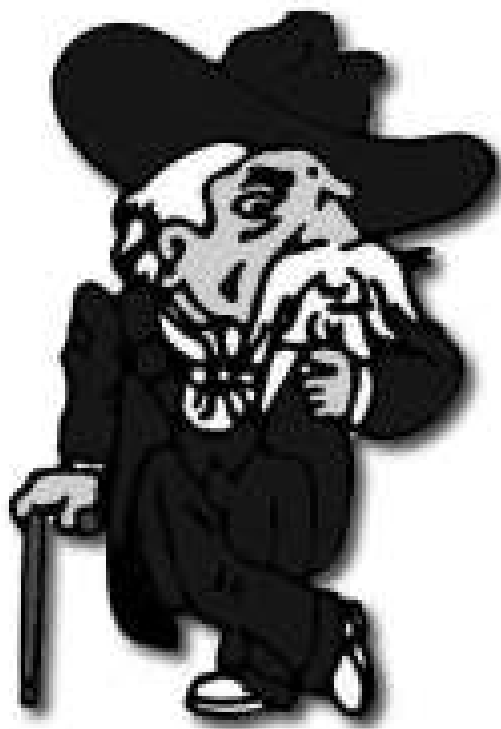


Henderson County High School Band



2008-2009 Handbook

www.hendersoncountyband.com

***Henderson County
High School Band
Handbook
2008-2009***

The Purpose of this handbook is to serve as an operational guide for students, parents, and staff. This handbook will outline a systematic approach to the philosophy and organization of the HCHS Band Program.

Whenever any questions may arise, please check this document first. If your question is not answered, please call 831-8800 x.1075 or email steven.page@henderson.kyschools.us and speak to the Band Director. You are also welcome to call Mr. Page's cell phone, 559-5682.

Keeping this handbook and other handouts class in one file or notebook will provide you with a reference throughout the year for all HC Band events, as well as Henderson County Band Booster events and activities.

The band program at Henderson County High School holds a very important role in both the school and the community. The band is the most visible organization in the school and it is each member's responsibility to exhibit a high standard of musical excellence, maturity, and professionalism. Appearances at concerts, sporting events, parades, contests, and community and civic events add color and life to the school and the entire Henderson County community.

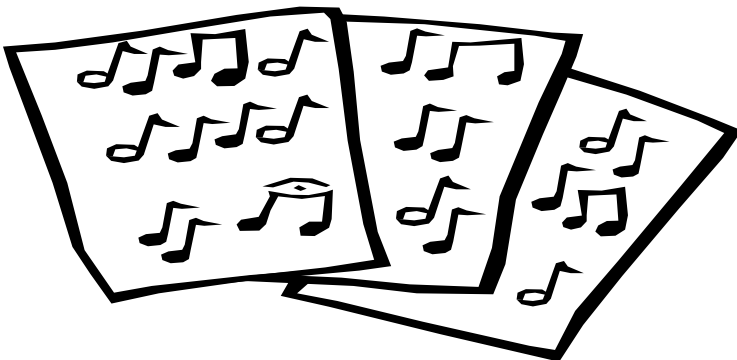
The primary role, however, of the band program is music education through performance. Music is a unique combination of science and art. It can inspire both intellectual and emotional stimulation. The curriculum will seek to instill an awareness of music's important role in the enrichment of the human spirit.

PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF THE BAND PROGRAM

- To teach music through performance.

SECONDARY OBJECTIVES OF THE BAND PROGRAM

- To develop performance skills on various wind and percussion instruments and pageantry arts.
- To provide for the musical needs of the school and community.
- To teach an appreciation for aesthetics in music.
- To acquaint students with different periods and styles of music and how they relate to their culture.
- To provide group experiences leading to the development of lifelong relationships and self-discipline.
- To promote and foster good citizenship and virtues of ethical and moral behavior.



All rights go along with responsibilities. When you want to have the right of driving a car, you assume the responsibility of not running over stuff and paying attention when you drive.

There are many “rights” that go along with being a member of the HC Band. To you, the band might be:

- learning & mastering an instrument
- a college scholarship
- free admission to ball games
- the thrill of playing in front of huge crowds
- a chance to learn & play good music
- a fairly easy high school credit
- a big room to hang-out in before & after school
- a line on your college application
- fun times with your friends on weekends, etc.

