. 14 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA All State Auditions (Contingency Date)		
Jan. 27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup>	Sousa Honor Band @ KU Lied Center	Fri PM & Sat AM	Selected Freshman Band Students
Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup>	ONW Area Band Concert @ ONW Gym	7pm – 9pm	All Band Students
Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Piano Solo Festival @ Baker University	By Appt.	All ONW Pianists
Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Blues & BBQ Fundraiser	PM	All Band Students & Parents (Optional)
Feb. 18 <sup>th</sup>	State Piano Solo Festival @ Wichita State Univ.	By Appt.	Selected ONW Pianists
Feb. 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA State Convention @ Wichita	All Days	Selected ONW All State Musicians
April 8 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Solo & Ensemble	By Appt.	Open to All Band Students
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	Concert Band Festival @ JCCC (Tentative)	TBA	Concert & Symphonic Bands
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	ONW Percussion Show	7pm – 8:30pm	ONW Percussionists
April 29 <sup>th</sup>	State Solo & Ensemble @ Washburn Rural HS in Topeka	By Appt.	Selected Students
May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	ONW Spring Band Concert	7pm – 8:30pm	All Band Students
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Festival Trip	TBA	Concert, Symphonic & Wind Ensemble
May 8 <sup>th</sup>	ONW Band Banquet	6pm – 8pm	All Band Students & Families

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## Calendar of Events, Continued

### Jazz Lab

(5<sup>th</sup> Hr. – 1<sup>st</sup> Sem.)

### Jazz I Band

(5<sup>th</sup> Hr. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sem.)

### Jazz II Band

(6<sup>th</sup> Hr. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sem.)

### Jazz III Band

(7<sup>th</sup> Hr. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sem.)

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Groups Involved</b>
Aug. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Bowling Party @ Mission Bowl	9pm – 11pm	All Band Students
Aug. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Meet the Band Night and Parent Meeting	6:30pm – 8pm	All Band Students & Parents
Aug. 29 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band/Strings "Try It" Night	6pm – 8pm	Selected Students & Leadership Team
Sept. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Olathe Dist. Marching Band Festival @ CBAC	7pm – 9pm	All Band Students
Oct. 18 <sup>th</sup>	ONW Fall Concert	7pm – 8:30pm	Concert, Marching, & Jazz Lab
Oct. 20 <sup>th</sup>	John P. Sousa Honor Band Audition Recordings Due	By End of Day	All Freshman Band Students
Nov. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Honor Band Auditions @ Olathe East	All Day	Sophomores, Juniors, & Seniors
Nov. 18 <sup>th</sup>	Baker University Jazz Festival	All Day	Jazz I & Jazz Lab
Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Regional Honor Band Festival Concert	All Day	Selected Sophomore, Jr., & Sr.
Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Cookie Baking Party (for Concert Reception)	Afternoon	Selected Students & Parents
Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Band Winter Concert	7pm – 8:30pm	All Band Students
Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA All State Auditions @ Salina	All Day	Selected Sophomores, Jr., & Sr.
Jan. 14 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA All State Auditions (Contingency Date)		
Jan. 27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup>	Sousa Honor Band @ KU Lied Center	Fri PM & Sat AM	Selected Freshman Band Students
Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup>	ONW Area Band Concert @ ONW Gym	7pm – 9pm	All Band Students
Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Piano Solo Festival @ Baker University	By Appt.	All ONW Pianists
Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Blues & BBQ Fundraiser	PM	Jazz I, Jazz II, & Jazz III
Feb. 18 <sup>th</sup>	State Piano Solo Festival @ Wichita State Univ.	By Appt.	Selected ONW Pianists
Feb. 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA State Convention @ Wichita	All Days	Selected ONW All State Musicians
March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Pitt State Jazz Festival (Overnight Trip)	All Day	Jazz I, Jazz II, & Jazz III
March 4 <sup>th</sup>	Drury Jazz Festival	All Day	Jazz I, Jazz II, & Jazz III
April 8 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Solo & Ensemble	By Appt.	Open to All Band Students
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	ONW Percussion Show	7pm – 8:30pm	ONW Percussionists
April 27 <sup>th</sup>	KC Jazz Summit @ KCKCC	TBA	Jazz I, Jazz II, & Jazz III
April 29 <sup>th</sup>	State Solo & Ensemble @ Washburn Rural HS, Topeka	By Appt.	Selected Students
May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	ONW Spring Band Concert	7pm – 8:30pm	All Band Students
May 8 <sup>th</sup>	ONW Band Banquet	6pm – 8pm	All Band Students & Families

Continued on next page

## Calendar of Events, Continued

### Basketball Pep Band (Pre-Game Practice – December – March)

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Groups Involved</b>
Dec. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Basketball Double Header vs. Washburn Rural	3:00pm Call	Pep Band
Jan. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Basketball Double Header vs. Olathe East	3:00pm Call	Pep Band
Feb. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Basketball Double Header vs. SM West	4:30pm Call	Pep Band
Feb. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Basketball Double Header vs. SM East	4:30pm Call	Pep Band
Feb. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Basketball Double Header vs. Olathe North	4:30pm Call	Pep Band
Mar. 1 <sup>st</sup> – Mar. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Pep Band <i>may perform</i> at Sub-State Tournament	TBD	Pep Band
Mar. 9 <sup>th</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup>	Pep Band <i>may perform</i> at State Tournament	TBD	Perfect Attendance Pep Band Students

### Fundraisers Calendar (For All Bands)

<b>2016-2017 Dates</b>	<b>Fundraiser Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Profits Go To</b>
May 24 <sup>th</sup> – July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Sonic \$5 Cards	n/a	Student Ledger Accts
July 11 <sup>th</sup>	Papa Murphy's Dine Night	101 <sup>st</sup> & Woodland	General Band Fund
July 28 <sup>th</sup>	Tervis Tumblers (at Raven Band table) Bake Sale (at tables)	ONW during Registration Day	General Band Fund
August 1 <sup>st</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup>	Entertainment Books	n/a	Student Ledger Accts
August 4 <sup>th</sup>	Papa Murphy's Dine Night	101 <sup>st</sup> & Woodland	General Band Fund
August 20 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup>	KC Ethnic Enrichment Festival	Swope Park, KCMO	Student Ledger Accts
TBD (Est. Sept.)	Austin's Bar and Grill Dine Night	College Blvd & Lone Elm Rd.	General Band Fund
Sept. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Speedy Car Wash (7am – 4 pm) (Online gift card orders : 8am – 8pm)	Near K-10 & Woodland Rd.	Student Ledger Accts <b>and</b> General Band Fund
Oct. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Papa Murphy's Dine Night	101 <sup>st</sup> & Woodland	General Band Fund
Oct. 19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>	Bake Sale	ONW during P/T Conf.	General Band Fund
TBD (Est. Oct/Nov)	Poinsettia Plant Sales	n/a	Student Ledger Accts
Nov. 15 <sup>th</sup>	Austin's Bar and Grill Dine Night	College Blvd & Lone Elm Rd.	General Band Fund
Dec. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Papa Murphy's Dine Night	101 <sup>st</sup> & Woodland	General Band Fund
TBD (Est. January)	Flapjack Breakfast @ Longhorn Steakhouse	119 <sup>th</sup> & Renner Rd.	Student Ledger Accts <b>and</b> General Band Fund
Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Blues & BBQ Banquet (5pm – 10pm)	ONW Commons	Student Ledger Accts <b>and</b> General Band Fund
TBD (Est. Mar/Apr)	Spring Plant Sale	n/a	Student Ledger Accts

Continued on next page

## Calendar of Events, Continued

### What are All These Events About?

As you can see no matter which band your student is in their calendar is pretty full with concerts, festivals, and competitions throughout the year. For those who are new to high school band it can get a little overwhelming to know what you can participate in and what you can't, so the following is a brief description of most of the events.

