



Grant Bands
Grant Music Boosters

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Grant Marching Band

2017 Parent
Handbook



The Band Director

Welcome to the Grant High School Instrumental Music Department! My goal is to teach you all that I can about music and help you become the finest and most knowledgeable performer possible. If you always make your best effort, you will experience much success. The study of music can be both very rewarding and a lot of fun. The purpose of this handbook is to explain how we can work together to discover the joy of music.

I hope you enjoy your musical journey... if you ever have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask! There are two convenient ways to reach Mr. Broome:

* emailrbroome@grantps.net

* phone/voice mail..... [\(231\) 834-5621 ext. 368](tel:(231)834-5621)

(planning time each day 11:08 – 12:31 pm MWF and 10:53 – 11:32 am T TH)

Ryan Broome

Scrip Fundraising

Scrip fundraising is a program where you do not have to sell anything to earn money. Scrip is fundraising while you shop!! All you are doing is changing the method in which you pay for purchases by using retail gift cards from over 700 participating retailers, all which offer a rebate that goes directly into your student's account. And these cards make excellent gifts as well!

Here is an example of how Scrip works:

- You purchase a rebate card for Walmart valued at \$250. Walmart offers a 2.5% rebate. So of that \$250 that you pay, \$6.25 will be put into your student's account.
- You also purchase a rebate card for Speedway valued at \$100, and they offer a 4% rebate. So that is \$4.00 added to your student's account.
- Need to shop for clothes? Old Navy offers discounts between 14-19%. Purchase an Old Navy rebate card valued at \$100 and the funds in your student's account grow by \$14.00 to \$19.00.
- So with just those three purchases, you spend \$450 on rebate cards to purchase items that you would most likely pay cash for, and in return the boosters deposit up to \$29.25 into your student's account. Funds which can be used to help offset marching band fees, or any other incidental expenses that occur throughout the entire band season.

And there are rebate cards for restaurants, movie theaters, hotels, home improvement, sporting goods ... and much more. With a little planning, a family can very easily use Scrip rebate cards to pay most, if not all, of the fees for a marching season.

Fundraising Opportunities

Group Fundraising

The Grant Music Boosters and the Fine Arts Directors work together for several group fundraising projects throughout the year. This fall we will be selling coffee from The Giving Bean, Christmas Wreaths, and Citrus. There will be other fundraising events coming up in the spring. Please encourage your students to participate. The funds raised help the overall program at Grant Public Schools.

Individual Fundraising

I have to make this clear. The IRS does not allow individuals to retain the earnings of group fundraising. However, there are some opportunities to build up the individual student account balances.

Sub Sales

We work with a local supplier to help the kids sell subs. These sales usually go over very well helping students bolster their student accounts. The students are encouraged to participate but it is totally up to them. The students will go out and take orders, meet to build and package the subs, and then deliver to customers. Because it is totally individually motivated we allow students to build up their own accounts.

Scrip Sales

As described earlier, these gift card “rebates” are available to individual students.

The money accumulates in the student account and is available to be used for any school expense (especially Fine Arts related).

To stay within IRS guidelines, Individual Fundraising opportunities are not refundable for cash. When a student reaches graduation, we can transfer money to another student or apply the balance as a donation to a Music Boosters fund.

The Drum Majors

Dear Band Parents and Supporters,

On behalf of the band program and all that it has stood for throughout the years, we would like to thank each and every one of you. It is because of your continued support in your children and grandchildren that have put this band in the place it is in today. Thank you for allowing your children to participate in the band program, and for encouraging them while they do.

Your Drum Majors,
Olivia Anderson
Alek Corvers
Ben Dubbink



Booster Club

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the Grant Music Boosters, and as the current Music Boosters President, I would like to welcome you to the Grant Band Family. Many of you have been receiving emails from me, while some of you are just starting to receive them. We try very hard to keep everyone informed of the Grant Music Boosters events. If you are not receiving emails from me, please send me an email requesting that we add you to our list, and please be sure to include your student's name in the request.

The Grant Music Boosters is an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit, tax exempt organization. All donations that are received are tax deductible to the donors. We also do not have to pay sales tax on purchases we make for organizational use. Our fundraising activities are for the organization, they can not be designated to any individual. For example, a grandparent donating funds to help their grandchild attend camp is not deductible. A grandparent donating to the Financial Aid fund is deductible, or to feed the band a meal is deductible. If you have any questions about donations and deductibility, please call or drop me an email.

Our organization runs on volunteers. The more volunteers we have the easier it is to get the job done. Throughout the year we send out emails identifying the needs that we have. Please help out to the best of your ability. We don't have any demands of how much we need the parents to volunteer, we just ask that you volunteer.

The support of the parents is what helps the band perform well. The more support we get for the program, the better the band will do. I look forward to meeting each of you as the school year progresses.

