

VALLEY BANDS 101

2011-2012

www.valleybands.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Annual Band Parent Information Meeting Saturday, August 20th - 9am - Valley Southwoods.

It is important for ALL Valley Band parents to attend this kick-off meeting. The kick-off meeting is an opportunity to meet other parents and the Valley band faculty, sign up for volunteer opportunities, join the Band Boosters, purchase Valley Bands apparel and accessories, and learn about the upcoming band year. The activities of the concert bands, jazz bands and Marchmasters will be highlighted, with the opportunity for questions and discussion. At the end of the meeting, parents/guests will walk to the stadium to see the Marchmasters perform (around 11am).

Valley Band Parent WebMail Much of the Boosters communication is done via the Valley Band Booster "WebMail" system. The Valley Band website webmaster maintains the distribution list. To have your email address added to the distribution list, please contact: Heather Martin at maggers94@msn.com or 222-1619.

Booster Membership The majority of the band budget comes from the Band Boosters. Funds are generated through fundraisers, apparel sales, ValleyFest and parent donations. In past years, a flat fee donation has been requested of the band parents. This year we are again using a Booster Club membership fundraising effort. All donations are appreciated, however we ask that you sincerely consider donating at the suggested level of \$175.00.

Getting Involved We want ALL parents to be involved in their student's band experience. For volunteer opportunities, please contact Heather Martin at maggers94@msn.com or 222-1619.

Health Forms Health forms are needed for ALL band students. This form is a school requirement and serves as a signed document permitting medical treatment, should medical attention be needed. This form also provides the directors/chaperones with specific medical information for each student. The form is on the website and needs to be filled out and brought to the meeting on 8/20.

BAND BOOSTER MEETINGS

Booster meetings for ALL band parents (Grades 9-12) will be held in the VHS band hall on the following dates:

Tuesday, October 25 – 7:00pm

Tuesday, February 21 – 7:00pm

Tuesday, May 1 – 7:00pm

FUNDRAISING/EVENTS

Band Buttons Marching band and jazz band photo buttons will be available for purchase in sets of two for \$5.00. Student photos are taken during marching band uniform fittings and later in the fall for jazz students. Additional sets can be ordered. Parents and family members wear the buttons as a show of support during football games and band events. Buttons will be sold at the August 20th meeting, on Friday nights when the students march, and at Jazz at the Hall, November 21st.

Band Apparel T-shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, yard signs and other items will be available at the Parent Information Meeting. ValleyFest apparel will be available prior to ValleyFest and at the event. Order forms will be sent home with students and also via webmail.

Directory Sales The Band Boosters create and produce the Valley and Valley Southwoods Student Directory each year, which is sold during Valley and VSW conferences.

ValleyFest (10/08/11) ValleyFest is an all-day marching competition, drawing bands from all over the state. This is our main fundraiser for ALL of the Valley band programs (concert, jazz and marching). All students and parents are expected to volunteer for at least one volunteer shift. Valley does not compete, but does perform at the end of the day before the awards ceremony, usually around 10:30 p.m.

Fruit, Cheese and ButterBraid Sale This annual sale will be held November 1-14, with delivery on Friday, December 9th. More information will come at a later date.

Jazz at the Hall Previously called “Alumni Jazz Concert” this is a fun evening of dinner, dancing and the music of our Valley and Valley Southwoods jazz bands. The event will be held on Monday, November 21st this year. We welcome all parents, students, alumni and friends and family to this fun event.

Spring Fling Wing Ding (5/17/12) This is an end-of-the-year awards ceremony and spring concert. In past years, a silent auction has been held to benefit the band.

MARCHING BAND

Uniforms Uniforms are fitted during the summer and then kept in the band area on special racks. Uniform dressing before performances is done at the football stadium near the Marchmaster trailer, with minimal privacy. Students should wear black gym shorts and solid black t-shirts under their uniforms. Late fall performances tend to be cold, so thin long underwear such as Under Armor or Cuddle Duds are recommended. Students must also wear long, black socks. No jewelry or nail polish.

Instruments Marching practice, especially amid whirling flags, can lead to dented horns. It may be helpful to march with a beginner horn and save the good one for solos and concert band. Woodwinds might consider a weatherproof marching instrument for rainy practices.

Marching Band Camp Begins at the beginning of August. Bring water, sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, and a snack. Wear old tennis shoes. The celebration for the completion of Band Camp takes place alongside the Parent Information Meeting at the Ice Cream Social on Saturday, August 20th.

“Early Bird” Morning Practices Fall mornings can be cold and wet. Students may want to bring a change of clothes and wear old tennis shoes. Thin gloves, especially ones with grips, may be helpful. After morning practices, freshmen students walk up the hill to Valley Southwoods, and 10-12th graders either drive themselves to school or ride the school/shuttle bus that is available to transport them to Valley High School.