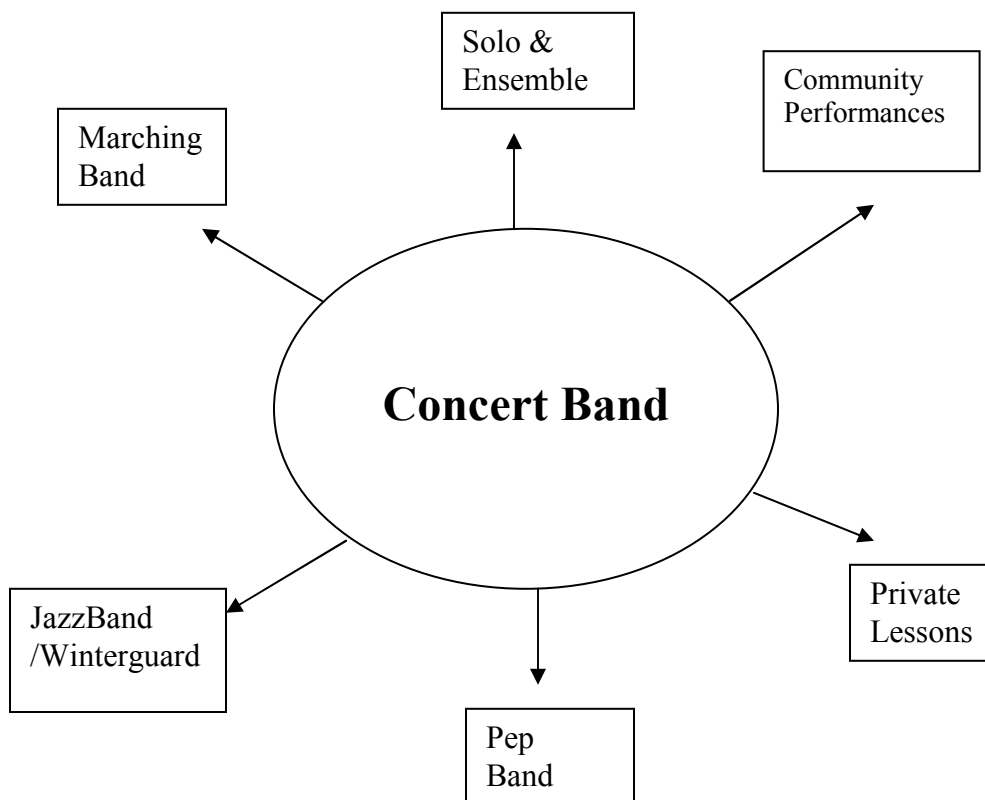
There are responsibilities that go along with these rights.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BAND MEMBER

1. Be on time to all rehearsals and performances. This includes having all equipment and materials in working order.
2. Each member is responsible for his or herself. Don't assume that someone else has your stuff!
3. Make a real effort to become a better performer everyday.
4. Plan ahead and do not “double book” yourself. Keep a personal calendar and use it!
5. Be responsible for your actions.
6. Be helpful to fellow members: you all depend on each other!
7. During a rehearsal only speak when invited.
8. Avoid negative chatter or gossip.
9. Respect staff, parents, chaperones, bus drivers and directors.
10. Keep band room neat and clean.

BAND CURRICULUM IN BRIEF

The following diagram represents the hierarchy of the HC Band program. You will note that the Concert Band/Symphonic Band/Wind Ensemble Band is the nucleus from which all other facets stem. The stronger our Concert program is, the stronger all other areas may become. ***Each spoke is important to how well the wheel/program spins.***



GRADES

Each nine-weeks will have a specific grading outline. The outline is the official grading plan, use it and keep up with it! This will include playing tests, daily participation grades, music quizzes, pencil checks, and performance opportunities.

Playing Tests/Pencil Checks/Music Quizzes:

There will be playing tests given throughout the semester. Grades will be based on knowledge of music and quality of musicianship and performance. These may be live tests, or recorded. There will be a playing test in August and January to determine chair placement for concert band.

Daily Participation Grades:

Daily class grades are based on performance, participation, and attendance. This also carries over to after school events including rehearsals and sectionals. In a group education setting, such as band, everyone's effort is crucial!