#### Marching Band Events:

Event	Details
Old Settlers' Days (Stand & Blow – Downtown Olathe)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every other year ONW is invited to perform at the Old Settlers' Day "Stand &amp; Blow" as part of their kick-off for the weekend celebration.</li> <li>• Students will meet up at school to check out their uniform &amp; will ride the buses to/from school.</li> <li>• The band will play a few songs over by the Library parking lot (located at Park &amp; Chestnut).</li> <li>• Families are welcome to go down to the festivities and watch the performance.</li> </ul>
March to Meadow Lane & PRT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of our marching preparation the band has an annual tradition of marching and performing from ONW to Meadow Lane Elementary to Prairie Trail Middle School and back to ONW.</li> <li>• This march is performed during morning school hours</li> <li>• All student should wear their show shirt to school!</li> <li>• Parents are welcome to come to school and watch the performances</li> </ul>
Old Settlers' Parade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each year all Olathe high schools (and middle schools) perform in the parade. Our students will be asked to meet at ONW early that morning to check-out their uniform and get prepped. School buses will drive students to and from the parade. Uniforms will be checked back in when students return to ONW</li> <li>• Details for drop-off/pick-up should be given to your student within a week of the parade</li> <li>• Many families drop their student off at school and then find a spot on the parade route to watch everyone go by. After the band finishes the parade they head back to ONW and pick up their student once they've checked in their uniform.</li> </ul>
Olathe Dist. Marching Band Festival	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a fun night at CBAC when each of the Olathe high school marching bands performs for each other in a showcase performance format</li> <li>• All band students and their families are welcome to come and watch the performances, but seating does fill up so we highly suggest that you arrive early if you want a seat.</li> </ul>
Football Games	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We play at all "home" games so we will always be on the west side of the field (furthest from ONW). Students should arrive at school by the 4:30pm call time. Each student is responsible for checking out their assigned marching band uniform from the uniform room, getting their uniform on, and their instruments ready to rehearse as soon as possible. Parents are encouraged to come into school around this time to help out with various Band Booster jobs.</li> <li>• Once instructed by the Band Director the Marching Band will line up outside and march to the CBAC Stadium. Parents are welcome to walk with the band if they choose. Otherwise, this is a good time to drive over and park at the stadium.</li> <li>• <b>Important Tip: If parents/family are planning to stay for the game, please be aware that you will probably need to either purchase admission tickets or show your Activity Pass (you can buy these during registration). Helping with the band does not necessarily allow you to stay for the game/show without proof of a ticket/pass.</b></li> <li>• Prior to the band marching towards the stadium the band bags and percussion pit instruments will be loaded up, driven to the CBAC field, and unloaded in a designated area for student access</li> <li>• During each game the Band Boosters provide students with a snack and water so while it's fine to give your student money, it's not necessary</li> <li>• <b>For more information/tips on things like band bags, uniforms, and football games please refer to pages 34 &amp; 35 for advice from other band parents.</b></li> </ul>

*Continued on next page*

# Calendar of Events, Continued

**What are All These Events About?**  
Cont.

## Marching Band Events, cont.

Event	Details
Marching Band Competitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For each competition, the drop-off/pick-up for the students will be on the band side of ONW</li> <li>• Designated time will vary based on each competition, but be prepared for them to be gone ALL DAY</li> <li>• Parents are always welcome to watch (or even volunteer time to help with Band Booster jobs), but you will need to find your own transportation and pay your own expenses such as competition admission tickets, programs, and meals.</li> <li>• Students need to eat breakfast before arriving and pack a meal to take with them. The Band Boosters will provide one meal and one snack for the students – bottled water will also be provided. If you feel your student will need/want more food than that, then it would be best for the student to bring a little extra money with them. Often times there will be a concession stand available, but <i>only after</i> the band has performed – <i>not before</i></li> <li>• Many times the band’s return arrival time is more of an estimate than an exact time so your flexibility on pick-up times is greatly appreciated. Tracking the band on our Facebook account is a great way of “staying in the loop”.</li> <li>• 2016-2017 Competitions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lee’s Summit North Marching Invitational (Oct. 8th)</li> <li>○ Festival of Champions at UCM (Oct. 15th)</li> <li>○ Kansas Bandmasters (KBA) Marching Invitational (Oct. 22nd)</li> <li>○ Heart of America Marching Festival at KU (Oct. 29th)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Concert Band Events (Concert, Symphonic, Wind Ensemble, and Raven Winds)

Events	Details
John P. Sousa Honor Band  <i>NOTE: For Freshman Band Students only</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auditions are done through CD recordings that students can turn in (Due by Oct. 20, 2016)</li> <li>• Specific music will be chosen for the students by the Kansas Sousa Band Board of Directors. Their audition music selection will be available for the students to download on their website at <a href="http://ks-sousahonorband.org">ks-sousahonorband.org</a></li> <li>• Students will be notified if they have been selected to perform in this honor band</li> <li>• Selected students will be able to participate in a 2-day workshop (Jan. 27 – 28, 2017) in Lawrence, KS</li> <li>• At the end of the workshop students will perform for family and friends at the KU Lied Center</li> </ul>
Tuba Christmas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Tubas and Euphonium players will be able to play with other area schools at the Kauffman Center on Dec. 2, 2016</li> <li>• Parents/Families are welcome to attend as long as they have a purchased ticket (traditionally the band has paid for the student players)</li> </ul>
Regional Honor Band  <i>NOTE: For Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Students</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interested students need to notify the Band Director</li> <li>• Specific music will be chosen for the students to play at auditions</li> <li>• There is a nominal fee for each audition which the Band Boosters have traditionally paid for</li> <li>• Auditions will be held at Olathe East high school on Nov. 12, 2016 – Times will be given to the participating students within a week before the actual day. There will not be much flexibility with these times, so be prepared.</li> <li>• Parents are allowed to attend their student’s private audition only if the student’s approves</li> <li>• Students selected will be able to play in one of two bands at the Regional Honor Band Festival Concert on Dec. 3, 2016</li> <li>• Parents/Families are welcome to attend the Festival Concert</li> </ul>

*Continued on next page*

## Calendar of Events, Continued

What are All These Events About?  
Cont.

### Concert Band Events (Concert, Symphonic, Wind Ensemble, and Raven Winds)

Events	Details
<p>KMEA State Convention</p> <p><i>NOTE: For students who were selected for the Regional Honor Band</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Auditions for the KMEA are available to students who were selected for the Regional Honor Band</li> <li>There is a nominal fee for each audition</li> <li>Auditions are held in Salina, KS on Jan. 7, 2017 (Contingency date is Jan. 14) so there will be traveling and an overnight stay involved</li> <li>If a student is selected, he/she will travel to Wichita, KS on Feb. 23-25 for a 3-day workshop with professional clinicians to prepare for a final concert</li> <li>Parents/Families are encouraged to attend the final concert on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> with the purchase of a ticket</li> </ul>
<p>Wind Ensemble / Raven Winds Pre-Contest Concert</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These are practice concerts with other local bands in preparation for the KSHAA State Large Group Festival</li> <li>These concerts are held in the middle of the school day on Mar. 29, 2017 (for Wind Ensemble) and Mar. 30, 2017 (for Raven Winds)</li> <li>Parents/Families are welcome to attend at no cost</li> </ul>
<p>Retreat to Lake of the Ozarks</p> <p><i>NOTE: For students in Raven Winds only</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is a Friday – Sunday weekend trip to the Four Seasons-Lake of the Ozarks Resort for intense practice to prepare for the State Large Group Festival with specialized clinicians.</li> <li>There is a fee for this trip that has traditionally been paid for by the students – Historically the cost has been approximately \$250/student</li> </ul>
<p>KSHAA State Large Group Festival</p> <p><i>NOTE: For students in the Wind Ensemble and Raven Winds bands</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For students in the Wind Ensemble and Raven Winds bands</li> <li>Festival is held at a local high school in the middle of the school day on April 12, 2017</li> <li>Parents/Families are welcome to attend at no cost</li> </ul>
<p>Regional Solo &amp; Ensemble</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For All Band Students</li> <li>Interested students need to notify the Band Director</li> <li>Auditions will be held at a local high school on April 8, 2017 where students can perform as an individual (solo) and/or with a small group (ensemble) For ensembles, students are responsible for pairing the group together themselves</li> <li>There is a fee for each student auditioning (traditionally this fee has been paid for by the band)</li> <li>Students will select their own music for the audition. Each student is responsible for buying two (2) original sheets of their music and bringing both of them to the audition.</li> <li><b>Important Tip: Automatic disqualification will be given to any student who either doesn't have two sheets of music or turns in photocopies of the music. They are serious about this – no exceptions.</b></li> <li>Audition times will be assigned approximately one (1) week prior to the auditions</li> <li>During the audition, students will be judged on presentation as well as performance so dress, diction, and attitude are important too</li> <li>All solos will need a piano accompaniment when auditioning (traditionally the Band Boosters have paid for a pianist to work with all of the students)</li> <li>Parents are welcome to watch their student's audition as long as they have the student's approval</li> <li>If a student receives a "1" rating for their audition, then he/she/they will advance to the State Solo &amp; Ensemble Festival</li> </ul>

