



ER Band Newsletter

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Music Notes

By M.S. Director Christian Rupp

Hello everyone!

I hope you are enjoying your summer. It has gone by fast, and as my students know, I am already anticipating the start of another great year. I just viewed the calendar for the year and it looks even more busy with the additional weeks of vacation. (giant shouts of "Hooray" from the students reading this!) Speaking of fast, Bella just had her first birthday party!

Congratulations are in order as Mr. and Mrs. Stice are expecting their first child in March!

Now would be a good time to dust of your instrument case and play for ten minutes or so a day. It will really help us as the year starts if everyone comes to school with their chops in shape. Play scales, long tones, lip slurs or go online and find something to start working on for the school year. The most important thing is that you work your muscles back into shape so you're ready to start the school year without feeling tired when you play. Now is the time to take your instrument to Marshall Music and make sure that everything is in perfect working order, buy reeds and valve oil so you're ready to start the year. There isn't much time before our first MS band concert, so starting the year with everything you'll need will help us get started!!

Enjoy the rest of your summer, see you soon!

Mr. Rupp

President's Corner

By Kathy McWilliams

Recently, I made 15 phone calls to recruit folks to help with the Farm Market. I caught one person at home, and one person called me back. None of the other people returned my call. And it's not just me. Another booster told me she called a dozen people last week and no one called her back.

All the articles I've read about recruiting volunteers say people like to be asked face-to-face (of course). Appeals for volunteers in newsletters (like this one) don't work very well. But we can be the exception to the rule. I don't see you face-to-face very often, and there are a lot of you (about 400 band families in 5th-12th grade; over 125 in the high school marching band alone). People tell me, "Call me if you need anything," but weeks later when I need you, I can't remember who said what (please forgive me, but that's the truth).

It's important to ask ourselves **why** we (all 400 families of us) do booster work. After all, we're all busy. We could all do other things. I think we do booster work because our **kids need us** to do it. They need us to help out at everything from 5th grade rental night to the final spring concert of 12th grade where they stand proudly in their tuxes and formal dresses and receive their graduation flowers. Our kids need us to chaperone at the band lock-in, and to raise the money for their halftime show and to clean their uniforms. Our kids need us to chaperone the 8th grade trip to perform the national anthem at the Lugnuts game. Our kids need us to raise money for financial aid so no student misses band camp. Our kids need us to keep the band trailer rolling, and to give them water during hot parades. Our kids need us to provide cookies and CDs at concerts, to clap for them, take pictures, and celebrate their achievements. If band is something you value for your kids, you need to help out. We are all boosters, and we all help each other in this grand project called Eaton Rapids Band.

So how can you help? Don't wait for someone to call you. **Call us.** We have lots of small, easy jobs. We list jobs here in the newsletter every month. Please, please pick out a job to do and **call us.** Don't wait. For instance, we're dying on the Farm Market project. Sure, we get the market open each week. But instead of having time to make this market really fly with creative advertising and more vendors, we're struggling just to get Saturday volunteers (and weekday sweet corn volunteers). If you would call us (see below), that would be a huge help. Many, many thanks to those who have worked!

Farm Market

The Farm Market is open each Saturday from 9:00 – 2:00 at the corner of Main Street and Hamlin Court. In 5 weeks, we've earned about \$750. Remember to buy your veggies from us every Saturday, and ask your neighbors to do the same. We have more vendors than ever before! There are other people selling veggies, hand-made soaps, baked goods, bird houses, wind chimes, hand-made greeting cards, and more. If you know of anyone with produce or crafts to sell, tell them to contact Adam Dunn about our market.

Donate Veggies: If you have extra tomatoes, peppers, squash, fruit, etc., from your garden, please drop them off at the Farm Market on Saturday morning by 8:45am. Locally-grown items always sell well, and donated veggies are pure profit for us.

Saturday Volunteers:

There are two shifts each Saturday:

8:30 to 11:30

11:30 to 2:30

We need at least 4 people per shift, and we like a combination of students and parents. There is always a market manager there to help you (either Adam Dunn, Kathy McWilliams, Mary Merz, or Kim Wing).

