

Beech High School

Buccaneer Brigade

Director: Creighton Miller

Percussion: Tim Fritz

Director: Adam Clark

Guard: Eric Perkins & Rachael Herndon

Additional Staff: Regina Martin

Fundamental Instructor: TJ Taylor

Booster Officers

Band Booster officers are nominated each March by a nominating committee and are selected each April for the following term of office. This year's officers are:

President president@beechband.org	Tina Wagnon	533-9960 (C)
Vice President vp@beechband.org	Donna Jennings	727-2490 (C)
Assistant Vice-President asstvp@beechband.org	Mike McCurdy	668-3642 (C)
Treasurer treasurer@beechband.org	Scot Thomas	859-2715 (H) 957-7547 (C)
Secretary secretary@beechband.org	Jacki McReynolds	243-8165 (C)
Communications admin@beechband.org	Bob McLaurine	855-2331 (H) 910-386-9834 (C)
	Becky McLaurine	364-5132 (C)
Assistant Vice-President Chairperson	Jimbo Staton	642-4249 (C)
Treasurer Chairperson	Tim Goff	478-1987 (C)
Band Mom regina@beechband.org	Regina Martin	822-0791 (H) 957-7819 (C)

Boosters' Email: **admin@beechband.org**

Band Webpage: **www.beechband.org**

2010-11 Proposed Band Budget:

The State of Tennessee does not fund any band activity other than classroom instruction. Therefore in order for the band to perform in competitions, at half time during away games and other such functions the band booster organization sets a yearly budget to fund the expenses of these performances. A fair share amount of \$727 (based on 67 students) has been determined for each participating student. **This amount does not include personal items required such as shoes, gloves, band shirts or garment bags.** A payment schedule has been included below. Please see the Financial Obligation Form for more details and opportunities to reduce your out-of-pocket expense.

Payment Schedule

Date	Amount
May 17, 2010 (parent meeting)	\$125
June 15, 2010	125
July 19, 2010 (begin band camp)	125
September 20, 2010	125
October 30, 2010	47
December 30, 2010	60
February 15, 2011	40
March 15, 2011	80
Total	\$727

Please make all checks for Fair Share payable to Beech Band Boosters.

Class Fee:

There is a separate class fee of \$100 that is collected by the school office.

Important: This check needs to be made payable to Beech High School.

If you have not met the obligations in a timely manner, report cards may be withheld until these obligations are met. All students wishing to participate in winter activities understand that all fall fees must be paid in full prior to participating in those activities. Students not paid in full will not receive their awards at the Band Awards Banquet in the spring.

Band Director's Philosophy

The Beech Buccaneer Brigade is built upon pride, musical excellence and professionalism. We strive to provide each band student with the best musical education possible. It is our hope that each student will receive the most pleasurable experience possible and will be a well-rounded person as a result of his or her experience in the band program.

IMPORTANT FACTORS FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE BRIGADE

GOOD BAND LEADERS: We have two excellent field commanders, band, guard and percussion captions and section leaders. They are experienced musicians who want what is best for the Buccaneer Brigade, and we are sure this leadership will become apparent as the year continues.

GOOD MUSICIANS: Our musicians are quite good. The returning band students bring experience and musical leadership to the program while our new band members bring a lot of musical ability and enthusiasm. We are looking forward to a strong band this year.

CARING DIRECTORS: We as directors, are always striving for what is best for the ENTIRE band program. We practice an "open door" policy. Students and parents are free to call us at school to discuss any situation deemed important to the welfare of a student or the overall program.

GOOD FOLLOWERS: In any organization, leadership is important. However, everyone cannot be the band director, or the field commander, or the section leader. In order to help the Buccaneer Brigade succeed, we have to remember that being a good follower is just as important as being a stronger leader because being a good follower teaches leadership.

POSITIVE ATTITUDES: It is important to remember that decisions are made with the welfare of the entire program in mind. Personal likes and/or dislikes interfere with the positive attitudes of students. We must strive to remember that we succeed as a team and/or fail as a team and that the personal likes and dislikes have to be left behind. A good thing to remember when thinking of decisions made on behalf of the Buccaneer Brigade is "the good of the whole group is of utmost importance."

Uniforms

Summer uniforms include white shorts, shoes and socks, and an “official” blue summer shirt. The shirt will be available for purchase at band camp. The marching shoes are available for order immediately, but you will need to contact Regina Martin to be sized. Band shoes occasionally vary from your standard size. **The shorts will need to be purchased by the student. The shorts must not be shorter than 1 inch above the knee. These shorts are subject to approval.** This uniform will be worn for summer and early fall performances, and will be worn by all marching members and percussionists, as well as all pit personnel. Color guard members will wear the same style shirt, only in Beech Orange.

The official Buccaneer Brigade uniform will be issued to students who have met all financial obligations. These uniforms will be checked out prior to each performance, and will be checked back in after that performance concludes prior to student’s departure. All needed repairs (i.e., missing buttons, etc.) should be reported immediately to the Uniform Committee chairperson.

