



STOW-MUNROE FALLS BANDS

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Meet Our Band Directors

<http://smfband.org/about>

Email is the preferred method of contacting the band directors.

Mr. Newman	st_newman@smfcsd.org
Mrs. Sandman	st_sandman@smfcsd.org
Mrs. De Witt	st_kgrossi@smfcsd.org
Mr. Lewis	st_tlewis@smfcsd.org

Stow Munroe Falls Band Website

<http://smfband.org>

Kimpton Knotes



BAND CONCERT THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29th @ 7:30!

Just a reminder!

All students should be taking instruments home to practice on Monday, Wednesday and Friday unless other arrangements have been made with Mrs. Sandman. I check the instrument storage room at random times and hold the students' participation grade accountable. It is important that students practice at home to improve their skills on their music and to reinforce concepts taught in class.

YOUNGSTOWN HONORS BAND

Congratulations to Felicity Covey, Ellie Julius, Gabby Newingham, and Chase Westover who were selected to participate in the Youngstown University Middle School Honor Band on January 13. Great job representing Kimpton and the Stow-Munroe Falls Band program! We are all very proud of you!

JAZZ BAND

Congratulations on a great first performance! The Kimpton Jazz Band will continue to rehearse on Wednesdays in preparation for our concert on Thursday, March 21 in the HS Auditorium. We are planning to have a guest join us for this concert! Specific details for this performance will be coming home soon.

The calendar for the remainder of the year was emailed home. If you did not receive this email, please reach out to me st_sandman@smfcsd.org so I can add you to the Jazz Band email list.

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE CONTEST

Students will be receiving information regarding solo and ensemble contest. This is an optional event for students. Many students will be asked to perform in small group ensembles and have the opportunity to perform solos. Students will perform their musical selection for a judge and get a performance rating as well as specific comments regarding their performance. Directors will choose the pieces for the individual ensembles.

*Students chosen for ensembles must be available before school, after school, or during WIN time to work with their group and receive extra director help.

*Anyone wishing to perform a solo must have a private instructor who holds a degree on their specific instrument to ensure quality preparation. Now is a great time to get involved in private lessons! Please e-mail Mrs. Sandman if you are looking for a quality private instructor.

It is important for parents and students to understand, once students have committed to perform in a group, they are required to prepare their music and perform with their group on April 13 at Stanton Middle School. School transportation will not be provided by the school district for this event. Please look for more detailed information next month.

FRESHMAN BAND ORIENTATION

On April 8th, we will be presenting you with information concerning all aspects of the high school program. Please put this date on your calendar. We are looking forward to a fantastic year and are already in deep planning for marching band 2024! We promise a fast paced, exciting year! Please plan on attending this important meeting at 7:00P.M in the HS Auditorium. The meeting usually lasts about an hour. Parents and students will receive important information regarding band camp at this meeting!

As always, please do not hesitate to email if you have any questions in regard to your child's progress, instrument or equipment upgrading or anything pertaining to the band program.

Email: st_sandman@smfcsd.org

Musically yours,
Mrs. Sandman

Earn Money for Your Student

Parents, want a fund and easy way to earn money to pay for band camp, Disney 2026 trip and other band expenses?

The Blossom Music Center and Akron Zoo concessions is a great opportunity. Here is what veteran parents have said...



"The Blossom fundraiser is a great way to earn money for your child's band account along with meeting other band parents and Blossom staff members. I have volunteered to work at Blossom for 5 years. During those 5 years, I earned money to pay for band camp, pay to play, Disney trip and any other fees that are needed while my kids are involved in the band program. Training for this fundraiser is not difficult and is now available to be done online. Once the training is completed, I can choose from a list of concerts and orchestra events that I want to work through sign up genius during the season."

~Chester Chikosky

"My husband and I have participated in the fundraiser at Blossom for many years. This is a great way to earn funds for your students' individual account as well as meet and work with other band parents. Many of the friendships we have formed with other band parents began with working alongside them at Blossom. The fundraising potential is also a great part of the fundraiser. By us working at Blossom, we have never had to pay for any of our kids band camp fees, Disney trips or pay to play fees out of our own pocket."

~Melissa Bowers

**BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR MORE INFORMATION IN
MARCH/EARLY APRIL**

High School Harmony



A Special Note for 8th Grade Parents & Students:

APRIL 8TH

FRESHMAN BAND ORIENTATION, MONTHLY BAND PARENTS MEETING and THE ECLIPSE:

On April 8th, we will be presenting parents and students with information concerning all aspects of the high school band program. We are looking forward to a fantastic year! We are already in the planning stages for Marching Band 2024! We promise a fast paced, exciting year! Please plan on attending this important meeting at 7:00 PM in the HS Auditorium with your student! The meeting usually lasts about an hour. Parents and students will receive important information regarding band camp at this meeting!

