



SPARTAN SOUNDS

WEST SPRINGFIELD BAND
6100 Rolling Road
Springfield, VA 22152
www.wshsband.org



April, 2008

Director's Notes

High expectations are an amazing thing. Very rarely do they bring disappointment. Five and a half years ago we set a new course, a direction which would rely on our students to maximize their individual potential in order for the ensemble to achieve at its highest possible level. This change in emphasis has required our students to think in some new ways and to make some decisions about commitment and shared responsibility. The results have been readily evident if you have followed the achievements of our performing ensembles during that time period. Simply by expecting more the band program has achieved more. At times, we have had a small phrase, a maxim, an anonymous quote displayed in the band room. Ensembles which have invested themselves in this idea have achieved at levels they did not think possible.

“Excellence is the result of caring more than others think is wise, risking more than others think is safe, dreaming more than others think is practical, and expecting more than others think is possible.”

This concept drives my philosophy of how we administer the band program. Average effort and average commitment

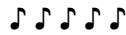
produce average results. This is something that will become readily evident to all of our students once they leave public school and enter the university environment or the business world. We are not striving for average we are striving for exceptional.

The reality is that “exceptional” comes with a cost. There is a quote from Hamilton Holt, a gift from the class of 1979, hanging near the front entrance of West Springfield. It says “Nothing worthwhile comes easily.” I believe that this is very true. When each of our individuals sacrifices just a bit of themselves for the good of the group, the group achieves at a higher level.

The psychological construct known as gestalt has very real and practical application for our musical ensembles. The basic precept is that sometimes the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. If you experienced the performance of the Wind Symphony at the band festival, you have an understanding of what that means. When our students come together and make the “we” more important than the “me” amazing things happen.

Now that we have begun to perform at a new level, we should never expect anything less, and we must begin looking at the next level of achievement. We are proud of everything our students have accomplished, and look forward to even greater things in years to come.

We encourage everyone to become part of the great things which we hope lie within our yet undiscovered potential. It isn't always easy, but the result is always worth it!



JUST A FEW WORDS

Can you actually believe we are on the "home stretch" of the school year? We have one more Concert to attend, a Dinner and Silent Auction to enjoy, a Springfield Day Parade to cheer our students on and Graduation at the Patriot Center on June 16th. It really seems like yesterday we were trying to plan the menus for band camp lunches and count all of the drivers for Tag Day.

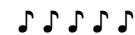
As we come closer the end of the school year, please begin thinking about how you would like to help with the Boosters next year. There will be several openings for Committee Chairs and volunteers within the Committees as many of us who have been around for four years will graduate in June. It is such a rewarding opportunity to help the students and the band program continue to grow and be more successful each year. The emotional return you get from the students cannot be described in words. They are energetic, smart, talented and caring young people who greatly appreciate your helpfulness and enthusiasm. Take a few moments and think about how you would like to be involved.

The Nominating Committee (Chaired by Stew Morrison) is looking for folks to fill positions on the Executive Board for the

next school year. If you are interested, please contact Stew at Stewmorrison@earthlink.net for more information. The nominating committee will present the proposed slate of officers for the Executive Board for next year at the May Booster Meeting on Wednesday, May 7th. The general membership will vote on the proposal on Sunday, June 1st at the Awards Banquet.

Remember the next Booster Meeting is Wednesday, May 7th – if you are a band parent --- you are a band booster. See you there!!!

Carole Zok
Band Booster President
President@wshsband.org



SAVE THE DATE

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, May 17th at 6:00 p.m. in the W.S.H.S Cafeteria and plan on joining us at the 3rd Annual Big Band Dinner Auction this year. The auction teams have put together an enjoyable and exciting evening for everyone. For more information on prices, menu or items that will be up for bid please go to www.wshsband.org/auction.

Interested in helping? Please contact me if you would like to help set up for the auction or work the night of the event. We'd also be happy to have more donations. Scrip Cards are a great way to donate. Buy a Scrip Card of your choice, use it to make a tax-

deductible donation to the auction and get a percentage back into your student's account too. For more information on what is available in scrip and how to order please see the band website.

Other donations can come from anywhere. Do you know someone who is a gourmet chef or drives a limousine? Have you received a gift that isn't quite your style? Has your neighbor, or a family member, started a business that could use a little advertising? Ideas for donations are only limited by your imagination and chances are if you think an item would be great to bid on then someone else will too.