Performance Opportunities:

Performances are much like tests, they are the culminating experience of the different units covered in class and should represent the highest standard of achievement. ***Attendance at all performances is absolutely vital to the success of the band and your personal growth as a musician.***

The band schedule is given to you at the beginning of the year so that you can plan around these events. If a problem arises, the situation must be discussed with the director as soon as the issue is known. Waiting until the last minute to inform everyone is NOT ACCEPTABLE!

CONCERT BAND/SYMPHONIC BAND/WIND ENSEMBLE

The concert band setting is the most important part of the Henderson County Band Program. Although membership is open to anyone, chair placements are held once in August and again in January. These ensembles will perform at least twice in the Fall Semester and twice in the Spring Semester. Performances are mandatory and count towards the students' grade. Students are expected to purchase any necessary accessories (e.g. mutes) that the literature may require.

Typical performance schedule for the concert bands:

- Autumn Concert-October
- Christmas Concert – December
- KMEA Concert Festival – March
- Spring Concert – May

Concert Dress:

Dress for all concert band performances will be all black or uniforms. Black T-shirts are not acceptable. When we perform, we need to look our best. Please do your part. When we perform in uniform, black socks and shoes are needed. We will not wear hats, gloves, or gauntlets when in uniform for concert band.

*See the marching band portion of the handbook for general guidelines to be followed regarding uniforms.

Sectionals:

Throughout the year, 2 or 3 sectional rehearsals will be held after school. A common date will be set and attendance is expected from every member of the section.

Materials:

Each year, the bands will cover almost 15 pieces of music and each student is responsible for the original copies. Keeping us with this music is of huge importance because it is your "textbook" for the class.

Fees:

There is a \$60 fee for students that are enrolled in band, but do not participate in marching band. This money goes to cover sectionals, music, equipment, and uniforms. Paid fees will

COLONELS BRIGADE & GUARD

The marching band aspect of the HC Band program is the most visible part of the program, possibly the most visible and noticed part of the entire Henderson County Schools. Performing as a marching band, the CB & G will play at all home football games and typically four or five contests. Full group after-school rehearsals will take place on Tuesday and Thursday and last until 7:00. Frequently, there will also be rehearsals on Monday OR Friday. Students are expected to be at all practices and performances. The Band Director should be notified IN ADVANCE if a student is going to be absent from or late to a rehearsal. Absences from rehearsals are unexcused unless due to (a) personal illness, (b) death in the family, (c) an emergency or (d) special permission obtained by the director in advance. DO NOT make appointments during a scheduled rehearsal. Students are expected to meet the demands of marching band. They will be asked to memorize music and learn drill. If a rehearsal is missed without prior permission, that member is subject to be taken out of the next performance and/or miss the next trip.

Band Camp:

Band Camp is held the two weeks before school starts on most years. It is required for all Colonels Brigade & Guard members. During camp, students will meet daily at HCHS according to a set schedule (students will have a copy of the schedule.) This is an intense period of instruction and is vital to the production of an outstanding performance.

Thousands of dollars are spent each year to hire a top-notch teaching staff for band camp. Because of this, your attention and attendance is crucial. Please do everything that you can to be present at each moment of rehearsal!

The drill and music are the focus of the camp. However, much is gained through interpersonal relationships and a sense of unity and cooperation. It is upon this foundation that the polished, finished product is built.

There will be a final picnic for family and friends held on the Friday during the last week of camp. This will be a time to perform what has been learned so far and to share a meal together.

Drum Major:

Students interested in being drum major will audition in the spring semester. Drum majors must possess a high level of musicianship and demonstrate strong leadership skills. Drum majors are responsible for conducting the band during public performances, conducting during rehearsals, managing sound equipment for the Band Director, and accepting awards at contests.

Football Games:

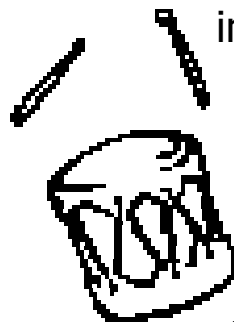
The Marching Band generally attends all home football games. It is our role to help contribute to the spirit and excitement of the game. The band will perform the national anthem and state song before the game and a half-time show. During the game, the band will perform as much as possible to add to the atmosphere. The band normally receives the third quarter off to get a drink or use the restroom. **This right will be taken away if students can not handle the responsibility of returning before the 3rd quarter is over.** The band will march to the stadium as a unit and will march back to the band room as a unit.