The monthly band parents meeting will take place in the HS band room at 7:30.

The total solar eclipse visits Ohio on April 8, 2024 beginning at 3:08 pm EDT with the final exit of the Moon's shadow from the state at 3:19 pm EDT.

The eclipse will have no impact on the evening events!

WINTER CONCERT:

The winter band concert in December was a great success ! We are extremely proud of the hard work that the students put forth preparing for the concert. Students are now focused on our next concert on Tuesday, March 5 at 7:00.

PRACTICE, PERFORMANCE TAPES and BAND HONORS POINTS:

Practice tapes were due: February 2: Students, including Band Honors Students may use exemptions for this assignment.

Performance Tapes: are due: **March 1:** Students may use exemptions for this assignment, but may not use the same exemption from the Practice Tape.

** Band Honors Students: Band Honors Points are due Friday, March 1. Please attach your completion sheet as the cover page to your work and submit to Google Classroom.

HONORS BAND HANDBOOK

JAZZ BANDS:

Congratulations jazz band students on a fantastic concert on January 18th! We will be back for another performance on Thursday, March 21 at 7:00 with guest artist Bobby Selvaggio.

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE:

We are looking forward to Solo and Ensemble Contest that will be held again this year at Barberton High School on Saturday, February 10. The final schedule will be coming out and available for students soon!

LARGE GROUP CONTEST:

Gold Band and Wind Ensemble is preparing for Large Group Contest at Cuyahoga Falls or Medina HS on Friday, March 8 or Saturday, March 9. Specific details will be coming home shortly!

TAG DAY: May 4th

As the band begins to grow again, funding is always a priority. Each year the band parents support the band to a tune of roughly \$25,000. **Our largest fundraiser is Tag Day.** Tag Day will be held this year on Saturday, May 4 from 9:30AM to 12:30PM. **All students must attend.**

This is a source of MAJOR FUNDING for the band program. In fact, typically we earn \$20,000 in 4 hours of work! Band parents money purchases music, equipment, uniforms and many other items too numerous to mention. Please understand this is a mandatory obligation for the program. If your child can not be in attendance, please send in a note by April 20. We will be using Sign-Up Genius to assign routes and plan to cover all routes again this year.

AMERICAN CELEBRATION CONCERT WITH THE WIND ENSEMBLE:

The Wind Ensemble and Choir will present their annual American Celebration Concert will be held on May 4th at 7:00PM in the Auditorium. The concert is free. Please help us get the word out to the community. The concert will consist of music celebrating "The Great American Landscape" including several patriotic selections and honoring our troops. We hope you can join us for this special concert! As always we are available for any questions you may have. The best way to contact us is via e-mail.

FINAL THOUGHTS:

We are very fortunate to have a program of such high quality. Many students who participate in college bands return each year and share their views of our band. Our excellence has been achieved through the support of parents, community, school and school administration. We cannot take for granted what "being in band" means to our students. Although it might seem that we are completing one performance and then preparing for the next, there is a much greater educational agenda being shared every day in our rehearsal room. Learning music is preparing our students to be successful while creating a lifelong appreciation for music of all genres. Thank you for your support!

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

Mark your Calendars

Calendar of Events:

- February 10 - Solo and Ensemble Contest (HIGH SCHOOL) @ Firestone HS
- February 29 - 7th & 8th Grade Band Concert 7:30 PM @ Kimpton
- March 5 - PreContest Concert: 7:00 PM @ SMFHS
- March 8-9 - CONTEST: Wind/Gold TBA
- March 20-21 - Spring Jazz Clinic and Concert 7:00 @ SMFHS
- April 8 - Freshmen Parent Meeting 7:00 PM @ SMFHS Auditorium
- April 13 - Solo and Ensemble Contest (MIDDLE SCHOOL) Stanton Middle School
- May 2 - 7th & 8th Grade Band Concert 7:30 PM @ Kimpton
- May 4 - TAG DAY & American Celebration Concert 7:00 PM @ SMFHS

**THE ONLINE BAND CALENDAR IS CURRENT THROUGH OCTOBER
FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO PLAN AHEAD**

BAND Calendar



Band Newsletter Submissions

Are you a committee chair? Planning a fundraising event for the band? Have helpful hints to share with other parents? Submit materials for the newsletter!! Email Jennie at jennie.oconnell@yahoo.com to be on the list for newsletter requests.