Also please ask your employer about a monetary donation. Many corporations will not respond to our solicitation team's requests but will gladly make a generous donation when asked by an employee. Please take the time to find out if your company can help. All donations are tax deductible and are recognized at the auction.

If you have any donation ideas or questions please feel free to contact either of the Solicitations Chairs, Art at mhorn2000@cox.net or Frank at fknick@aol.com or direct any of your questions to me at devined@cox.net. We'd be happy to hear your ideas.

I look forward to seeing you at the auction,

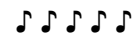
Kristi Devine



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

Another year is ending, but at the same time another is beginning. We look forward to making new acquaintances as we enable our great Spartan musicians to achieve even higher heights. Please contact me to find out how you can help, from a time slot at our next activity, to coordinating a fundraising event. All efforts are important and crucial for our success.

Frank Knickerbocker
Volunteer Coordinator



STUDENT ACCOUNTS

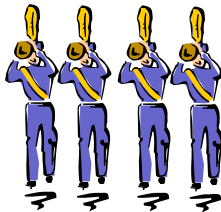
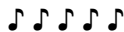
I have to say "well done" to the students who have earned a combined total of over \$20,000.00 in credits for their student accounts so far. That's with only about 60% of the band students participating. Several students were able to pay most, if not all, their band fees, attire fees, even marching band fees and spring trip costs from their student account this year. It can be done with a little planning and some hard work and can make a huge difference in the impact these necessary fees have on your families. Even though the main fundraisers have ended for this year I would encourage everyone to continue buying scrip throughout the summer and make plans for participating in the fundraisers next year.

Please check the amount in your student's account periodically. Credits will be carried over to next year for all students who aren't Seniors. Credits can also be used to cover concert attire

items needed for the spring concerts and to pay for the End-of-Year Banquet.

As always, please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about your student account.

Thank you,
Kristi Devine
devined@cox.net



GREETINGS FROM THE UNIFORM CLOSET!

Happy Spring! I love this time of year with flowers blooming and warmer days. It seems to give us an extra boost of energy to get through all the things to which we've overcommitted ourselves. It's been a fantastic year for the band this year. The students have been given so many great memories through our band program. As a parent and volunteer, I feel very fortunate to be a part of all that they do and know that my own kids are much better people for being a part of it.

Upcoming events include Spring Concerts on May 20th and 21st and Graduation band on June 16th. All tuxes are due at the end of the student's last concert. If your student is performing for Graduation, his tux will be collected upon his arrival back at school on June

16th. If your son is not performing for graduation, his tux will be due after the spring concert on May 20th or 21st. Please remind your student to bring a change of clothes on the day he turns in his tux.

Speaking of graduation, I would like to congratulate all of this year's band seniors. I have had the opportunity to get to know you during the last four years and I can say without hesitation that I am VERY proud of each and every one of you. I wish you much success and am looking forward to hearing about all the great things you are going accomplish!!

After graduation, we will be gearing up for the 2009 marching band season.

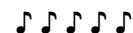
If you would like to help with the uniforms in any way next year, please drop us an email or give us a call. We'd love to have you.

By the way, we still have some of the old uniforms for sale if folks want to make pillows or memorabilia from them. The cost is \$35. If you would like to purchase one of these, please contact me.

We're still leaving the light on for you!

Cathy Morrison
703-866-4759
vandee@verizon.net

Dorothy Doyle
703-451-1202
doylekevinj@verizon.net





NEWS FROM THE CONCESSIONS CREW

Concession sales for the District Band festival were a big success. Our loyal crew of volunteers stepped up once again and things ran just as smooth as ever. A big THANKS to all the families who provided baked goods. They were a big hit and we even had leftovers for the long bus ride to Florida. Please take the time to thank the wonderful volunteers who spent time over the weekend working concessions:

- Deb Brittenham
- Kathy Fuller
- Phil Franke
- Lisa Langlais
- Lori Larson and daughter (future Tuba girl) Taylor
- Audrey Bigelow
- Karen Koenig and son Andrew
- Suzanne Jensen
- Bryan DeAngelo
- Kristen Scott
- Nancy Voss
- Nancy Yonkers
- Jean Gilbertson
- Susan Anderson
- Nick Fleegal

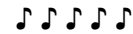
Band Students:
Anna Lees & Allie Vossmoore

Spring cleaning has begun in the concession stand. Eagle Scout Candidate Nick Fleegal will be doing some renovations to the stand for his

community service project. We are so grateful and look forward to another successful and fun season in the stand.