Rules for Football Games

1. Each section will be assigned a designated area to sit.
2. Members are to sit with their section only.
3. Non -band members will NOT be allowed in the band seating area.
4. No food in the band seating area, water only.
5. No un-sportsman like conduct.
6. Pay attention to the game and the Band Director to know when and what to play.

Section Leaders:

Section Leaders will be chosen by application process by the Band Director. Section leaders will check for memorization, assist in teaching sectionals, assist in setting drill, monitor behavior of his or her section and serve as a role model for his or her section. Section leaders should be the first to learn their music, strive to improve daily, be patient with others, and be kind and respectful to everyone. Section leaders may refer problems to the Band Director or staff.



Fees:

There is a \$360 fee for membership in the marching band. This money goes to cover staff, equipment, uniforms, meals, and costs associated with travel. If a student is unable to fulfill this financial responsibility, it is their responsibility to discuss this with the band director. Additional children within the same family & 8th graders receive a discount.

JAZZ BAND

Jazz Band is an auditioned group open to any students, Grade 9-12. Auditions for jazz band will take place in November. Jazz Band will meet two days a week. The Jazz Band will perform in December, at a Spring Concert, and travel to a Jazz Band Festival in the spring.

PEP BAND

The HC Pep Band typically performs at 8 home basketball games, 4 girls and 4 boys. Should either varsity team advance to tournament play, the Pep Band will travel to support the team. In December, the band students will be divided into the maroon band and the gray band. You must make arrangements to be there on your band's 4 game nights. If you can't make it to your game, it is your responsibility to find a substitute from your instrument and communicate that to Mr. Page in advance. This policy remains in effect for the post-season games.

Pep Band Rules

1. Be on time.
2. Members are responsible for their music, don't lose your flip folder!
3. Members are to stand in designated area with their section.
4. Only sportsman like behavior is acceptable.
5. *The band room will close 30 minutes after the end of the game. Make sure you have made arrangements for a ride home.*

WINTER GUARD

The winter guard program is designed to offer a challenge and a competitive setting for guard performers away from marching season. Auditions will be held in December and the groups will begin practice following Christmas. All practices for Winterguard are mandatory.

The season runs from December through mid-April. There will be a "Winter Camp" in December usually during the Christmas Break. This is usually a weekend and is a time of intense instruction. Failure to attend scheduled practices will result in the removal of membership. There is a \$250 fee to be a member of the winter program. This money goes to cover staff, uniforms, equipment, and contest fees.

The HC Winterguard is a competitive unit and is a member of the Tri-State Circuit for the Pageantry Arts. www.tristatecircuit.com The unit will compete in 4-5 Tri-State Circuit competitions per season. Shows are only on Saturdays.

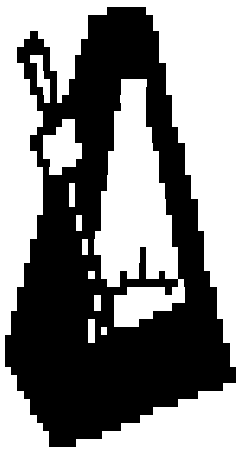
PRIVATE LESSONS

Private lessons are the single most important thing a student can do to improve as a musician. It is hoped that every student will take private lessons. The band director

will provide teacher information during August. Finding time to study with an expert on your instrument can be the best thing you do during high school. For the '08-'09 school year, the boosters will subsidize lessons, most of which will be offered in the band room during school time! Henderson County is one of only 3 schools IN KENTUCKY that has this opportunity. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT!!! These will be \$12-\$20 or 30 minutes, however, the boosters will pay for \$2-\$10 depending on the lesson and the student will only pay \$10! This is quite an offer and it is hoped that many students will take advantage of this great opportunity.

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE

KMEA sponsors a district level solo and ensemble festival each spring. Students wishing to participate in this event must sign up by the middle of January. The band director will assist in finding music and give all the help needed in terms of rehearsal. If you have registered to perform in an ensemble, you will be given the opportunity to work on the piece during class time once each week. If playing a solo, it is hoped that each student will take advantage of one of the school accompanists. The HCHS Band Boosters will pay the registration fees and a portion of the accompanist cost. If a student signs up and then does not perform, they will be asked to pay the registration fee.