Get Involved

Thank you to all of you that bought 50/50 Raffle tickets at the Christmas concerts at Lakeview, Kimpton and SMFHS. The raffle winners were very thankful for their extra holiday cash.

Of course, our band program was the biggest winner with the 3 concerts bringing in **\$1,326.50!!!**

Thank you to all the helpers we have had this semester. Our special thanks goes to our Lakeview volunteers who ran the show while Melissa and I were at our kids' athletic events. Laura Stokes and her sons, Dawnya LaMantia, Richelle Auckman, Chester Chikoski, Heather Billy, and anyone else we missed.

We are looking for volunteers to help sell or prepare packets for the raffle at the next set of concerts for Kimpton (Thurs, Feb 29), SMFHS (Tues, March 5), Lakeview (Thurs, March 12), and all three May concerts.

Please consider helping us for 45-minutes before one of these concerts! Since you are at the concert early to sell or prepare packets, you get to pick out your seats for the concert early before you start selling tickets!!! You will get to enjoy the concert.

For each of these upcoming concerts, there will be a SignUp Genius for 50/50 raffle volunteers. These Sign Up Genius will be sent out to your email closer to the concerts. Also, you can sign up on the Stow-MF Bulldog Band Parents Facebook page, or just contact Melissa or I if you can help. Remember to bring CASH to every concert to support our bands by buying 50/50 tickets. Thank you for your support and help

The 50/50 Raffle Co-chairs: Melissa Tokar, Mary Appleby.



Helpful Reminders

Forms & Info Available for Download: <http://smfband.org/>, select which school.

Student Transportation Forms: In the event your child can not ride the provided transportation to or from a performance, please fill out the transportation form found online and submit it to a director prior to the event. <http://smfband.org/smfhs/>



Make a Difference

Stow Munroe Falls Band Patrons

By becoming a STOW-MUNROE FALLS BAND PATRON, you can help ensure the continued success of our program, and let our community know you support our band! Go to our website to find out more!

www.smfband.org/patrons



**A BIG thank you
to our current
Patrons!!**



There is room for you here!

Please spread the word if you, someone you know or a business would like to become one of our patrons.

The support is always appreciated!

From our Booster President

It's time for our Stow Munroe Falls Band Booster Association elections for next school year. We are electing a president, vice-president, secretary, and an 8th grade (Kimpton) parent representative. Consider if you would like to serve in any of these positions. Our website at www.smfband.org/boosters has information on over twenty-two committees that could use your help. You can read our by-laws which include election details and job descriptions of our executive committee positions. If you would like to be on the ballot or serve on a committee, email me at president@smfband.org by the deadline of Friday, March 1. Our election meeting is Monday, April 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the high school band room.

Our directors are gifted and do an excellent job in music education throughout our district. Our students are talented and perform wonderfully. Our parents are hard-working and fun to be around. I hope you can join us and be involved in our fantastic band booster association!

Bob Brantsch
President
Stow Munroe Falls Band Booster Association

Band Booster Officer Election Information

What positions are elected for the Band Boosters?

Executive officer positions include the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, technology officer and class representatives (Kimpton, 9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th).

What do each of these positions do?

- **President:** The president serves as the official spokesperson for the Association. They preside at all general and executive committee meetings, appoint chairs for all standing committees as needed. The president will also be bonded to disburse funds in the absence of the treasurer.
- **Vice President:** The vice president presides in the absence of the president and assist the president. The VP is also the chair the by-law review every two years (in odd-numbered years).
- **Secretary:** The secretary records the minutes for all general and executive committee meetings and ensures any voting is conducted properly as well as handle any correspondence for the Association.
- **Treasurer:** Receives and distributes all funds, oversees annual audit
- **Technology Officer:** Oversees technology needs of the boosters. Oversees various online sites (i.e. social media, shutterfly, google, YouTube and others)
- **Class Representative:** The Class Representative serves on the nominating committee, notifies members of the class the trustee represents of special meetings, relays pertinent information as authorized by the band directors or the President and organizes and coordinates class-specific activities and fundraisers.

How long do you serve?

Elections are for 1 school year, but you can be re-elected to serve a second term. The offices of president, vice-president and secretary can only serve 2 consecutive terms. Terms begin in May and will run through April of the following year.

When are elections?

Elections will be held on Monday April 8th at the Band Boosters monthly meeting.

How do I get on the ballot?

Nominations are taken through March 4, 2024. Reach out to current Booster President, Bob Brantsch at president@SMFHSband.org if you are interested in serving in one of the open positions or look for a sign up genius coming out soon.

If I am not interested in one of the elected positions, what other opportunities are there?

