

Welcome to the Club Blue Family

What to expect now that you are a band family:

Band is one of the most rewarding things your student can participate in during their high school years and beyond. Participation in band fosters growth and development of skills like responsibility, dependability, communication, collaboration, leadership and more. A lot of support goes into making your student's time in band successful. In this welcome packet you will find information on the schedule, financial information, and other components and details about opportunities to participate and support your student's experience.

Communication:

The Band App

Facebook page

Club Blue website

Jupiter

Meetings:

Meetings are vital in the development of our band program. It's a time to hear details about upcoming events, schedules, official financial information and other important communications. General booster meetings are typically scheduled the first Tuesday of every month, however a current schedule is usually available on the web page or Band App. Reminders are also sent out beforehand. Parents sign in and students receive credit for their parents' attendance. Previous meeting minutes are reviewed, current events, financials and upcoming schedules are reviewed and discussed, and networking opportunities are abundant. Meetings usually last less than an hour and may be preceded by committee meeting(s) as needed.

Board members and committees:

Board positions are by vote and are selected annually at the end of the school year. Current positions are President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer duties:. Board members have a formal meeting once monthly and work to ensure smooth running of our band's finances and activities. Board members also oversee the monthly booster meetings and spearhead various committees, projects and events Committees: Fundraising, end of year, field show etc. Sign ups!!!!

Vetted volunteers and chaperons:

Our volunteers are vital to our program's success. Volunteers who work with the students, drive them, or stay with them on trips are required to be vetted through the school district. Applications can be obtained through the parent resource center. Vetting includes district funded fingerprinting, background checks, and a current TB test all of which ensure the health and safety of our students. The process typically takes about 2-3 weeks. The earlier this process is started the better.

"In Doc" day

In Doc is Saturday August 23th when all students are assigned an appointment time to be fitted for their marching season uniforms. This also includes ordering and purchasing branded accessories such as outerwear, shoes, gloves, gear and duffle bags that are needed throughout the season. Also paperwork such as emergency contact cards, permission slips and other paperwork is completed and collected. Volunteers are encouraged to help with crowd directing, fitting, sewing, or other tasks as needed. This is also the time to collect for our "fall donation drive",

these funds help to pay for music rights, competition entry fees, instrument maintenance, outside instructors, transportation rentals, refreshments, and other miscellaneous expenses.

Band Camp:

Band camp allows students to bond with their sections and work on the composition and execution of their performance. Typical band camp times are 9-5 daily during one week of fall break, winter break and spring break for various sections and ensembles. During the marching/field season band camps are also scheduled most Saturdays in August and September leading up to competition season. It gives the entire group an opportunity to build and fine tune together. Some things to consider during band camp: Money or packed lunches, drinks, snacks, sun protection, and layered clothing,. Some band camps include daily themes and friendly spirit competitions, as well as bonding activities before or after practices, and potluck get-togethers at the end of camp to unveil the performance in front of friends and family.

Practice schedule:

During the school year, it is common for the entire group, or smaller groups and ensembles to practice after school. During marching field season practice during the school week can last until sunset, and include practicing the field show on the football field, or parade marching skills in the parking lot. Practices can also take place in the band room or the gymnasium.

Football Season:

Football season entails supporting the varsity football team at home and away games. Home games take place at BVH stadium, except Homecoming at SWC. For Homecoming students march together with instruments across the intersections of Otay Lakes Road and H street over to the stadium. Band students sit in a group on the home team side and play pep music during the game, and may also perform the field show during half time later in the season. Football games come along with many volunteer and support opportunities. Parents are the key to successful operation and fundraising during the football games. Away games are considered voluntary and depend on the availability of parents to transport students and their instruments. Volunteer assistance includes:

- Concessions Club Blue Cafe sales tables and selling food and drinks
- Donating food, beverages and other supplies for sale
- Chaperoning students across the intersection (to and from)
- Preparing and supervising the stadium seat for the students
- Papering the benches
- Overseeing the area for safety and security of students & belonging
- Preparing/detailing student uniforms before or during the evening
- Providing water/refreshments for students
- Picking up and transporting water dispensers/coolers and hydration bottles
- Purchasing ice and water
- Transportation, Set up and break down of tables
- Transporting, cooking, serving and collecting for food sales

Marching/Field Season:

Marching season is an exciting time. The season's music selection is typically chosen at the end of the previous school year. Once the current season has begun, practices will be under way as outlined earlier. Competitions last from September until the weekend before Thanksgiving and are typically on Saturdays, but can also be scheduled on a rare weekday evening. They can be half day or full day events depending on transportation availability, and a few competitions are

designated as parent transportation. Competitions take place at various highschool locations throughout the county. Performances are graded on a point system and compared against other bands in the same competitive category. Placements are awarded in a ceremony at the end of each competition. Competition day starts with the student "loading crew" who meets on campus the night before or morning with volunteer parents to load and unload all the gear into a rental truck. Parent volunteers drive the truck to the competition location. Once on sight, parents and board members have a variety of opportunities to support the students.