Continued on next page

## Calendar of Events, Continued

**What are All These Events About?**  
Cont.

### Concert Band Events (Concert, Symphonic, Wind Ensemble, and Raven Winds)

Events	Details
State Solo & Ensemble Festival  <i>NOTE: For select students who received a "1" rating at their Regional Solo &amp; Ensemble audition</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State Solo &amp; Ensemble Festival will be held on April 29, 2017 for selected students who received a "1" rating for their audition at the Regional Solo &amp; Ensemble</li> <li>There is a fee to participate which has traditionally been paid for by the Band Boosters</li> <li>Parents/Families are welcome to attend</li> </ul>
Spring Festival Trip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For those students in the Concert, Symphonic, and Wind Ensemble bands</li> <li>This is a one-day (all day) away-trip to a special festival in the Spring for the bands to participate in.</li> <li>There is a fee for this trip that has traditionally been paid for by the students – Historically the cost has been approximately \$100/student</li> <li>Parents are welcome to attend, but they will need to find their own source of transportation and may have extra expenses during the trip</li> </ul>
ONW Percussion Show	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Performed at ONW by the ONW Percussion Students as a fundraising show for friends, families, and other students</li> <li>All students and families are welcome with the purchase of a ticket</li> </ul>
ONW Band Banquet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For all band students and their families</li> <li>It's an annual dinner and award recognition ceremony for all band students' achievements. These awards include (but are not limited to) Band Letters and/or Pins, Festival Awards, Senior Recognition, and Mr. Davis will announce next year's marching band drum majors.</li> <li>Everyone attending must purchase a ticket which takes care of the cost of the meal.</li> </ul>
Senior Commencement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For all Freshmen – Junior students in the Symphonic, Wind Ensemble, and Raven Winds Bands</li> <li>This is a required event for these students to perform at the graduation commencement ceremony</li> <li>Due to the limited seating, parents are not allowed to attend unless they have received a coveted graduation ticket from outside the band program</li> </ul>

# Uniforms

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## Background

Uniforms are the “face” of the band. It’s important for the band to not only act as one, but to look as though they are one. The Raven Bands have three different uniforms for the students and with

an estimated 385 students during the 2016-2017 school year you can imagine how much coordination it takes to get everyone fitted and checked. Below is a description of each uniform according to their band and a few helpful tips from some of the more experienced band parents.

If you have any questions about uniforms, please contact our Uniform Coordinators:  
Jennifer Wood and/or Melanie Hamilton @ [Uniforms@ravenbands.org](mailto:Uniforms@ravenbands.org)

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## Marching Band

Marching Band’s uniform is the most elaborate because of all its pieces. It has:

- Long sleeve jacket
- Pants that are actually more like a bib
- A pair (2-pc.) of “tails” that can be snapped onto the jacket
- A pair (2-pc.) of “gauntlets” that are fitted onto the jacket around the wrist area
- A hat with a detachable plume (“feathers”)
- A pair (2-pc.) of black gloves (furnished through Band Fees)
- A pair of black long socks (furnished one pair through Band Fees – highly suggest buying extra socks)
- A pair of black marching shoes (furnished through Band Fees if you are a New Marcher)
- One “Show” t-shirt (furnished through Band Fees)

**\*\*Students are required to wear their show shirt under the uniform at every event. It is highly recommended that they also wear a pair of gym shorts underneath their uniform as well.\*\***

Each year we have two Uniform Fitting Days (one for returning marchers and another one for new marchers). All students will receive an email inviting them to sign up (on Signup Genius) for an appointment time. All fittings will be done at school around the Uniform Room (Room 1810 - adjacent to the Nurse’s Office). There will be girls & boys dressing rooms available for them to change, but *it’s recommended that they wear/bring a t-shirt and shorts that can be worn under the uniform. **If you are a returning marcher, please remember to bring your marching shoes.*** Volunteer parents will be there to help the students find the correct uniform size and make any tailored adjustments. For parents, this is a great opportunity to help the Bands out so, please let us know if you can help.

At this time a uniform will be assigned to each student for inventory purposes. We will also be gathering an order list to purchase new marching shoes. So, if you are new marcher or a return marcher who has outgrown your shoes, make sure your name and shoe size is on the order form.

***If you cannot make it to the Uniform Fitting, it’s very important that you contact the Uniform Coordinators. Otherwise, you may not be able to get a uniform!***

For each football game or competition, the students are responsible for picking up or “checking out” their own uniform from the Uniform Room (Room 1810 – adjacent to the Nurse’s Office) by the posted call time.

After the event is over students are responsible for packing their uniform and have it ready for inspection during the turning in or “check in” process. Once their uniform has been approved they will hang it up in the assigned spot of their closet in the Uniform Room.

Shoes and socks are allowed to go home at the end of each event because they are student-owned. (It is highly recommended to have the socks washed as much as possible.)

**\*\*NOTE: Except for the show shirt, gloves, socks, and shoes, the Marching uniform is owned by the Olathe School District and checked out to each student for the sole purpose of performing as a member of the Raven Pride Band program at all band events. *Unfortunately, there are times when accidents happen and a student may injure or lose parts of the uniform. In these cases, it is the responsibility of the student to pay for a replacement item if that item cannot be repaired or found. For replacement fees on damaged/lost marching uniform, please add:***

**\*\* Plume replacement for negligent damage = \$25      \*\* Uniform Hat = \$50      \*\* Uniform Bag = \$10      \*\* Uniform Capes = \$35/pair  
\*\* Uniform Rain/Stadium Jacket = \$100      \*\* Uniform Jacket = \$185      \*\* Uniform Pants = \$80      \*\* Uniform Gauntlets = \$45/pair**

In addition to the uniform each student will have a band bag (which is paid for through band fees and is student-owned) that they should bring to each event. This is a great place to keep and carry band shoes, socks, and just about anything else your student feels they need.

# Uniforms, Continued

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## Jazz Band

Jazz Band's uniform consists of:

For Women:

- Black dress coordinated as a group (provided by student)
- Black dress shoes (provided by student)

For Men:

- Black long-sleeve dress shirt (provided by student)
- Black dress pants (provided by student)
- Black dress socks (provided by student)
- Black dress shoes (provided by student)
- Suspenders supplied by ONW – white for Jazz I & blue for Jazz II
- Neck tie supplied by ONW – white for Jazz I & blue for Jazz II

Suspenders and neck ties will be “checked out” to the students sometime during the week of their first performance. Students are allowed to take them home during the Jazz band season. Students will need to “check in” their tie and suspenders at the end of the school year.

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## Concert Band

*(includes Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble Band, and Raven Winds Band)*

Concert Band's uniform consists of:

For Women:

- Black dress
- Black dress shoes (provided by student)

For Men:

- Black Tuxedo
- Tuxedo shirt (provided by student, but if new shirt is needed – orders are through ONW)
- Black socks (provided by student)
- Black shoes (provided by student)

Each year during 2<sup>nd</sup> semester we will have a Uniform Fitting Day (or Days) for students to get fitted for their uniform. All students will receive an email inviting them to sign up (on Signup Genius) for an appointment time. All fittings will be done at school around the Uniform Room (room 1810 – adjacent to Nurse's Office). There will be girls & boys dressing rooms available for them to change. ***If possible, please bring the dress shoes you intend on wearing with the uniform. It will make it easier to determine hem lengths.*** Volunteer parents will be there to help the students find the correct uniform size and make any tailored adjustments such as hemming pants/skirts or tacking on any missing/loose buttons. For parents, this is a great opportunity to help the Bands out so, please let us know if you can help.

At this time a uniform will be assigned to each student for inventory purposes. This is also the time when we will gather the order list to purchase tuxedo shirts for anyone who needs a new shirt either because they are new or they have outgrown their older shirt.

***If you cannot make it to the Uniform Fitting, it's very important that you contact the Uniform Coordinators. Otherwise, you will be responsible for renting your own tuxedo or dress!***

Concert uniforms are “checked out” and sent home to be kept during the Concert season (2<sup>nd</sup> Semester). Immediately following the ONW Spring Concert (May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017) students from the Concert Band and Seniors from all bands (Symphonic, Wind Ensemble, and Raven Winds) are to “check in” their uniform in the Band Room. All other students will “check in” their uniform after the Senior Commencement ceremony on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017). Whenever your student turns in their uniform, make sure they have another outfit with them to change into.