Thank you for your continued support,
Charlie McKinley
President, Grant Music Boosters
231-834-8917 or charlie@grantmusicboosters.org

MCBA State Finals (What, Where, When, Participation)

The Michigan Competing Band Association (MCBA) is a Michigan Non-profit Corporation dedicated to the promotion of instrumental music education in Michigan schools. It offers educational clinics for band directors, instructors and students featuring nationally known clinicians. MCBA sanctions marching band contests, which utilize rules and judging criteria developed and adopted by its members. MCBA holds an annual state championship contest. This contest, the MCBA State Finals, is held at Ford Field in Detroit on the first Saturday in November.

To participate in the MCBA State Finals, the following criteria must be met:

- A band must compete in a minimum of two (2) MCBA sanctioned contests.
- A band must make application to participate in the championship contest and pay the necessary fee.
- A band must achieve scores at MCBA sanctioned contests that place it among the twelve (12) highest scoring bands in its flight competition.

There are four (4) flights of competition in MCBA. Flights are based on total high school enrollment. Grant Marching Band is in Flight IV (enrollment of 680 or lower). For 2017, the Flight IV competition will begin at 12:00pm at Ford Field.

As we get closer to this event, watch for information regarding rehearsals, the travel schedule, ticket purchases and opportunities to help.

Donations/Needs

During the marching season there are variety of needs. We provide a meal before each invitational, we need bottled water, there are construction supplies for the props, repair needs to uniforms and equipment, and other items as they pop up. We also need volunteers to help move the band from the trucks to the field and back. Sign-up sheets will be posted online regularly so watch your email for information on those.



Competition Day Needs

On Saturdays that we have competitions, the band will meet and rehearse for several hours before we load and move to the site. We will need several food servers at the high school, several adults to oversee and assist the loading of the trailers, bus chaperones, and field help. Emails will go out during the week before the competitions.

Grant Marching Band Calendar

8.31.17	Football Game vs. Big Rapids
9.15.17	Football Game vs. Reed City
10.7.17	Grant Invitational
10.13.17	Homecoming vs. Newaygo
10.20.17	Football Game vs. Ravenna
10.21.17	Jenison Invitational
10.28.17	Reeths-Puffer @ Rockford Invitational
11.4.17	MCBA State Championship @ Ford Field
TBA	Band Banquet

Mr. Broome will email out the itinerary for the week before each event above. Saturday rehearsals will start in the morning, a meal will be planned, and then movement to the performance. Two busses will be provided to transport the band to the performance. As a cost saving measure, one bus will return immediately to the bus garage and the other will stay to transport students back after the performance. Please feel free to sign your students out at the trailer and have them ride home with you.

Uniform Guidelines, Care, Expectations

We are very fortunate to be in the process of getting all new uniforms. We now have two sets of new jackets, and will be working on new shakos, plumes and pants over the next couple of seasons. Here are a few guidelines regarding the marching uniforms:

- While in full uniform, no eating is allowed, and water is the only permitted beverage. There is to be no PDA (public displays of affection), smoking, swearing, or running.
- If at any time you notice that your uniform is in need of repair or cleaning, please notify either the band director or the uniform chairperson immediately.
- At the end of a performance, uniforms are to be hung up properly in a garment bag and returned to the uniform room for storage.
- At the end of the marching season, the uniforms will be cleaned professionally according to the manufacturer's guidelines.

Charms Student Accounts

Charms is an online student management database program. It allows the boosters and Mr. Broome to keep the students and parents up to date on events, information, and student account balances. Parents can also make payments via credit card on the student accounts and in the online store. You can access the database using your students GPS student ID at <http://grantbands.org/links.html>. If you are unable to access your account please email charlie@grantmusicboosters.org.

Marching Band Spectator Etiquette

1. Show your support and encouragement for **all** of the bands with your applause. Cheer for them when they take the field for competition, at appropriate times during their shows, and at the end of their performances. Every single band here today has put in many hours of hard work preparing for their performance, and they all deserve recognition for their accomplishments.
2. Do not make any negative comments about any bands. You are likely sitting next to family and friends from another band, and they are just as proud of their band as you are of yours. If you don't have anything nice to say, you probably shouldn't say it.
3. Refrain from conversation or other distracting activities during the performances. Show respect for the bands and the spectators around you by not talking while a band is playing.
4. Please turn off your cell phone or set it to vibrate. If someone calls you, return the call between bands. Please do not talk on your phone during a performance.
5. Do not enter or exit your seat during a band's performance. Wait until a performance has ended before moving about. You will only need to wait 15 minutes, at the most, before the next break. There is sufficient time between bands to move in and out of the spectator seating area.
6. Do not obstruct the view of others. Avoid standing up in front of people who are trying to watch the band on the field.