Home Football Games Students meet at the Valley stadium at 5:30 p.m. Some sections may have pre-game parties at individual homes prior to the games. After dressing, no food or drink is permitted, except water, which is encouraged during warm weather. Students warm up in the grassy area behind Jordan Creek Elementary. The band plays the national anthem prior to the game and performs their fall show during halftime of the varsity football game. Students are dismissed after the halftime show. Band parents are encouraged to sit together in the upper bleachers to form a cheering section. (North end of the Valley bleachers near the 30-35 yard line) Please join us!

Homecoming Parade The band marches in the Homecoming Parade (9/29/2011). Students meet at the stadium at 5:00 p.m. In the past, dress has been spirit wear.

Senior Night Last home football game (10/7/2011). Parents and/or guardians accompany their senior band student on the field to be acknowledged during pre-game or halftime.

Contests

- Johnston Marching Invitational at Johnston High School (9/17/2011, a.m., time TBD)

- Linn-Mar and Prairie Festivals at Marion/Cedar Rapids (9/24/2011, all day/night)
- ValleyFest (10/08/2011) - Valley does not compete, but will be the last band to perform at approx 10:30pm.
- State Marching Contest at Waukee (10/15/2011, time TBD). This contest provides a good opportunity to take photos of the students. Professional photos are also taken and can be purchased online from Jolesch Photography. Traditionally, on a school night prior to this event, parents decorate their student's lockers/hallway as a "fire-up" for the state contest. Parents decorate with posters, streamers, balloons (no latex), etc. Band Booster representatives will be available at a designated time on this evening to keep the VHS and VSW band halls open. More information will come via webmail, prior to the event.

CONCERT BAND

Uniforms Students will be notified of concert uniform fitting times in the fall. Students take concert uniforms home and are responsible for arriving at performances/contests appropriately dressed. Uniforms are turned in at the end of the school year. Black socks and shoes for men and hosiery and black shoes for women.

Concerts Please refer to the annual school calendar and webmail information.

All-State Band Auditions are held in the fall in Indianola. Students provide their own transportation and audition at an assigned time. Those who make it in to the band will perform at Hilton Coliseum in November.

Perry Band Olympics - Solo and Ensemble Contest (February) Participation is required. Students choose a solo with the approval of the band directors. Students must find and pay for their own accompanist (list of accompanists will be available in the band hall). Some students will also be asked to perform in ensembles. Students must provide their own transportation to Perry.

Adventureland Band Contest This contest is held in Waukee, in the spring (not at Adventureland).

JAZZ BAND

The jazz band performance season kicks off with Jazz at the Hall. The Jazz Bands attend various contests and clinics throughout the year

Please consult the jazz band itinerary after it is published. Dress usually consists of black dress pants, dress shirt and tie for gentlemen and black skirt or pants and nice top for ladies.

PEP BAND

All students can volunteer to join the Pep Band and play at VHS basketball games. See directors for more information.

2011-2012 Valley Band Boosters

Executive Board

Co-Presidents	Rich and Heather Martin	222-1619	maggers94@msn.com
Co-Vice Presidents	Chris/Kristine Harrison	225-7798	chriskristine@msn.com
Secretary	Polly Maly	267-0911	malympcc@q.com
Treasurer	Jill Sandberg	720-3990	valleybandstreasurer@gmail.com

Orlando Trip Chair	Kari Schulte	226-9919	karischulte@me.com
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Committee Chairs

Chaperone Parent	Suzanne Lubbers		suzlubbers@yahoo.com
Colorguard Parents	Deborah Morris	422-1125	Blessme77@hotmail.com
	Karen Hanson	225-8904	hansonk@wdmcs.org
Jazz Parents	Connie Hockett	223-8014	cehock@msn.com
	Sarah Nicholson	223-8746	iahawkfans@msn.com
Uniform Parents (Lead)	Donna Flamm	224-6341	flammfam@mchsi.com
Uniform Parents	Linda Filby		
	Anita Halterman		
	Kari Schulte		
	Jackie Peak		
	Emmaly Burkland		
	Sondi Dubbs		
End of the Year Video	Suzanne Lubbers		suzlubbers@yahoo.com
Band Dads	Tim Sandberg	720-3950	sandbergremodeling@mchsi.com
	Tom Smolen	953-1042	patricia_smolen_3@msn.com
Fundraising Chairs			
Orlando Trip	Polly Maly	267-0911	malympcc@q.com
Directory	Kristin Johnson	221-3950	khamjo@mchsi.com
Fruit, Cheese, ButterBraid	Barb Ambrose	225-3880	bgsjambrose@juno.com
Picture Buttons	Sanae Vaniman	360-9892	vanimansanae@aol.com
Apparel Sales	Patty Smolen	953-1042	patricia_smolen_3@msn.com
Spring Fling Wing Ding	Chris/Kristine Harrison	225-7798	chriskristine@msn.com
	Rich and Heather Martin	222-1619	maggers94@msn.com
Valleyfest	Kristine Harrison	225-7798	chriskristine@msn.com
	Debbie Gausman	707-5847	ddgauze@aol.com
	Lisa Kilian	327-1002	kilianlm@msn.com
Valley Band Office			
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