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# Volunteers

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## Background

Volunteering is a critical part of Band Boosters support for our directors and our students in our Raven Bands. While we have lots of activities that depend on volunteers throughout the year, we have broken them down into the following area. We feel there is an opportunity for everyone to contribute to our band program based on their interests and skills.

Volunteer opportunities are usually made available through our Sign Up Genius. You might also see them in an email sent by Mr. Davis in his weekly emails or from the Charms system to parents and/or students for different areas, as explained below.

If you have any questions about general volunteering, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator:  
Becky Cumley at [Volunteers@ravenbands.org](mailto:Volunteers@ravenbands.org)

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## Chaperones

Chaperones are needed throughout the year for marching band festivals and all band concert season festivals. When the bands travel outside ONW, a parent or director must ride on each bus to and from the event with the band. Marching band chaperones are coordinated through the main Marching Band Sign-up Genius. Concert Season festival chaperones are usually not needed until Spring (second) semester. They are coordinated either through email or a Sign-up Genius set up around the second semester.

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## Food & Drinks

Assist with identifying, purchasing and coordinating delivery of snacks & waters (Marching Band football games) or one meal (Marching Band festivals and Pep Band for home basketball games). We request donations for some items throughout the season; other food and drink purchases are reimbursed by the Band Boosters.

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## Fundraising

Assist with generating fundraising contacts & ideas, organizing and staffing fundraising events, distributing sold items to students for their delivery. An individual Signup Genius or email is sent out for each event. Information about our largest fundraiser, Blues & BBQ, can be found in the Blues & BBQ section. See **Fundraising** section for more details.

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## Marching Band – Student Field Prep Assistance

Marching Band requires the largest number of volunteers because of the large number of students and amount of equipment being moved and set up. Volunteering for these activities is usually coordinated through one Marching Band Season Signup Genius that has signups for each category listed under each event (football game or festival).

- Football games are usually on Friday evenings and volunteer opportunities are generally between 4pm – 10pm.
- Festivals occur usually on Saturdays during September/October and can vary in length based on the festival format and location but are usually all-day events.

We provide details on the date and time/length of each event as soon as we have it available, and you receive an update from Signup Genius if information on a slot for which you've volunteered has been updated. It takes many hands to coordinate our marching band performances at the Friday night football games and festivals, but the Signup Genius format allow parents to volunteer for specific dates and jobs that work for them.

With the marching band's student field prep assistance, we have jobs that we need help with. Please note that each of the areas listed below take between 5 and 8 people to get the job done.

Position	Description
Bleacher Covers	Placing bleacher covers out before pre-game to protect the uniforms and putting them away after the game - home football games only
Snacks & Water	Distributing snacks & water during half-time at football games or throughout the festival/competition
"Pluming"	"Pluming" (putting on/taking off feathers from the hats) the marching band students for shows and festival events just prior to and immediately after each performance
Uniform Inspection	Assisting with uniform questions or repairs during events and last minute uniform inspection

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## Volunteers, Continued

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### Marching Band - Raven Roadies

Volunteering with the Raven Roadies is also coordinated through the one Marching Band Season Signup Genius that was mentioned above. At each football game and marching band festival/competition we need volunteers to:

- Assist in loading and transporting marching band equipment/instruments from ONW to CBAC before a home football game and then back to ONW after the game.
- Assist in loading and transporting marching band equipment/instruments from ONW to whichever festival the band is competing in that day and then back to ONW after the festival/competition is over.
- Move front ensemble (percussion) instruments on and off the field for the marching band show during half-time at home football games and at each festival/competition.

In order for the Raven Roadies to get their job done at each event we need:

- A minimum of 12 people to help move the instruments on and off the field.
- 3 full-size pickup trucks to pull trailers and equipment to and from the events. These trucks must have a hitch with a tow capacity of 7500 lbs. and be able to connect to the trailer's braking system (7-blade RV adaptor).
- 3 minivan or suburban vehicles to carry the student's band bags and equipment to CBAC for the home football games.

For specific questions about the Raven Roadies, please contact our Roadies Coordinator:

Karen Cunningham at [Roadies@ravenbands.org](mailto:Roadies@ravenbands.org)

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### Marching Band – Raven Props

Volunteering with the Raven Props is also coordinated through the one Marching Band Season Signup Genius that was mentioned above. At each football game and marching band festival/competition we need volunteers to:

- Assist in loading and transporting marching band props from ONW to CBAC before a home football game and then back to ONW after the game.
- Assist in loading and transporting marching band props from ONW to whichever festival the band is competing in that day and then back to ONW after the festival/competition is over.
- Assist in assembling the props off field and moving them to their proper field placement

In order for the Raven Props to get their job done at each event we need:

- A minimum of 12 people to help move the props on and off the field
- A full-size pickup truck with hitch to pull the trailer and props to and from the events

For specific questions about the Raven Props, please contact our Props Coordinator:

Darren Bradley at [Props@ravenbands.org](mailto:Props@ravenbands.org)

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### Uniforms

All students have concert uniforms (tuxes for men, dresses for women). In addition, marching band students have a marching uniform during the fall season only. Volunteers assist by:

- Staffing uniform fittings for marching and concert uniforms (A Signup Genius is created for the Uniform Fittings once we have the dates selected)
  - Altering marching and concert uniforms as needed after fittings (Alterations can be done at home)
  - Checking in the marching band uniforms at ONW after home football games or festival events - this is coordinated on the main Marching Band Season Signup Genius. Marching band uniforms are kept at ONW in the uniform room between events; Concert uniforms are kept at home by the students.
    - See **Uniforms** section for more information.
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# The Cost of Supporting the Band

## Background

Financial Support – this is the other key component in the Band Boosters directive. Our Raven Bands program (and the Band Boosters) greatly appreciate the funding support given to us by the Olathe School District. However, in order to provide our students with the many opportunities and quality experience they deserve, the Band Boosters work to help fill in the financial “gaps” that come up with these types of opportunities. It’s important to us that our students keep the high impact band program that has been created here at Olathe Northwest.

The monies we are able to raise through fundraisers and fees ALL go to the program and its students by way of either paying for band costs or directly into student ledger accounts (based on the student’s participation in the fundraisers).

If you have any questions about financing, please contact our Treasurer:  
Christine Schauf at [Treasurer@ravenbands.org](mailto:Treasurer@ravenbands.org)

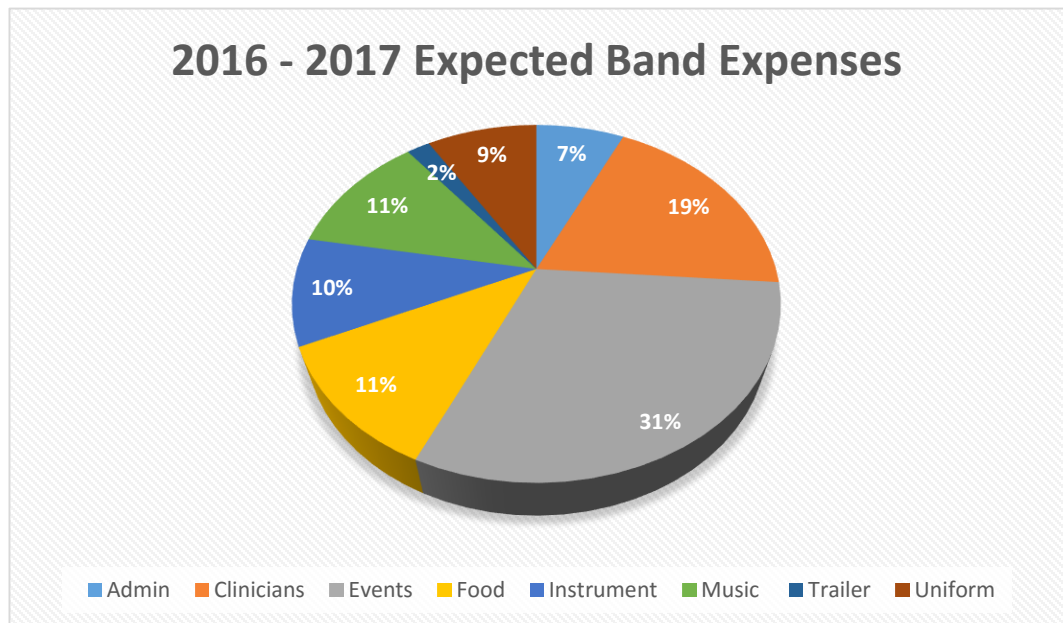
## What Band Costs?