UNIFORMS

Each marching band member will be issued a HC Band Uniform. Uniforms are a significant expense for the band (\$25,000-\$30,000) and how we care for them is a reflection of the band program. Students are expected to hang uniforms neatly and treat them like significant investments.

HC Band Uniform Requirements-

- ✓ HC Marching Band show shirt- These shirts are printed each year and are typically specific to the marching show concept. *Each Colonel's Brigade & Guard*

student receives a shirt as part of their fees. You might want to purchase another...

- ✓ Socks- Students (excluding color guard) will need to wear white or black socks for full uniform performances. Students are responsible for their own socks. (Black pants=black socks, white pants=white socks)
- ✓ White Shoes- All students will the opportunity during band camp to purchase a pair of white marching shoes. Black shoes are provided by the band. Keeping them clean are each student's responsibility. (Black pants=black shoes, white pants=white shoes)
- ✓ Gloves- These will be available from the "uniform parents."

Uniform Rules:

1. Only water can be drunk in uniform. No pop, food, or candy.
2. The uniform tops are to be all on or all off. You cannot wear them around unzipped. The director will decide when it is appropriate to remove the tops. Because of this option, everyone must have their show shirt on underneath.
3. To show respect and dignity for the uniform, there can be no running, jumping around, PDA, or yelling when in uniform. Each moment that we are wearing the uniform, we are "performing" as a member of the HC Band.
4. Hang your uniform correctly on the clothes hangers that are provided.

CPW: (Casual Performance Wear)

Many times throughout the year the Colonel's Brigade & Guard will have performances where full uniforms may be impractical due to weather conditions or performance situations. During these times, the Colonels Brigade & Guard will wear official Casual Performance Wear. Casual Performance Wear Shall Consist of:

- ✓ HC Marching Band Show Shirt - Shirts are to be tucked into the pants at all times. They should be cleaned before each event.
- ✓ Khaki Shorts or blue jeans, depending on the weather. Everyone should be dressed the same; therefore this will be announced by the director.
- ✓ White Socks
- ✓ Tennis Shoes

Concert Uniform Requirements-

At all concert performances, the HC Bands will wear all black. Black pants or acceptable length skirt, solid black shirts, black socks, and black shoes. Bright tennis shoes are NOT appropriate.

TRIPS

Throughout the year, the band will need to travel quite frequently. Because of away football games, post-season basketball games, contests, concerts, honor bands, etc. the HC band leaves campus 20-30 times each year. Because of the different purposes

of the travel, some specific rules apply to each function. However, these go along with each trip:

Band Trip Rules

1. An adult chaperone will be on each bus, they should be respected.
2. Students may not change buses on a trip.
3. Be on time for each departure.
4. Follow Bus Driver's directions.
5. Buses are to be kept clean. Make sure that you remove all personal items and pick up any trash.
6. Cars will not be used. All members are expected to ride the bus.
7. All school rules and regulations apply on the trip.
8. Only exemplary behavior is acceptable from the HC Band. Members are to be on their best behavior at all times. Become a great representative of the Henderson County High School Band. act as such while riding
9. Ladies and gentlemen that cannot act as such while riding together on a bus will be separated.
10. No extreme noise will be tolerated on the buses or at any other inappropriate place such as motels or warm-up areas.
11. The band will travel as a unit on all trips. If a member has a good reason to return from the trip by other means, that student's parents must submit a written note to the bus chaperone.
12. Students will not be allowed in the hotel room of a student of different gender.



HONOR BAND OPPORTUNITIES

In order to provide an extra incentive and challenge to students, there are 4 honor bands that students can audition/apply for through-out the year. These are all highly encouraged and supported as good educational opportunities & a lot of fun!

All-State Band:

This is one of the highest honors available to a high school musician. Competition for this band is very tough; Just being able to get through the audition music is often a challenge! Only 60% make the second round and less than 30% of that actually make the group. The event takes place in early- February. First round auditions for all-state band will be in mid-November. The final round of auditions will occur in December. Audition music may be obtained from the Band Director in early September.

District 2 Honor Band:

Each year KMEA District 2 holds an honor band clinic that usually occurs in late January. Auditions will be held earlier in the month. Students wishing to audition must sign-up for an audition time in December. Henderson County has typically

placed 30-40 students in this band, more than any other school. Typically 50% of the students that audition make this band and the music is usually playable by most high school students.