Concession Chairs

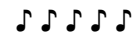
Mo & Brett Fleegal
Lynn & Greg Jones



SCRIP

There have been a few changes to scrip discounts. Giant is now giving a 5% discount for scrip! Our current scrip order form is attached and the changes are highlighted in red.

So far this year, 60 band students have earned a total of \$7130 for their student accounts, an increase of \$1,000 from last year! If you have a returning or rising 9th grade band student, don't stop buying scrip. Next year's band fees will be due before you know it. If you buy groceries at Giant, Shoppers or Safeway, if someone in your family travels for work and stays in Marriott or Hyatt hotels, if you stop at Starbucks every morning, you could be chipping away at those fees. We will continue to sell scrip over the summer -- watch for an email with more details. Call Susan Anderson at 703-644-8486 if you have any questions about the scrip program.



BAND AWARDS

Time to start tallying up the points for all the hard work this year and find out what awards have been earned by each student. The student fills out the form

found on the band website under Forms and Publications/Band Awards and Letters according to the band activities they've taken part in throughout the year.

The points go towards the Clef, Lyre, Honor Lyre and Aulos ribbon awards. (Aulos are only awarded to seniors with enough points and a research paper submitted to the band directors. The student comes up with a topic and awaits approval from the band directors before starting the research.)

Criteria for Earning a Band/Color Guard Letter:

1. To earn a Band Letter, you must fulfill 4 out of 5 requirements on the awards form:

- a. Be a member in good standing of the Marching Spartans.
- b. Have perfect attendance at all rehearsals and performances. Perfect attendance means perfect attendance. Even if absences are excused, they still disqualify you for this criterion.
- c. Audition for All-District Band. (You don't have to make it; just be brave enough to audition.)
- d. Participate for the full day on Tag Day.
- e. Participate in Solo and Ensemble Festival.

2. To earn a Color Guard Letter, you must fulfill 3 out of 4 of the following criteria:

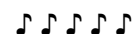
- a. Be a member in good standing of Fall Guard during Marching Band season (mark "Marching Band" on awards form).
- b. Be a member in good standing of Indoor Guard.
- c. Have perfect attendance at all Band and Guard activities as defined in 1b above.
- d. Participate for the full day on Tag Day.

If you earn a letter during the 2007-2008 school year, you MUST fill out and return the Awards Form by April 28, 2008 to the black box in order to receive your letter at the Awards Banquet on Sunday, June 1, 2008. Please look for the form on the Band website under Forms and Publications.

The students may also earn additional ribbons that parents purchase for students' letter jackets or shadowboxes. The order form for those ribbons (attached to this newsletter) are also due by April 28, 2008 in the black box in the band room.

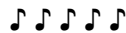
Due to the processing time required to obtain the awards, award forms will not be processed after April 28, 2008.

Please contact Lorraine Wong at lewong@hotmail.com if you have any questions.



DON'T FORGET GLORY DAYS!

On Tuesday, September 4, the Band began our Second year of “Dining for Dollars” program with the Glory Days Grill. Last year we raised \$499.09 for the band, just by eating. All you have to do is stop by any Glory Days for dinner (or Carryout) -- Monday thru Thursday and all day Sunday, save your receipt (not the credit card receipt), put it in the Black Box in the Band room or give it to a Board Member, and at the end of the school year Glory Days will donate 10% of the food sales back to the Band. It is truly an open-ended opportunity to help support the band. As many of us say “It’s all about the food!!”



UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr 18 – Marching Band Intent Forms
Due
May 7 – Band Boosters Meeting
May 17 – Auction!
May 20 – Concert
May 21 -- Concert
May 28-30 – Leadership Tryouts
May 31 – Springfield Days Parade
June 1 – Band Banquet (5:00 pm)
June 16 – Graduation

All dates are subject to change. Stay tuned to the Band website, www.wshsband.org for up to the minute details on the events listed above.



Virginia Band and Orchestra Directors Association Medals and Band Ribbons Order Form

Name (please print): _____

Phone Number: _____ Band: _____

Payment must accompany all orders.
Make checks payable to "WSHS Band Boosters."
 Please place your completed order form in the **band black box** by **April 28**.

(1) What are these medals? They are musical awards that may be worn on letter jackets. They identify special groups of students within the band. If you qualify and are interested in purchasing any, please place a check mark next to the ones you want.