“Band Costs” is a general description of all the different expenses that the bands incur during the school year. In order to bring the kind of full year band program that we all love so much Mr. Davis and the Band Boosters are expecting to spend approximately:

Band Student (for 2016-2017 school year)	Est. Cost per Student (Based on Total Program Costs) *Not Band Fees*
New Marching Band Student	\$ 307
Returning Marching Band Student	\$ 242
Concert Band Student (full-year)	\$ 100
Jazz Band Student	\$ 24

Some of these costs you would expect to see such as uniform expenses and snacks/meals at each event. However, there are other costs that the Boosters help take care of that may not have occurred to you such as repairs to any ONW owned instruments, maintenance and transportation of the band trailers, transportation of the band students, and competition & festival fees.

The following graph will give you a better idea of the expected expenses broken down by common categories of what has been spent on the Raven Band program:



For those interested in delving deeper into the Band expenses, please contact the Band Boosters’ Treasurer.

*Continued on next page*

# The Cost of Supporting the Band, Continued

## What Are the Band Fees for My Student?

Band Fees for each student vary based on their participation in the Raven Bands program. A student who is in more than one band will have a higher Band Fee than a student who is participating in just one band. The following is a breakdown of fees for each band:

2016 – 2017 Band	Fees	Items Included in the Fee
Marching Band (Returning Marchers)	\$140	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One pair of gloves</li> <li>One pair of marching socks</li> <li>One Marching Band t-shirt</li> <li>Uniform Cleaning &amp; Maintenance</li> <li><i>Dues</i></li> </ul>
Marching Band (New Marchers)	\$205	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All of the Returning Marcher Items, plus</li> <li>One pair of marching shoes</li> <li>One marching band bag (embroidered with marcher's name)</li> <li><i>Dues</i></li> </ul>
Concert Band (Students in Full Year Concert Band)	\$55	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One Band t-shirt</li> <li>Uniform Cleaning &amp; Maintenance</li> <li><i>Dues</i></li> </ul>
Jazz Band (Jazz I, Jazz II, or Jazz III Bands Only)	\$20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Dues</i></li> </ul>

Possible Incidental Expenses a Student may be Required to Purchase Outside of the Band Fee:

2016 – 2017 Band	Fees	Items a Student may need to Purchase
Marching Band (Returning Marchers)	\$25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Only Needed If</u> a Returning Marcher Needs to Order a new pair of marching shoes</li> </ul>
Concert Band (For Men Only)	\$20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>For men only:</i> Concert tuxedo shirts are part of the uniform, so if you're new or have outgrown last year's shirt you will need to purchase another one</li> </ul>

\*\* Please Note: Do not let Band Fees stop you from participating in the band! If you need help with band fees, please contact Mr. Davis at [rdavisonw@olatheschools.org](mailto:rdavisonw@olatheschools.org) or by phone at (913) 780-7150 or (913) 963-6524. All inquiries will be held in the strictest of confidence. All students are welcome in the band program, supports are in place for students who need assistance with fees.

## Dues? What Exactly are the Dues Paying for?

Dues are defined as any general expenses that each Band incurs as a group. Some of these expenses include:

Festival Fees for Marching Band Events ♪	Pizza Dinners for Pep Band and other occasions ♪, ♪
Festival Fees for all Concert Band Events ♪, ♪ (Concert, Symphonic, Wind Ensemble, and Raven Winds)	Clinicians Fees ♪, ♪, # (Professional Instructors who focus on instrumental sections)
Festival Fees for Solo & Ensemble Entries ♪, ♪, #	Maintenance expenses for Band Trailers ♪
Festival Fees for all Jazz Band Events #	Maintenance/Repairs expenses for ONW-owned band instruments ♪, ♪, #
Snacks at Marching Band Camps ♪	Traveling Expenses for all away events ♪, ♪, #
Marching Band Snacks at Home Football Games ♪	Basketball Pep Band t-shirts ♪, ♪
Marching Band Meals at all Competitions ♪	Parties and Celebrations ♪, ♪, #
Pancake Breakfast for Marching Band ♪	Student Awards/Letters ♪, ♪, #
Accompanists for Solo & Ensemble ♪, ♪, #	Field Show Music and Props ♪
New Music Purchases ♪, #	

♪ = Part of Marching Band dues  
 ♪ = Part of Concert Band dues  
 # = Part of Jazz Band dues

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## The Cost of Supporting the Band, Continued

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### When and How Are We Expected to Pay My Student's Band Fees?

We will be collecting Band Fees at ONW all day on Registration Day (July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016), so please look for our table at school. **At this point, we accept cash or check payments only.** (Unfortunately using a credit card also means an increase in dues to offset charges to us from the credit card companies. So this is not an option for us.)

If Band Fee payments cannot be made during Registration, then please contact the Boosters' Treasurer, Christine Schauf, for other options.

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### Student Ledger Accounts – What is this and How Does It Work for Me?

A Student Ledger Account is a financial account that is set up for each band student. This account, or ledger as we like to call it, is created when they first join the band program and will be available to the student until they leave the program.

Within each ledger, we track:

- What band fees and/or trip costs the student has accrued
- What fees and additional costs have been paid for
- What monies the student has earned through fundraising
- Any other payments that have been paid for on behalf of the student's request

Students can use the monies he/she has accumulated in their ledger to pay for the following things:

- Annual band fees
- Student's portion of cost to go on a band trip
- Purchase tickets to an ONW Band Event such as May Banquet
- Reimbursement for musical instrument lessons
- Reimbursement for personal instrument repair/maintenance costs

In order to track your student's personal ledger:

- Log into their Charms Office website account ([www.charmsoffice.com](http://www.charmsoffice.com))
- Click "Finances"

The first section will show you the balance of the ledger. The sections after that will list the itemized history of the ledger based on band fees, field trips, fundraising, and any miscellaneous details.

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### How Can I See My Student Account Activity?

- Follow the link to Charms: [www.charmsoffice.com](http://www.charmsoffice.com)
- Log in as Parents/Students/Members
- Use School Code: ONWHSBand
- Enter the password for your account
- If you get the page telling you to change your password (this is optional). If you wish to continue using your student id – JUST IGNORE AND CLICK ON THE HOME button on the top left.
- Click on the Finances icon and you will see your student Financial Statement.
  - Charms Tip – If you are changing your password:  
The box that is titled "Current Password/ID" – Even though it looks like your password is already entered (\*\*\*\*). Go ahead and Click here and re-enter your current password you are wanting to change (student id).  
I have found that some browsers retain misc passwords here and it is not always correct and then you try to enter a new password it creates even more headache. I am currently working with Charms to make this clearer.

\*\* If you just cannot get your student id or password to work email the Treasurer and she will reset your password to your student id.

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### Will There Be Any Fundraising Opportunities for My Student?

Yes!! We will have several opportunities for the students to raise money through fundraisers. In fact, the following section is all about fundraisers. Many of our students are able to pay for field trips and other qualified items strictly through fundraisers – it really just depends on how much time and effort he/she put into these opportunities.

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# Fundraising

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## Background

It's difficult to talk about financial support without a discussion on fundraising – in fact, I dare you to try! Without fundraising our bands would not be able to do the things they do or go to the competitions and festivals that they go to. So while people may call it a “necessary evil”, it is still NECESSARY.

The ONW Band Boosters have come up with some fundraising options that have been very successful in the past and we feel will also be in the future. Below is a brief description of what we are planning to work on for the 2016-2017 school year and how the monies raised will break down between General Funds and Student Ledger Account Funds.

If you have any questions or ideas about fundraising, please contact our Fundraising Coordinators:  
Debbie Underwood, Jennifer Wilson, and Theresa Sahar at [Fundraising@ravenbands.org](mailto:Fundraising@ravenbands.org)

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## General Band Funds vs. Student Ledger Account Funds

All fundraisers that the Raven Bands and Band Boosters participate in are solely intended to help the Raven Bands program and its students. Between fundraising profits and band fees, the Band Boosters will pay approx. two-thirds (2/3) of the Raven Bands budget. Depending on the fundraiser its profits will be applied to:

- The Band Boosters' General Funds
    - Profits from a fundraiser being applied to the Band Boosters' General Fund help pay for expenses that the Raven Bands program incurs.
  - The Student Ledger Accounts of band students who participated in the fundraiser
    - Profits from a fundraiser being applied to the Student Ledger Accounts will help the participating individual students pay for band/music expenses such as:
      - Band Trips
      - Reimbursement of private lessons
      - Reimbursement for any maintenance or repairs needed on his/her instrument
      - Tickets to a band event (excluding Blues & BBQ Banquet)
  - Or, a portion will go to both Funds
- 

## Sonic Card Sales

(Student Ledger Funds)



Sonic Cards will be available for the students to sell for \$5 each. During Marching Band Camp students should request to check out a group of cards from the Fundraising Coordinator, Debbie Underwood. Students will be credited \$5 (100% sales) for each card sold, but only after he/she has turned in the money from sales and any cards that he/she did not sell.