There are over 20 smaller committees on which you can serve. Visit <https://smfband.org/boosters/> to see the many opportunities. Some are events held once a year and others are ongoing. If you are interested in any of the committees, reach out to the current chair or complete our parent survey to share your talents.

[Parent Survey](#)

Stay Informed



ParentSquare

Parent Square

Download the app on your mobile device.

Sign in via your phone number or email connected to the district

Facebook

Stow Munroe Falls Band (</stowband>)

SMF Band's Official Facebook Page! Please like the page to get up to date information on events/fundraisers/programs and volunteer requests.



Stow-MF Bulldog Band Parents (</groups/1757066771181892>)

We invite all the new parents and grandparents to join our private Facebook group called "Stow-MF Bulldog Band Parents" If your student is currently in the Stow-MF Bulldog band, this is where we share pictures and information that is pertinent to our organization.

Just search Facebook for "Stow-MF Bulldog Band Parents" and click the "join group" button. There are several questions that will need to be answered correctly before your request to join is approved.



Subscribe to the Band Calendar on your phone or computer:

Please check the Calendar found on the webpage for up to date events. You can also subscribe to the various calendars on your computer and mobile phones. Go to <http://smfband.org/calendar/> and select which calendar you want updates from.

Check out the SMFHS BAND performances

Check out, like, and subscribe to the Band's YouTube channel. We will post as many of the Band's public performances as we can. If you take a video of one of the Band's performances and would like to share it on the Band's YouTube channel, email Tom at tech@smfband.org, and he will figure out a way to get it uploaded.

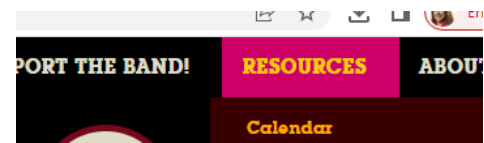


<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsPXqpihkM6j7rSnMJ4uUSQ>

Tips for Band Parents

How to check your student's account

- Go to www.smfband.org
- Click on the word "Resources" in the top right corner
- On the Student/Parent Resources page, click on the "Student Account Lookup" button



STUDENT ACCOUNT LOOKUP

- To look up a student's account, enter in the Student ID and Graduation Year
- Click on "Get Balance"

Enter your Student ID and Graduation Year to retrieve your account balance.

Student ID	Graduation Year (yyyy)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

GET BALANCE

Solo and Ensemble Contests

What is Solo & Ensemble Contest?

Solo & Ensemble Contest is an annual event that takes place throughout the country in which students prepare their own performances either by themselves or with a small group of friends. These performances are evaluated by a judge and scored against a rating system.

What are the benefits of Solo & Ensemble Contest?

Students individual musical abilities will improve because they are now solely responsible for their part. Their rhythmic precision, note accuracy, and tone quality will all improve from playing alone on their part. They will be critiqued by an expert, who will give you specific feedback on how they can improve their playing. Their experience playing at solo and ensemble contest will help them become a musical leader within band

When are they?

High school contest is February 10th

Junior high contest is April 13th

**Solo and Ensemble Contests
are sponsored by the Ohio Music Education Association**



STOW BAND BOOSTERS

2023-2024 Band Booster Officers

President: Bob Brantsch

Vice President: Tina Valdez

Secretary: Annette Vanik

Treasurer 1: Melissa Bowers

Treasurer 2: Julie Hurst

Technology Officer: Tom Bordonaro

Senior Class Rep: Aimee Brigger

Junior Class Rep: Sally Phillips

Sophomore Class Rep: Debbie Mancuso

Freshman Class Rep: Richelle Aukeman

Kimpton Rep: Rebecca Miller

What do the band boosters do?

- provide financial assistance to the bands;
- promotes an educationally sound, high quality band music program;
- promotes community interest in the school band programs;
- promotes communication between the band directors, students, parents, and school administration
- volunteer work force that provides chaperones, caretakers for the uniforms, and more!

NEXT MEETING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR :

Monday March 4, 2024 at 7:30 PM in the high school band room

Want to connect with the Stow Band Boosters?

It is never too early to get involved. You can volunteer to help load and unload buses for games, chairing a fundraiser, chaperoning, working in the concession stand or driving on tag day. You can give as little or as much as you are able. And while helping, you will get to know other parents!!

Complete the Parent Survey TODAY!!

2023-2024 Band Officers

Congratulations to the 2023-2024 student officers who were elected by their peers

- **President:** Hayden Storey
- **Vice President:** Oliver Faluhelyi
- **Senior Class Rep:** NJ Joshi
- **Junior Class Rep:** Ashley Swindler
- **Sophomore Class Rep:** Tristan Roach
- **Freshman Class Rep:** Manishon Budathoki