Each Saturday has a band or section assigned, but you don't necessarily have to be in that group to work on that day:

- Aug. 4 – 6th Grade Band (same day as JNL picnic)
- Aug. 11 – 8th Grade Band (weekend high school band camp starts)
- Aug. 18 – 7th Grade Band (Howell Melon Festival parade)
- Aug. 25 – Alumni
- Sept. 1 – High School Flutes (Labor Day Weekend)
- Sept. 8 – High School Trumpets
- Sept. 15 – High School Low Brass
- Sept. 22 – High School Drum Line
- Sept. 29 – 5th Grade Band

Contact Adam Dunn at adunn@homeworkswildblue.com or 663-2807 to sign up.

Weekday Sweet Corn Sellers: Carolyn Rocheleau needs help selling sweet corn on weekdays (4-6pm) for the "driving home" crowd. It's easy and simple, and you can bring your kids. There are written instructions, and we're happy to show you what to do. We've earned \$1,000 on sweet corn in the past. So while we have sweet corn, let's sell it! Call Carolyn at 628-3151.

Other Needs: We need a volunteer coordinator (Adam, Carolyn, and Kathy are doing this along with their other jobs). We need someone to help us recruit more vendors. We need someone to help us promote the market with fun events (tomato tasting, tractor day, music, etc.). We need someone to copy recipes we could give away (salsa, peach crisp, etc.). And we can always use more market managers (we'll show you what to do – it's easy). If you can help in any way, contact Adam Dunn at adunn@homeworkswildblue.com or 663-2807

Scrip – A New Way to Order

by Juli Luttrell

As of **August 1**, we are changing the way we order scrip. You will place your order directly with Great Lakes Scrip instead of sending an email to us. To order, go to **glscrip.com** and go to **shopwithscrip.com** which is on their home page. You will need to register with your email address, name, address, etc. Then on the next page you will need to enter our organization number which is **6A5C6B91485**. It will ask you for a password when you register. If everyone will use the password **Greyhounds**, I can log onto your account if you need help. Then you place your order. It is very self-explanatory.

You still need to place your order by Sunday at 12:00p.m. I will send all the orders that have been placed at shopwithscrip.com by Sunday afternoon as usual. Only orders that have been entered into the program will be ordered.

This is a simple change. You already email an order, so now you will just place it directly in the company's files (and I cannot mess up an order you place yourself). You can also see how much of a percentage that retailer is giving. The band had to make this change in the way we run the scrip program. Our current software is no longer supported by the company and it has serious issues.

Please do not hesitate to contact me (Juli Luttrell at 517-663-3573 or erbandscrip@hotmail.com) if you have any questions. Please try to register and order prior to Sunday in case you do have any problems. But if I was able to figure out this program, anyone can. I am not computer literate (ask my family). Thanks for your support in this new way we order scrip.

In other scrip news, **Felpausch** is now available in \$25 and \$100 denominations with a 2% discount.

Meijer Rewards – A Change

Effective September 1st, any monthly totals for the Meijer Rewards program under \$1.00 will go to the general fund. If you have any questions, please contact Kris Ziemer at kziemer@aol.com.

Football is Coming

Now is the time to get organized for those fun football Friday nights. For each home game, we'll need 4 crews of volunteers:

- 1) Uniforms (buttons pop off before the game and need to be re-sewn);
- 2) Visitor concession stand (selling candy bars);
- 3) Snacks and water (setting up the band's section in the stands); and
- 4) Tailgate parties (setting up a grill and acting as host).

You can help with just one game, or all of them. Please contact Neva Austin on her cell phone at 517-712-2573.

Pre-Camp Rehearsals

There are rehearsals before we leave for band camp on:

Aug. 6	Monday	Leadership and new band students (bring instruments)
		Leadership reports at 5:00
		New band students report at 6:00
		Done at 7:30
Aug. 7	Tuesday	All marching band students 6:00 – 8:00
Aug. 8	Wednesday	All marching band students 6:00 – 8:00
Aug. 9	Thursday	All marching band students 6:00 – 8:00

Uniform Fittings

This is the schedule for marching band uniform fittings:

Aug. 7	Tuesday	Juniors and Seniors 5:00 – 7:00
Aug. 8	Wednesday	Sophomores 5:00 – 7:00
Aug. 9	Thursday	Freshman 5:00 – 7:00

Chaperone Meeting

There is a meeting for all band camp chaperones at 6:00 on Wednesday, Aug. 8. Meet at the high school band room.