University of Evansville Band Clinic:

Each year UofE holds a band clinic in late-May. Students wishing to participate must fill out an application in April. Members are selected by director nomination, not audition; however, there is an audition once there for chair placement. Students that are selected stay on campus at UofE and have meals in the UofE cafeteria. This is a great event that is close to home. The Honor Band is led by a guest conductor, typically one of the very best in the country.

Quad-State Senior High Honor Band:

Each year MSU holds a band clinic in late February. Students wishing to participate must fill out an application in December. Members are selected by director nomination, not audition. However, there is an audition once there for chair placement in one of 4 bands. All 4 bands are good experiences, but the top bands are outstanding! Members will need to also provide money for registration, meals, and two nights in a hotel.

SPRING TRIP

As funding and interest allow the HC Band will take a Spring Trip in April or May each year. The Band Director will determine the location and nature of the trip. There are many positive results of a trip:

- It allows the band to experience some of the great music ensembles of the world. In the past, the band has been to performances by the Cleveland Orchestra!
- The band is able play in a higher-level concert atmosphere than at local festival. The feedback is from nationally renowned conductors and the other bands are some of the nations finest.
- Spending time away from home builds closer relationships with other band members and it helps foster personal discipline and responsibility.

Although much of the trip is student funded, the boosters will help cover some of the expenses to help offset the cost of travel. A rough planning guide would include a smaller, less expensive trip (1-2 days) on even numbered years and a larger, more extensive trip (3-4 days) on odd numbered years.

Projected trip possibility 2009: St. Louis or Cincinnati

Estimated cost per student: \$200-250

In the past HC Bands have traveled to:

2006-Gatlinburg

Smoky Mountain Music Festival, Dollywood

2007-Cleveland

Cleveland Orchestra, Rock & Roll Museum, Cedar Point

2008-Florida

Epcot Parade, Festival Disney, Magic Kingdom, Animal Kingdom, Blizzard Beach

FUNDRAISING

Each year the Henderson County Band Boosters are charged with the responsibility of raising the funds necessary to maintain the quality of the Henderson County Band Program. Although HCHS and the Henderson County Board of Education do contribute financially to the band program, it is less than 20% of the needed funding. This means that equipment and instruction are funded by the Henderson County Band Boosters. It is critical to our success as an organization that we ALL DO OUR PART to raise the necessary funds. Because of different neighborhoods, family dynamics, and other opportunities, the ability of some students to fundraise is easier than for others. For each fundraiser, **there will be a set minimum that each student is needed to do**, extra above that may vary depending on the student. There will always be incentives and prize programs, but the best motivation should be to support the organization that is so important to our lives and community.

For the 2008-2009 school year, the following fundraising programs are planned:

August-Cookie Dough

September-Corporate Sponsor Drive

November-Fruit

January-Patron Drive

February-Sales Brochure

March-Peeler Cards

April-BBQ

There will be other opportunities that do not involve individual selling but they do need student's & parent's time will be:

Chili Cook-off-January

Bingo-year round

Concessions-football season

BAND BANQUET

Each May the Henderson County Band Boosters sponsor a Band Banquet in honor of HC Band Seniors and students. All Henderson band members are invited to attend this event and it is hoped that you families will be able to attend as well. Students with paid fees will not pay admission.

MEMBER RECOGNITION: Each first year member with perfect attendance at performances will be awarded a varsity letter for his or her service to the HC Band. Bars will be awarded to students completing their 2nd, 3rd, & 4th years.

SENIOR RECOGNITION: Each senior will be presented with a gift in appreciation for his or her commitment to the HC Band Program.

ACHEIVEMENT AWARDS: Students will be awarded the following achievement awards based on merit and the Band Directors selection:

- John Philip Sousa Award* - Awarded to outstanding senior bandsman
- Louis Armstrong Award* - Awarded to outstanding senior jazz musician
- Colonels Brigade & Guard Spirit Award* – Awarded to a senior that has displayed personal dedication and selflessness to the HC Band program
- Kentucky All State Band – A certificate will be given to any member of that year’s Kentucky All-State Band.
- District 2 Honor Band - A certificate and a patch will be given to each member of the District 2 Honor Band.
- Most Improved Concert Band Award*
- Most Improved Symphonic Band Award*
- Most Improved Wind Ensemble Award*

*For all awards marked * students must have no unexcused absences or any disciplinary actions taken by the band director or school.*

INSTRUMENT CARE

School owned instruments become the responsibility of the student to whom they are issued. Students using school owned instruments are to complete a School Instrument Loan Form. Any damage incurred other than normal wear will be the responsibility of the student. Whenever an instrument is damaged it is the responsibility of the student to notify the Band Director immediately. Instruments should always be handled with care and respect. There is a \$25 instrument rental fee for all students playing a school instrument during class time.