There is a limited quantity of cards available to sell, so if interested please contact the Fundraising Coordinator as soon as possible.

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## ONW-labeled Tervis tumblers

(General Band Funds and Student Ledger Funds)

We have a new fundraising option this year – we will be selling official **Tervis** tumblers with our ONW logo on them. They will be available in two sizes – 16 oz. and 24 oz. While we will be selling these “spirit wear cups” throughout the year at different events -- Our first opportunity to sell them will be at the Raven Bands table during Registration Day (July 28<sup>th</sup>). Profits from tumbler sales during events such as Registration Day, Bake Sales, or any other collaborative event will be applied to the General Band Funds. However, if a Raven band student who collects orders for these tumblers on their own outside of these collective events he/she will receive the profit of their sales for their personal Student Ledger Account.

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## Entertainment Books

(Student Ledger Funds)



Entertainment Books will be available for the students to start selling during our Band Camp in August. The advantage of selling these books is the timing – by selling them from August 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> we will have a 1-2 week lead on everyone else out there using this as a fundraiser. The books will sell for \$35 each which makes a 50% profit to be applied to the student's ledger account. More details about the mobile app and other fundraising information will be given out during the first day of August band camp.

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# Fundraising, Continued

## Dine Nights

(General Band Funds)

Throughout the year we will have a "Dine Night" at a participating restaurant such as:

Austin's Bar & Grill Restaurant	Panera Bread	Buffalo Wild Wings Restaurant
Papa Murphy's (103 <sup>rd</sup> & Woodland)	Panda Express	Flapjack Breakfast @ Longhorn Steakhouse
Chipotle Mexican Grill	Granite City Restaurant	

Emails and flyers will be sent out to everyone so you have a chance to dine out during one of our nights and help raise money. Don't forget your flyer!

## Bake Sales

(General Band Funds)

Typically, we run a Bake Sale a few times per year at:

- Olathe Northwest's school registration day (in July)
- Parent/Teacher Conferences (in October and February)

Prior to these Bake Sales you will receive an email invite to link into our Signup Genius. There you and/or your student can volunteer to bring baked "goodies" to sell or to help run the Bake Sale table.

## KC Ethnic Enrichment Festival

(Student Ledger Funds)

Each August Kansas City holds the Ethnic Enrichment Festival in Swope Park, KCMO. Students are given the opportunity to work a few hours at either the ticket booth or assigned to picking up trash during the Festival for an hourly wage (to be determined later).

Students must sign up on the Signup Genius link (emails will be sent out) so that the list will be sent to Festival's volunteer check-in station. **Students are responsible for their own transportation to/from the Festival.**

## Concession Sales

(General Band Funds)

We are trying a new fundraiser this year. We will be selling concessions after school during the Junior Varsity and Freshman Football games located at the ONW field (marching practice field) on the east side of school – NOT at CBAC.

## Speedy Car Wash

(General Band Funds and Student Ledger Funds)

ONW Raven Bands have reserved a Speedy Car Wash Day at the Falcon Valley location on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 as a fundraising opportunity during the hours of 8am to 5pm.

During this one-day fundraiser students/adults on-site will spend their time encouraging people to get their car washed and/or purchase \$25 Speedy Car Wash cards -- Students will not actually be washing cars. We earn proceeds based on the number of cars washed and the number of cards purchased at Speedy that day. Look for the Signup Genius email to sign up for a time slot. Sign up quickly, this is a popular fundraiser and times fill up fast!

If you can't make it down to Speedy to purchase a Car Wash gift card, then you will have an opportunity to buy them online between 8am – 8pm on the day of the car wash. Details will be sent out closer to the date of our fundraiser.

## Poinsettia Plant Sales

(Student Ledger Funds)

In October/November, we will have sales forms available for any band student who wants to sell Poinsettia potted plants for the Winter Holiday season. Actual dates for turning in the orders/money will be determined later so watch your email for details. Poinsettias should be available for pick up at school after the ONW Winter Band Concert (Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016).

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# Fundraising, Continued

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## Blues & BBQ Banquet

(General Band Funds  
And  
Student Ledger Funds)

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year! We have been hosting this Banquet every February since ONW opened in the Fall of 2003. Patrons at this Banquet will enjoy a delicious BBQ-catered dinner while listening to Jazz music being played by the ONW Jazz bands (Jazz bands from PRT and MT Middle Schools also join in for a set or two). At the same time there is a silent auction in the hallway where patrons can bid on a wide range of items. After dinner, we will hold a LIVE! Auction with some of our larger donated items. Tickets for the Banquet will be available at the ONW Winter Band Concert (Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016). Students can earn money for their student ledger account several ways with this Banquet:

- Portion of the ticket sales can go to a specified student ledger account
- Students can work at the Banquet in a number of ways
  - You must sign up prior and turn in an approved time card at the end of the night
- Portion of the final sale for any items donated to the live/silent auction will go to a specified student ledger account

For more details, please refer to the **Blues & BBQ Banquet and Auction** section.

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## Spring Plant Sale

(Student Ledger Funds)

In April we will have sales forms available for any band student who wants to sell flower and herb plants for Spring planting (maybe even a Mother's Day gift). Actual dates for turning in the orders/money will be determined later so watch your emails for details. The plants should be available for pick up at school prior to Mother's Day.

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## Other Possible Options

(Student Ledger Funds)

We are also looking into other possible fundraising options for the future such as:

- Selling Tippins' Pies
- Selling Little Caesar's Pizza Kits
- Selling coupon books with local vendors

***We are always on the lookout for new fundraising ideas or connections. So, if you have other ideas for us, please contact our Fundraising Coordinators at [Fundraising@ravenbands.org](mailto:Fundraising@ravenbands.org)***

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# Blues & BBQ Banquet and Auction

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## Background

As we mentioned before, in the **Volunteers** section, our Blues & BBQ Banquet has become an ONW tradition. For the 2016-2017 school year we will be hosting our 14<sup>th</sup> annual banquet and auction for the Raven Bands (ONW opened for the 2003-2004 school year). It is our most popular and most profitable fundraiser of the year for those students and families who participate in it. Families from all the Bands are encouraged to and typically do attend this evening's activities. In fact, for the last three years we have sold out of Banquet tickets!

With an event this grand it takes a lot of planning and help from the band students and their families, so volunteering is key at this event. An event like this not only allows us to raise money for the General Band Fund, but it allows students who participate in the Banquet to earn a percentage of the night's profits for their Student Ledger Account.

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## How Can My Student Participate?

There are several ways your student can participate in the Blues & BBQ Banquet and Auction –

- Turning in items for the Auction:
  - Students/Families can solicit donation items from area businesses to be put into the live auction or silent auction.
    - Historically, a student can earn over 50% of the auctioned price on any donated item they turn in to the auction. This money will be applied directly to their Student Ledger Account.
    - The best time to start working on those donated items is during the November/December time frame prior to the Banquet.
    - An official donation letter will be created for everyone to take with them when you ask a business for a donation. Look for it on the Raven Bands website under the Blues & BBQ drop down menu.
    - If you're looking for more information and donation ideas, then go to the Raven Bands website under Blues & BBQ menu. We usually have everything updated for the upcoming Banquet around October.
- Purchasing tickets to the Banquet:
  - A portion of each Banquet ticket purchased will be applied to your student's Ledger Account.
    - You must identify which student you want to apply the portion to on the ticket form when you purchase your ticket(s). If a student is not identified, the portion of the ticket will go into the General Band Fund.
    - Tickets will be available for purchase at the Winter Band Concert (December 6<sup>th</sup>)
- Students can work for an hourly wage during the Banquet itself and/or its preparations:
  - Jobs include –
    - Set-Up (Friday, the day before, or Saturday, the day of the Banquet)
    - Wait Staff during the Banquet
    - Auction Helpers
    - Clean-Up (Immediately after the Banquet)
    - For those students in ONW's Jazz I, Jazz II, or Jazz III – You will be paid an hourly wage for the time that you perform onstage during the Banquet (No need for you to sign up)
  - There will be a sign up (on Signup Genius) available for the students in January.
  - Based on the signups time cards will be issued to each student.
    - When a student shows up for work they MUST check in by finding their time card, fill it out, and get it approved.
    - When a student is ready to end their shift they MUST find their time card, fill it out, and get it approved, and make sure it gets turned into the Time Card Supervisor (this will be a parent) by the end of the Banquet night.
      - *If your time card is not approved and turned into the Time Card Supervisor before your student leaves for the night, then he/she will not get credit for their work time.*
  - The hourly wage is determined by the Band Booster board members after the Banquet and is based on how much profit we earned from the Banquet fundraising event. The more money the Banquet can bring in, the higher the hourly wage is for the students who worked the event.
    - Historically, the board members have approved an hourly wage that paid out approximately 75% of the Banquet's profit to the students. All wages are applied to the students' Ledger Accounts.