Band Camp

by David Mestelle

Band Camp for the high school marching band is just around the corner. Here is some last minute information to make check-in and the rest of band camp as smooth as possible.

Check-in for leadership is 9:00 am on Saturday, August 11. The bus will leave at 10:00. Check-in for every one else is **8:30 am on Sunday, August 12**. The busses will leave at 9:30. The schedule for the rest of the week should be online soon.

Here is a **list** of what you will need at **check-in**

1. Completed permission form.
2. Two completed health forms
3. Student release form.
4. A zip lock bag with all medications (both prescription and over-the-counter) enclosed in their original containers. Please label the bag clearly with your name and grade.
5. Your summer uniform in a **separate bag**. (Marching shoes, white socks, polo shirt, black shorts, and, if necessary, a hair tie)
6. Instrument and music.
7. 1 carry-on bag (back pack or small duffle)
8. 1 suitcase
9. Bedding (pillow and sleeping bag or pillow and bed linens)
10. Sack lunch for arrival at camp.

Packing Checklist For Band Camp

- Medication in original container with label and packed in zip-lock bag labeled with name on it.
- Sleeping bag and pillow or bed linens (no bed linens furnished)
- Towels and washcloths
- Lightweight jacket
- Rain gear
- Summer wear (**school dress code will be enforced**)
- Jeans and sweatshirts
- Socks- bring plenty in case of rain! **Socks are mandatory for marching!!!**
- Sunscreen, sunglasses, hat
- Toothbrush, toothpaste
- Brush, shampoo, soap, bandaids, ace wrap-other personal grooming items
- Water bottle

__ Comfortable shoes- bring an extra pair in case of rain. **Tennis/cross training shoes only on marching field. No sandals at field rehearsals.**

__ Snacks (minimal) – Camp store will be available for snacks, pop and water

__ Bug spray

__ Alarm clock

__ Pencils

__ Music, lyre, flip folder, reeds, valve oil, etc.

__ Instruments, sticks or flag equipment

__ Swim suit, beach towel. **No 2 piece swim suits allowed – Camp policy**

__ Flashlight

__ Dirty laundry bag

__ Summer uniform (see below)

__ Spending money (needed for camp store only)

__ Small room fan (optional)

__ Sack lunch for arrival at band camp

No televisions, refrigerators, video games, video game equipment, or stereos allowed at camp.

Please remember to label all personal belongings! Due to the size of the band, no stuffed animals, room decorations, rugs, stereos, boom boxes will be allowed.

***** Bring summer uniform to check –in station in a separate bag. Must be confirmed at your check-in station. Do not pack summer uniform inside your luggage. Summer uniform includes:**

Greyhound polo shirt

Black docker style shorts

White socks

Marching shoes

Hair ties (all hair must be pulled away from face)

All necessary forms are available on the web site (www.erbands.org) in both Word and Adobe formats. We will have extra copies of the forms at check-in but things will go faster if you are able to fill them out ahead of time. You will need to complete a permission form, two copies of the health form, and a release form.

Parents are encouraged to send mail and/or care packages to their students while they are at band camp. The address is

Students Name

Eaton Rapids High School Band

c/o Covenant Hills Camp

P.O. Box 96

10359 E. Farrand Rd.
Otisville MI 48463

Please keep in mind that Friday will be the last day we will be there to get our mail. Also be sure to plan on coming to visit Friday evening. The band will show off what they have learned at 6:00 pm followed by a talent show at 8:00 pm.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the band camp coordinators (Diana Mecham 517-582-0513 or David Mestelle 517-663-7115) or one of the band directors. We are all looking forward to a great week.

Next Booster Meeting

Tuesday, August 14th, at 7pm in the high school band room.

ER Band Website

Don't forget to check out the recently updated ER Band Website at www.erbands.org for all the latest band news!