ALL DISTRICT SENIOR BAND (maroon) ____
ALL DISTRICT CONCERT BAND (orange) ____

ALL VA BAND ____
ALL VA ORCHESTRA ____

VBODA MARCHING BAND (Superior) ____

HONOR BAND ____

DISTRICT BAND/ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL MEDALS

Superior (blue)
 Grade of music: 4__ ; 5__ ; 6__

Excellent (gray)
 Grade of music: 4__ ; 5__ ; 6__

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL MEDALS

Superior (blue)
 Grade of music: 4__ ; 5__ ; 6__

Excellent (gray)
 Grade of music: 4__ ; 5__ ; 6__

(2) The following band ribbons are available for purchase, if you are eligible. **Please circle the ribbons you are interested in purchasing.** These are military-style ribbons and may also be worn on letter jackets.

SERVICE

1st Year
 2nd Year
 3rd Year
 4th Year

ORGANIZATION

Color Guard
 Indoor Guard
 Drums
 Indoor Drum

BAND

Concert Band
 Symphonic Band
 Wind Symphony
 Jazz Ensemble
 Marching Band

CLASS POSITIONS

Freshman
 Sophomore
 Junior
 Senior

INSTRUMENT

List choice _____

OFFICERS

Drum Major
 Captain
 Co-Captain
 Section Leader

HONORS

Superior Band	Excellent Band
Superior Ensemble	Excellent Ensemble
Superior Solo	Excellent Solo
	District Band

Total Number of Medals and Ribbons _____ at \$2.75 each.

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____ (Payment must accompany order.)

If you have any questions, please email lewong@hotmail.com

2008 Marching Band Commitment Form

(Due April 18, 2008)

Summer Rehearsals beginning in July 1 (Tuesday and Thursday Evenings). Pre-Season rehearsals for Rookies, Drum Line, Leadership and Color Guard begin on **August 11**, 2008 at 8:00AM. Returning members begin on **August 13**, 2008 at 8:00AM.

- Week 1- Rehearsals are from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM. There is a lunch break from 12:00-1:00.
- Week 2- Monday – Thursday: rehearsals are from 8:00 AM until 9:00 PM (lunch is provided) with a two-hour (4:00 – 6:00) dinner break.
Friday: rehearsal is from 8:00AM until 4:00 PM (lunch provided).
- Week 3- Evening rehearsals from 6:00 - 9:00 PM.

Rehearsal schedule once school begins will be as follows (times are subject to availability of facilities):

Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.	3:00-6:15 or 6:00-9:00	3:00 - 6:15 p.m.	Some afternoons

Mandatory Attendance at ALL of the following:

Friday Night Football Games (All five home varsity games and two away varsity games)

Tentative 2008 Marching Competitions:

September 20 (Westminster, MD), October 4 (U.S. Naval Academy),
October 18 (BOA regional, Towson, MD), October 25 (VBODA Marching Festival), November 2 (USSBA Championships in Hershey, PA)

Keep these dates in mind as you schedule your other activities.

- _____ I would like to participate in Marching Band. Instrument: _____
- _____ I am trying out for Color Guard. _____ If I do not qualify (for guard), I still wish to march.
- _____ Please do not consider me for the Marching Spartans.

By signing this form, I agree to participate in the Marching Band. My signature indicates that I am aware that I am **obligated** to pay the Marching Band Fee of approximately \$450. (*This fee is a best estimate based on current information until we know the final band schedule and number of students participating. It does not cover some uniform expenses or travel expenses. A \$250 deposit is due no later than **April 18th**, with the balance due **July 1st**. A \$25 late fee will be charged if full payment is not received by July 1st.)*) I am also aware that additional expenses (i.e., uniform, travel) may be required. I also understand that if, at any time, I decide that I do not want to be in the Marching Band, that I am still responsible for the payment of the Marching Band fee and late fee. I also realize that if I fail to make payment, the Band Boosters will deduct the fees from my student account and/or my financial obligation will be submitted to the Administration at West Springfield High School. And finally, my signature indicates that I realize that once this form is submitted, the Marching Band fee is **payable** and **non-refundable**.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Do not write below this line.