Students will need to wear a pair of gym shorts, black socks, and one of the approved gray t-shirts to performances where the official Buccaneer Brigade uniform is to be worn. This portion of the uniform is to be worn beneath the official uniform and will insure its proper appearance. Any student not wearing the appropriate attire will not be allowed to attend the function.

At any function, students not wearing the appropriate dress will be asked to remain in the official uniform until the group returns to school.

Required dress for concerts is black skirts or pants with solid white blouses or shirts.

Uniform Contract

Students will be given a uniform responsibility contract listing all parts to the uniform and their price. Students must sign and have a parent sign this contract prior to the uniform’s issuance. Any item on the uniform that is damaged, misplaced, or improperly altered will be the responsibility of that student and his/her family. Failure to comply will result in the withholding of academic records.

C H A I N O F C O M M A N D

DIRECTORS

FIELD COMMANDERS - the student directors of the marching band on the field or in the parades. They are the highest levels of student leadership.

BAND CAPTAINS - are in charge of taking attendance and making certain that all members are present. They also make sure that all members know where and when they are to be in place or at a specified position. Band Captains are in command of the entire group in the absence of Field Commanders or Directors.

LINE CAPTAINS - are in charge of making sure that all members are dressed properly and have their equipment in proper playing condition. All infractions of dress or preparedness need to be recorded and reported to the Director. Line Captains are in command of the entire group in the absence of the Band Captains.

SECTION LEADERS - are the leaders of the individual instrumental sections of the band. They are responsible for teaching the music and drill to the members of their respective sections. Section Leaders need to help every member of their sections perform to the best of his or her ability.

STUDENT REPS - are responsible for attending all Band Booster meetings and relaying information from students to boosters and from boosters to students. They are to keep the boosters informed on what the students feel are the organization's priorities, and they are to keep the students informed of up-and-coming booster functions. Attendance at all booster meetings is a requirement for student reps.

Grading Policy

Grades in band are formulated by a combination of scale tests, playing tests, written tests, and student performance at rehearsals, concerts, competitions, festivals, football games, parades, and mandatory band booster functions.

Scales tests will be graded as follows:

- 100-scale played perfectly on day of test
- 90-scale played perfectly on second attempt
- 80-scale played perfectly on third attempt
- 70- scale played perfectly on fourth attempt
- 0- scale not played perfectly after four attempts, or student never made an effort to make up scale test.

or:

- 100-scale played perfectly on day of test
- 90-scale played with 1 mistake
- 80-scale played with 2 mistakes
- 70-scale played with 3 mistakes
- 60-scale played with 4 mistakes
- 0-scale not played correctly, or student never made an effort to make up scale test

Written tests will be graded on a percent scale as in other school classes.

All students, including percussion, are responsible for scale work in the Beech High School Band

Program unless special arrangements have been made with the Director.

Students will receive 100 points for each event that they attend if they meet the following requirements:

- 1) They are on time
- 2) They are prepared
- 3) They are dressed properly
- 4) They perform to the best of their ability

The only acceptable reasons for missing an event are a death or serious illness in the family, or the student's own illness accompanied by a doctor's note. Excuses such as didn't feel well, going out of town, work, vacations, etc., will not be accepted. The Director must be advised of any absence in writing at least two days prior to the event. A "0" will be given for an unexcused absence.

Note: All musicians are to have and possess his/her own copy of all music. It is the responsibility of each musician to obtain the music at the time it is passed out, or contact the director for instructions. Any student that cannot turn in music on the turn-in date will be charged accordingly.

All students will be required to do a final exam in band for each semester. Generally, the exam will consist of all scales studied previously. No band student is exempt from the band final exam.

Any 3 of the following infractions will cause a student's grade to drop 10 points:

1. Being late (unexcused)
2. Not using proper posture
3. Not paying attention
4. Playing or talking while a director is on the podium
5. Not warming up before or with the class
6. Not having music
7. Instrument not working, forgot instrument, no reed, oil, etc.
8. Using gum, candy or drinks during class.

REQUIREMENTS FOR BAND LETTER AND AWARDS

Guard:

- 1) No unexcused absences from rehearsals.
- 2) No more than 2 excused absences from rehearsals (note from parent required - doctor appointment, family emergency, etc.
- 3) Perfect attendance at all performances-no exceptions
- 4) The Guard unit must make a Superior score at the MTSBOA Marching Festival
- 5) Fair share to the Band Boosters is paid in full.

Band (Marching and Concert):

- 1) You must be a member of Marching and Concert Band.
- 2) No unexcused absences from rehearsals.
- 3) No more than 2 excused absences from rehearsals (note from parent required - doctor appointment, family emergency, etc.
- 4) Perfect attendance at all performances-no exceptions
- 5) The band unit must make a Superior score at MTSBOA Marching Festival and Concert Festival.
- 6) Each member must either be accepted to Mid-state Band or Jazz Band or receive at least a "II" at Solo and Ensemble
- 7) Fair share to the Band Boosters is paid in full.