Volunteer assistance includes:

- Drive the truck to the competition location
- Setup and breakdown of refreshment canopy area
- Donation, transport, preparation, and serving of meals and/or snacks
- hydration wagon - similar to football game hydration
 - Pick up water supplies
 - Purchase ice and water
 - Fill and dispense hydration bottles as needed
 - Cleaning and sanitizing of hydration equipment in between competitions
- Uniform preparation:
 - Checking/fixing pant hems
 - Cleaning shoes
 - Wrapping/securing jacket cuffs and gloves
 - Securing loose hair
 - Affixing hat plumes
- Helping to push, pull or otherwise move/transport large gear such as pit, percussion or props.
- Chaperoning student in observation stands after competition

Finals and championships/Arcadia weekend:

Parade Season:

Parades occur throughout the season from September to December. They can occur as a stand alone competition, a performance event, or in conjunction with a field competition. For parades, much of the same protocol and support is required as in field. Parents may also be needed to escort the students on the parade route for hydration and safety.

District Honor Band:

This is an opportunity for your student to get a feel for the experience of auditioning. In late November or early December auditions are opened, students sign up for an audition appointment with their instrument(s) of choice and receive a music selection to learn. Audition schedules and locations vary. Students selected for the district honor band be given more detailed information on practice and performance schedule.

Fundraising and Events:

Events: (Historical and prospective)

In Doc fall donation drive

Football Games

Bonita Vista Field Tournament: This event is one of our biggest fundraising opportunities. Our band hosts one of the first field shows of the season at Bonita Vista Highschool. As hosts, we prepare the venue for our guests.

Volunteer opportunities include:

- Ralphs card
 - donation of goods and services for sale in the concession stand.
 - Organization of small business vendors for products or foods to sell
 - Directional signage throughout venue
 - Bus parking/parking lot direction
 - Front end ticket sales, vip check in, wristbands
 - Concession set up, sales and cleanup
 - Runners
 - Hospitality: setup, operation and cleanup of food and beverage area for visiting directors and officials, judges and announcers
 - Program publication and ticket design and printing
 - Organization of invitation and registration to other southern california school bands
 - Organization of awards
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- Product sales: This covers various traditional fundraisers like See's Candy, pasta catalogues, branded sunglasses, discount cards, yankee candles, etc.
 - Dinners out: Community dinners out can be held at any eating establishing pledging a percentage of return to the band for advertising and bringing a crowd on a pre-arranged night.
 - Christmas Concert
 - Auctions/raffles
 - Year End concert: The year end concert features performances by most of the ensembles. Sales of concessions, programs, raffle and auction items provide seed money for the following year.
 - Other donations:

Concert Season:

Concert season begins once school has reconvened after winter break. All students participate in Symphonic band, Symphonic band performs at various events, and at graduation. Practices are typically held one or twice weekly after school.

Winter Guard:

Winter guard is the individual winter competition season for color guard, participation is voluntary, and may include an audition. They participate in competitions weekends February through April throughout southern california. Transportation for winter competition groups is individual parent volunteers. Parent support is vital for these smaller ensembles and requires separate operational funding. Donation drive funding can range between \$300 and \$500 depending on the number of participants, the music selection, staffing requirements, uniform cost, transportation, and number of competition entries. Both groups usually have a final exhibition event towards the end of the school year showcasing their themed performance.

Field Trips:

Our club usually has a few "field trips" that may include travel and overnight stay. Finals and championships field trip is outlined earlier in the field competition section. Spring field trip occurs during spring break and is voluntary. Eligible vetted Chaperons are encouraged to attend and those outlines and expectations are covered under vetted volunteers and chaperons section. These opportunities are paid by student/family funds. The funds needed can vary from year to year and by the magnitude of the trip. Collected funds cover transportation, lodging, meals, competition entry fees, music selection and other scheduled sightseeing/adventures as arranged. This is a great opportunity for some group bonding, comradery and independence.