Student owned instruments should also be kept in top performance condition. It is the student’s responsibility to acquire reeds, valve oil, etc. Instrument maintenance should be performed before rehearsal begins!

PARENT MEETINGS

On the 1st Thursday of each month, the HC Band Boosters will meet. Should a parent have a question concerning policy, that parent should schedule a meeting with the Band Director. Please make every effort to attend these meetings. Dates will be posted on the schedule containing rehearsal times and locations.

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO TO HELP

Parents are an important part of the HC Band Program. Without continued involvement and efforts of band parents, the HC Band would cease to maintain its high level of success. There are many things parents can do to help:

1. Attend Band Booster Meetings. The Henderson County Band Boosters meet the first Thursday of every month 7:00pm.

August 7	September 4	October 2	
November 6	December 4	January 8	February 5
March 5	April 16	May 7	

2. Volunteer for parent committees. There are many different tasks with which assistance is needed.

3. Be supportive of the band program and your child's participation by:

- a. Assisting your child to prepared and punctual for every rehearsal.
- b. Notifying the director whenever an absence is unavoidable.
- c. Encouraging your child to practice at home and help them find a place to do so.
- d. Purchasing a folding music stand, tuner, and metronome.
- e. Showing interest and enthusiastically attend every performance possible.
- g. **ASK YOUR STUDENT HOW THEY ARE DOING IN BAND!**

4. Help with fundraising activities. The band is almost totally funded by the Henderson County Band Boosters, Inc. The funds are use to purchase instruments, music, equipment, repairs, instruction, staff salaries, transportation, etc.

BOOSTER POSITIONS

There are two sets of positions within the HC Band Boosters organization. There are five elected **officers** that make up the HCBB Board. These are:

- ❖ President
- ❖ President-elect
- ❖ Treasurer
- ❖ Corresponding Secretary
- ❖ Organization Secretary

There are also numerous **chairpersons** that are appointed to their roles. These positions include, but are not limited to:

- ❖ Concessions
- ❖ Corporate Sponsorship
- ❖ Patron Drive
- ❖ Cell Phone Donations
- ❖ Spring Awards Banquet
- ❖ Publicity
- ❖ Video/Photo Committee
- ❖ Pit Packers
- ❖ Fruit Sale
- ❖ Century Resources Sale
- ❖ Scripps
- ❖ Bingo
- ❖ Uniforms
- ❖ Chaperones
- ❖ Equipment
- ❖ Student Accounts
- ❖ Guard Mom
- ❖ Student Meals

The elections and appointments are handled each year in May for the following year. More specific information can be found in the Booster By-laws or through the director. If you are able to serve in one of these roles, or are interested in serving in the future, please make that known! *The band program would not survive without parents willing to help!!!*

HENDERSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BAND

September 6		Marching Band Performance	Contest, at Madisonville North-Hopkins
September 20		Marching Band Performance	Contest, at Murray State University
September 27		Marching Band Performance	Contest, at Ohio County
October 2	7:00	Fall Band Concert	Henderson Fine Arts Center
October 11		Marching Band Performance	Contest, at Daviess County
October 18		Marching Band Performance	Contest, at McGavock HS-Nashville
October 25		Marching Band Performance	Contest, State Quarterfinals
November 1		Marching Band Performance	Contest, State Semifinals & Finals
November 8		Marching Band Performance	Contest, at Indianapolis, RCA Dome
December 16	7:00	Christmas Band Concert	Henderson Fine Arts Center
February 4	7:00	Jazz Band & Percussion	HCHS Auditorium
March 5	7:00	March Band Concert	SMS
March 12-13		Concert Festival	Mahr Fine Arts Center, Madisonville
May 1	6:00	Band Banquet	HCHS Cafeteria
May 12	7:00	May Band Concert	Henderson Fine Arts Center

When in doubt, check the website: www.hendersoncountyband.com