Jazz Band:

- 1) No absences from rehearsals.
- 2) No more than 2 excused absences from rehearsals (note from parent required - doctor appointment, family emergency, etc.
- 3) Perfect attendance at all performances-no exceptions.
- 4) Fair share to the Band Boosters is paid in full.

BAND ROOM RULES

The band room is not to be used as a break room during the school day. Enter the band room during the school day only to take care of the business of getting your instrument out and ready for rehearsal.

No gum, candy, breath mints, cough drops, or liquid refreshments are permitted at any time. (Cough drops are only permitted with a note from your parents.)

You must be ready for class to begin at 5 minutes after the bell. After the conductors cue for rehearsal to begin, all students must sit in **CONCERT POSITION**. If the director or instructor steps off the podium, you may talk softly, but must remain in **CONCERT POSITION**.

Blasting horns, pounding on percussion equipment, playing an instrument that is not yours, loud screaming, yelling, foul language, running, fighting (play and real), horse-play, or disrespect to teachers and staff, is not allowed at any time.

All students, including percussionists, must sit in a chair during rehearsals and class. Percussionists, except set-drummers, must stand while playing.

All students, including percussionists, must sit in a chair with feet flat on the floor.

There is to be no practicing of or discussing of individual parts during rehearsal.

There is to be no discussion of band room rules or grading policy after rehearsal starts or after class begins. If you have a question, see the director after rehearsal or class.

There is to be no lounging, meetings, or private talks in the instrument storage room or practice rooms.

Do not get out of your chair unless given permission to do so.

You must bring your instrument to class for every rehearsal. If it is in the shop, you must show the director the claim check, and have your mouthpiece, reeds, ligature, oil, etc. If you are too sick to perform, you must go to the office.

BALL GAMES

- * Be in uniform at all times. You must keep your jacket buttoned up, unless told otherwise. You must wear the gray band t-shirt under your jacket.
- * No drinks, food, or gum in stands at any time.
- * Always have a hand on your horn. Do not put horn down at any time.
- * A break may be taken during third quarter. Do not leave the stadium
- * No non-band personnel in the band section at any time.
- * Be ready to play at any time. Keep your horns warm.
- * Have your music folder with you at all times.
- * No public display of affection
- * All rules in the student handbook apply at all band functions.
- * Act in a dignified and professional manner at all times.
- * No dancing in the stands.
- * No playing, except as a band

BAND TRIPS

Note: You must remain in full uniform or in proper attire until given permission from the directors to do otherwise. When a director is not present, chaperones are to be given complete authority at all times.

1. Only radios, tape players, and CD players with headphones are permitted
2. No food, gum, or cokes permitted on bus.
3. No loud, excessive screaming, yelling, or singing.
4. Do not stand up at any time while the bus is moving. You must sit properly in the bus, that is, with knees pointing towards the front of the bus, feet on the floor and no legs in the aisle.
5. Do not leave the bus until given permission to do so.
6. Sit in the same seat coming and going. Do not ask to change.
7. No female-male combination of students allowed sitting in the same seat.
8. No student is allowed to change out of uniform until instructed to do so by a director.
9. No student is allowed on the buses without a chaperone present.
10. Do not sit in the back seats of the bus as these are for chaperones.
11. Do not speak, shout, or make gestures out of the bus windows at any time. Do not wave hands or arms out of the window.
12. The director and chaperones are to be given complete authority at all times.

After a trip, the instruments must be put away, the trailer must be clean, and the buses must be checked. No student is allowed to leave the school until the directors dismiss the band.

RULES FOR CHAPERONES

Chaperones must report at call time.

- * Sign In
- * Help load equipment
- * Receive Chaperone badge
- * Acquire bus assignments
- * Receive any last minute instructions from the director

Chain of command is as follows:

- 1) Principal
- 2) Director
- 3) Booster Executive
- 4) Chaperones

EXCEPT IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, THE DIRECTOR IS TO BE NOTIFIED BEFORE ANY DECISIONS ARE MADE.

Chaperones shall be assigned seating on the bus and in the stadium so they are positioned around the band as necessary. The Chaperone Committee Chairperson shall designate seating.

No band member is allowed to leave on his/her own or with a parent or any other person unless prior written notice is given to the Director and permission is received. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

All rules in the Student Handbook that are in effect for the students in and during school shall also be in effect for all Band functions.

All chaperones must perform final bus check, turn in badge, and sign out before leaving school property.

No chaperone may use tobacco products or alcohol around students per School Board regulations.

BEHAVIORAL CONTRACT

- 1) I have read and understand all of the rules as set forth by the Directors for conduct in the band room, at ball games, festivals, competitions, and on the buses.
- 2) I understand that if I do not follow the rules as set forth by the Directors, I will be removed from the buses and stands, will be allowed to travel to events only by myself or with my parents, and will be allowed to participate only in warm-ups and show performance.

SIGNED _____ Date _____
(Student signature)

SIGNED _____ Date _____
(Parent's signature)