This Section is for Band Staff Only

Date of payment: / /	<input type="checkbox"/> Student Acct	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash	<input type="checkbox"/> Check/Number: _____	Amount _____
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WEST SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL BAND BOOSTERS SCRIP ORDER FORM -- last update: March 31, 2008

Retail Stores	%	Scrip \$\$ Amounts	\$\$ Amount Purchased
Amazon.com	3%	25 & 100	
AMC & Loews (Theaters)	6%	25	
American Eagle Outfitters	7%	25	
Auntie Anne's	7%	10	
Barnes & Noble / B.Dalton	8%	10-25-100	
Bath & Body Works	12%	10 & 25	
Bed, Bath, & Beyond	6%	25	
Best Buy	1%	25-100-250	
Blockbuster	6%	10	
Borders	8%	10 & 25	
Brookstone	11%	25	
Build-A-Bear	7%	25	
Circuit City	2%	25 & 100	
Claire's	8%	10	
CVS Drug Stores	5%	25	
Dick's Sporting Goods	4%	25	
Dress Barn	7%	25	
Eddie Bauer	8%	25	
Express	12%	25	
Family Christian Stores	8%	25	
Finishline	9%	25	
GameStop/EB Games	2%	25	
Harry & David	9%	25	
Home Depot/EXPO Design	2%	25 - 100 - 500	
iTunes	3%	15	
J C Penney/Eckerd Drug	4%	25 & 100	
Jo Ann Fabrics	5%	20	
K Mart	3%	25 & 50	
Kohl's	3%	25 & 100	
L L Bean	14%	25 & 100	
Land's End	8%	25 & 100	
Linens and Things	7%	25	
Lowe's Home Imprvmnt	3%	25 - 100 - 500	
Macy's	9%	25 & 100	
Marshalls/TJMaxx/HomeG	6%	25 & 100	
Men's Wearhouse	7%	25	
Michaels	3%	25	
Office Depot	3%	25	
Old Navy/Gap/BananaRep	8%	25	
Payless Shoes	12%	20	
Pier One Imports	8%	25	
Pottery Barn/Teens/Kids	7%	25 - 100	
Radio Shack	3%	25	
Regal Theaters	7%	25	
Ross Dress for Less	7%	25	
Sears	3%	25 - 100 - 250	
Sports Authority	7%	25	
Staples	4%	25 & 100	
Talbot's	10%	25	
Wal Mart	1%	25 & 100	

Gas Stations & Hotels& Air	%	Scrip \$\$ Amounts	\$\$ Amount Purchased
BP Gas	1.0%	50	
Exxon / Mobil	0.5%	50	
Shell	0.5%	25 - 100	
Best Western	11%	25 - 100	
Hyatt Hotels	8%	25 - 100	
Marriott Hotels	11%	50 - 100 - 500	
American Airlines	7%	100 - 250	

Grocery Stores			
Giant	5%	25 - 50 - 100	
Safeway	3%	25 - 100	
Shoppers Food Warehouse	5%	20 - 50	

Restaurants			
Applebee's	7%	25	
Arby's	7%	10	
Baja Fresh	6%	25	
Baskin Robbins	8%	2	
Bob Evans	9%	10	
Boston Market	11%	10	
Burger King	3%	10	
California Pizza Kitchen	3%	10	
Cheesecake Factory	4%	25	
Chili's/Macaroni Grill	10%	25	
Chipotle Mexican Grill	9%	10	
Cold Stone Creamery	7%	10	
Cracker Barrel	8%	10	
Domino's	4%	5	
Dunkin Donuts	3%	10	
Great Harvest Bread Co.	7%	10	
Honey Baked Ham	11%	10	
Kentucky Fried Chicken	8%	5	
Legal Sea Foods	12%	25	
Noodles & Co.	7%	10	
Old Country Buffet	4%	25	
Outback/Bonefish/Carraba	4%	25	
Panera Bread	8%	10	
Papa John's	7%	10	
Pizza Hut	7%	10	
Red Lobster & Olive Garden	8%	25	
Red Robin	8%	10	
Ruby Tuesday's	7%	25	
Ruth's Chris Steakhouse	9%	50	
Starbucks	6%	10 & 25	
Subway	2%	10&50	
TGI Friday's	8%	25	
Uno's Pizzeria	11%	25	
Wendy's	3%	10	

***Note: The percentages listed on this form are the percentages that will be credited to your student account. Percentages are subject to change at any time before order is placed with the vendor by WSHS Band.

TOTAL ORDER	\$
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PURCHASER	
EMAIL OR PHONE	
STUDENT	

To Order - Email scrip.order@wshsband.org
 or Call 703-644-8486
 Make checks payable to: WSHS Band Boosters