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## Blues & BBQ Banquet and Auction, Continued

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### How Can My Student Participate?, Cont.

Any Band student can and are encouraged to work at our Banquet fundraiser. So, whether your student is in Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, or Raven Winds, it doesn't matter. This fundraiser is for all the students and we hope that all Band students will participate in some way. Each year students who work at the Banquet (or in preparation of) will earn money that is added to their Student Ledger Account.

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### Is There Anything I Can Do to Help?

The students are an important part of making sure the Banquet runs smoothly. We like that because it gives them a chance to take a little more ownership of the Bands program and they seem to take pride in that. It also gives them a way to help pay for music related expense they will have during their time in the program such as band trips or reimbursement for private music lessons.

However, this fundraiser will not work if we don't have parent volunteers!!! We need parents to help plan, organize, catalog, and several other things so that we can help the students pull off an awesome fundraiser. For every area that the students are involved in there are parents to help guide them. There are also some areas that are better suited for parents to handle. So we'll be looking for adults to help in the following areas:

- Auction Prep Team
  - Catalog Item Prep
  - Item Presentation (putting baskets together)
  - Organize and lay out auction items during Set Up
  - Making Signs
- Set Up and Decorating Supervisors
- Auction Cashiers
- Food and Beverage Supervisors
- Time Card Supervisor
- Hostess Supervisor
- Clean Up Supervisors

If you are interested in helping out with any of these positions, please contact –

For Auction related jobs, Michelle Hovick at [Auction@ravenbands.org](mailto:Auction@ravenbands.org)

For other jobs, Dana Solomonson at [Bbq@ravenbands.org](mailto:Bbq@ravenbands.org)

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# Showing Raven Bands Spirit!

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## Spirit Wear for Raven Bands

Raven Bands spirit wear will be available to order during Band Camp in the beginning of August (August 1<sup>st</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>). More details will be coming soon.

**NOTE: This will be the only time during the year that you will be able to order spirit wear from the Raven Bands, so please make sure to place your order by the deadline.**

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## Marching Band Buttons

Marching Band buttons will be available for purchase again this year. Marching Band buttons are actually for the parents and families of our Marching Band students who want show their support during football games and other band events. Each button has a picture of your student and lists their instrument. Many parents also use these buttons as a type of “name tag” to identify “I’m the parent of \_\_\_\_\_.”

*This is an optional purchase.* Buttons cost \$5 each.

If you are interested in ordering a button, the orders forms will be available on the day of your student’s uniform fitting which will also be the same day that the pictures for the buttons will be taken

- August 6<sup>th</sup> for Returning Marchers
  - August 13<sup>th</sup> for New Marchers
- 

## Lettering in Band for Your Student

Each Band student has the opportunity to earn a varsity letter and/or pin at the end of each school year. Earning a Band varsity letter and/or pin signifies that the student has gone above and beyond normal expectations in the Band program. It means that he/she has lots of spirit and is involved in the program.

Question: How do you quantify a student’s spirit and enthusiasm?

Answer: PARTICIPATION! Participation = Points.

Mr. Davis and Mr. Maddux determine how many points it would take to represent the type of involved student who is worthy of lettering in Band. They, then, determine which activities and events should be identified and a corresponding number of points if a student participates in it.

For example, during the 2015-2016 school year:

- Students needed to earn at least 100 lettering points by the end of the school year
- These are **only some of the options** that students could participate in and receive points
  - o Member of the Ragin’ Ravens Basketball Pep Band (with perfect attendance) -- worth 50 pts.
  - o Member of the Leadership Team -- worth 50 pts.
  - o Drum Major in ONW Marching Band -- worth 20 pts.
  - o Participated in State Solo/Ensemble Festival -- worth 30 pts.
  - o Earned a Division “I” rating at State Solo/Ensemble Festival -- worth 30 pts.
  - o Regularly take private lessons during the school year -- worth 30 pts.
  - o Volunteered at ONW 5<sup>th</sup> grade “Try It Night” -- worth 20 pts.
  - o Participated in Olathe Youth Symphony, KC Youth Symphony, or Olathe Civic Band -- worth 25 pts.
  - o Participated in Pit Orchestra for Musical -- worth 25 pts.
  - o Participated in Volleyball Pep Band game -- worth 20 pts.
  - o Auditioned for State Honor Band, District Honor Band, or Sousa Honor Band -- worth 20 pts.
  - o Participated in the ONW Percussion Show -- worth 20 pts.
  - o Member of the Marching Band (3 or less tardies, perfect performance attendance) -- worth 20 pts.
- Throughout the year Mr. Davis added other options to help students earn more points, so be aware of any extra opportunities.
- Note: Extra points can be given and taken away at the director’s discretion.

A few weeks before this year’s Band Banquet (May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017) a form will be available for pick up for any student interested in lettering. The student must fill out the form and turn it in no later than a week before the Band Banquet. Letters and/or pins will be awarded to all students who qualified during the Band Banquet.

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# Advice Handed Down from Other Band Parents

## Things I Wish I Knew as a New Marching Band Parent

The following section contains tips & tricks or a simple FYI information from older band parents that will make your life a little easier.

Event/Item	Details
Band Bags	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students should ALWAYS bring their BAND BAG to band events. (Freshman students normally receive their bags on the day of the first football game. It will have their name embroidered on it and it is theirs to keep. They will use it each year that they are in band.)</li> <li>• The band bag should ALWAYS have their STADIUM JACKET (black and white raincoat), LYRE AND FLIP FOLDER with music, EXTRA REEDS, STICKS, OR OIL. If desired, bring WATER and non-messy SNACKS like pretzels, crackers, cheese sticks, apples, raisins, granola bars, etc. Snacks NOT allowed: no Cheetos, no Doritos, no pudding/yogurt, nothing with ketchup, no chocolate, no soda, no hot chocolate, no energy drinks, etc. (Stained uniforms have to be cleaned before the next event and this causes extra work for the Uniform volunteers.</li> <li>• The band bag is a handy place to keep the student's phone, warm hats, gloves, scarves or blankets for cold events, money for concessions, or anything else your student would want for the day/night. (They can leave wallet/purse and keys in their locker at school or bring with them in their band bag.)</li> <li>• Before band students march to CBAC for a football game, they MUST place their zippered up BAND BAG in one of the designated Raven Roadie vehicles to be brought to CBAC. If you leave your band bag in the band room or near your band locker, it will NOT be brought to the football game. After the band plays pre-game, students will exit the field and pick up their band bag to carry to the bleachers. Hats without plumes and uniform jackets are to be stored in the band bag while in the bleachers so that they don't get lost or stepped on and they stay clean. When the show is over, students will carry their band bag from the bleachers to be put back into the truck/trailer to be brought back to school.</li> <li>• When attending a parade or band festival by bus, students are responsible for bringing their band bags on and off the bus.</li> </ul>
Uniforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every band student should arrive to school for an event (game, festival or parade) wearing their SHOW SHIRT, tall black marching SOCKS and black marching SHOES. (They can wear different shoes to school, but they must bring the marching shoes with them for each event. We have a limited number of shoes to rent out so you may not get the right size if you have to rent a pair. They must have their shoes if they are to march.)</li> <li>• You can leave your band shoes in your band locker (not in the uniform room) so you don't forget to bring them to school, but I would suggest washing your show shirt and your socks each time! Each of these items can be RENTED (see costs below) if your student FORGETS to bring them to an event.</li> <li>• Uniforms belong to the school and the student is responsible for taking care of the band uniform. If the student stains the uniform or gets it dirty, it will be dry-cleaned at the student's expense. The band pays for cleaning all uniforms at the end of the year.</li> <li>• We take great pride in our new uniforms and the team works hard to maintain them so they look great at each performance. Should a student LOSE or DAMAGE any part of their uniform, they are responsible for incurring the costs associated to replace the lost/damaged article.</li> <li>• <b>UNIFORM COSTS:</b> jacket - \$185; capes - \$35/pair; pants - \$80; hat - \$50; gauntlets - \$45/pair; rain/stadium jacket - \$100; shoes - \$30 to purchase or \$2 to rent; gloves - \$2.50; socks - \$2; show shirt - \$10 to purchase or \$2 to rent.</li> <li>• <b>PLUMES:</b> Since our hats are new this year, the plumes are very hard to insert into and remove from the uniform hat. Students ARE NOT allowed to insert or remove the plume in their hat. If they break the plastic holder on the hat while inserting or removing a plume, they will have to buy a new hat. (See cost above.) All plumes are to be removed by Band Parent Volunteers.</li> </ul>

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# Advice Handed Down from Other Band Parents, Continued

Things I Wish I Knew as a New Marching Band Parent, cont.

Event/Item	Details
Football Games	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ONW Football games are always held at CBAC (College Blvd. Activity Center), which is located one block west of Olathe Northwest High School. Enter on S. Valley Rd. and PARK your vehicle on the WEST side of the field, as the Home team sits on the west side and the Visitors sit on the east side.</li> <li>Unless you purchased an Activity Pass from school, bring cash to buy a ticket for the game and concessions. Check with the ticket booth if you are active duty military or a veteran for a discount.</li> <li>Students march from school to CBAC for the games. Feel free to park at school and walk over with the band or park at CBAC and watch them arrive. They normally march over about 45 minutes before game time. The parking lot at CBAC is a mess after the game, but it's not like the Royals or Chiefs.</li> <li>Most Band Parents sit in the bleachers next to the band. You are welcome to sit where you like.</li> <li>At the Homecoming Football game, the Band will play music while standing on the field ("park and bark" or "stand and blow") during the Homecoming program at half-time and they will play their Marching Field Show AFTER the football game is over. This will be a later night than others.</li> <li>The last home game of the year is always our GLOW SHOW. The students will use packing tape to apply glow sticks, small flashlights and battery operated strings of light to their uniforms and instruments in the 4th quarter of the football game. When the game is over, the stadium lights are turned out and the students perform their Field Show while they "Glow in the Dark!" Please BUY YOUR GLOW STICKS NOW! If you wait until the end of October to buy glow sticks, they may be sold out or be very hard to find. Battery operated strings of Halloween or Christmas lights are fun to use as well and can be easily seen from the bleachers.</li> </ul>
Band Festivals	<p>Band Festivals are normally all day affairs. We leave by bus (school or charter) early in the morning and sometimes do not arrive back home until after midnight. You will have to plan accordingly for drop-off and pick-up, remembering that they have to check their uniform back in at school before they can leave for home. Send snacks and water in their band bags. Lunch and dinner may be provided, so be sure to read Mr. Davis' detailed emails about each festival so you know what is provided by the band and what is expected to be taken care of by the student.</p>
Information via Email	<p>You will receive information all year long from the Band Director, Mr. Davis, as well as the Band Booster President. These emails will be long, but they are full of very important information and are worth reading to the end. Email is the main way the ONW Band communicates with Band Parents.</p>
Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Band Parent volunteers are here to help. If you or your student ever have a question or your student needs something while at an event (football game, parade, band festival), please ask.</li> <li>You can get involved! We can always use volunteers to help check uniforms in after games and festivals, chaperone trips or help load/unload equipment with the Raven Roadies. Please email <a href="mailto:volunteers@ravenbands.org">volunteers@ravenbands.org</a> if you would like to volunteer and we can find a place for you to help our Raven Pride Band!</li> </ul>
Band Letters	<p>All band members have an opportunity to earn an Olathe Northwest Band Letter. The letters are earned by participation in certain events, auditioning for Honor Bands, taking music lessons, etc. Mr. Davis will provide the information at a later date. The Band Letters are awarded at the ONW Band Banquet in the Spring.</p>
7:00am Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Before-school 7am band practice normally starts the first full week of school, does not occur on Thursday when it is a block day and they will end after our last event of the season. Check emails from Mr. Davis for exact dates each year.</li> <li>Please drop your student off or have them arrive at school by 6:45-ish each morning that they have 7am band practice. They are required to be on the field, in their spot at 7am, or they will receive a tardy. Students need time to put away their backpack, put their instrument together and walk to the field.</li> </ul>

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## Advice Handed Down from Other Band Parents, Continued

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### Top Five Things You Should Know as a Marching Band Parent

#### **# 5. Park your car and come join us.**

Sounds odd, doesn't it? Many parents do not realize that they can enter the band area before and after the events without issues. Be respectful of any practices going on, but come on in and see what is happening. Frequently, there are parents working on something or hanging around. It is a great time to make introductions and let people know you are new to the band program.

#### **# 4. You are not alone.**

Unless you want to be. Every parent – okay, MOST parents, feel overwhelmed at first. The whole first year is a scramble to keep up. Here are some good phrases to put into use: "Excuse me, I'm new and I was wondering...", "Hi, I'm a freshman parent, my name is...", "I'm Ben's mom and I heard...". You will be surprised how quickly you will be pulled into the fold. Timing is everything, of course. If you ask someone who is obviously busy, you may not get the welcome you hoped for. Rarely are other parents too busy to help you. We want you to join us and we love to share our experiences with you.

Your student will be making all kinds of new friends, why shouldn't you? You can find people to carpool with, volunteer with, celebrate with, and commiserate with. Band parents are valuable resources. They can help you find solutions to your dilemmas, and there will be dilemmas. You will also get to know the parents of the kids your student is hanging around. What a bonus!

#### **# 3. We can't do it without you – volunteer and come to the booster meetings.**

You will be asked to commit time, energy, donations, and the band fees to the band program. Unlike many sports programs, the Raven Pride Marching Band must have parent volunteers for the program to run smoothly – and it's the best way to get to know others. Plan to attend as many Booster meetings as you can. They are only once a month for about 60-90 minutes. It is time well spent.

About volunteering...no experience necessary. No, REALLY! There are tasks that require specific skills, but some opportunities do not. If you can drive a car, get water from a cooler, use scissors, sew or build props – you have all the skills you need. Better yet, there is so much to do, you are bound to find something you actually enjoy doing. At first it looks like everyone else knows what's going on but you. Take the initiative "I'm new, and I'm here to help." We will put you to work straight away at something that is not far outside your comfort zone. It may be just a little outside, and the feeling will pass quickly. It won't hurt a bit. You will be helping keep YOUR band fees down and have fun doing it. Trust us, we've been there.

#### **# 2. Join CHARMS and READ YOUR EMAIL.**

This could be said a thousand times and still not be said enough. As the season progresses, you will get multiple messages from either Mr. Davis or a Band Booster board member. READ THEM. CHECK YOUR EMAIL DAILY. If you are lost, you can always ask for more information. We want you to understand what is going on, but you have to read your email and ask questions. If you don't, you may have unfortunate results, miss something important, or miss something fun.

#### **# 1. Yes, it's worth it!**

All of the rides, time, and effort that, as a parent, you put into getting your child to practices are worth every second. You may not be able to appreciate that in the beginning. Your student may get discouraged at first. There is a lot of repetition, hot days, failures, and disappointments. Then the show starts to come together and everything changes. There is a new energy, and new excitement. This is the point where they will either LOVE band, or plan a different activity next year.

Most of the kids LOVE band by the end of the season, so make them tough it out for the entire season. It will be worth it. If you can push through the chaos, you will probably get hooked like the rest of us. There is no way to describe how amazing this experience can be, but if you get involved you will find out for yourself!

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## Advice Handed Down from Other Band Parents, Continued

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### **You Know You are a Marching Band Parent When...**

- You start carrying a backpack with spare black gloves, needle and thread, safety pins, black socks, and duct tape.
  - You follow buses around all day on Saturdays.
  - You can't pick your child out of the crowd because they all look alike.
  - You no longer speak of your child as a fourteen-year-old daughter/son, but as a "freshman trumpet, freshman flute," etc.
  - You prominently display a band calendar in the kitchen, have band dates marked on the calendar in your purse or on your phone.
  - You use your oven more for baking goodies for bake sales or band treats than for sit-down meals.
  - You don't leave home without cushions to sit on, cash in your pocket, and your camera and camcorder!
  - You have your own wardrobe of Band Spirit wear.
  - You are cheering with other band parents.
-