



# WELCOME BCHS BAND MEMBERS & PARENTS

2023-2024

Information Guide



## **I'M A HS BAND PARENT...**

### **What Does It All Mean?**

***Have you ever said, “ Well, if I had only known ahead of time....?”***

**Welcome to the Bay City High School Band. Together, we are going to have a great year. Since you may be new to the band experience, we, as “seasoned” (not old) parents would like to share some things with you to make your first year as a High School Band Parent a little easier.**

**Being a member of the High School Band is a major commitment of time and energy for your student. It can be time consuming for parents as well. It's an exciting time watching them grow, improve, and perform as part of a team. And although at times you may wonder, “How much more can we cram into one week?” Take this opportunity to become more active in this phase in your student's life. Become involved and make some marvelous memories together!**



## **Band Directors**

**Mark Longoria**

**Adrian Carrizales**

**Jake Harmon**

**Mia Peabody**

**Dr. Kara Cowart**

## **Booster Club Officer Positions**

**2023-2024**

**President-Rudy Ramos**

**Secretary**

**Treasurer**

**Concessions/Hospitality**

**Communication/Publicity**

**Uniforms**

***\*We need new parents to help  
volunteer. The more parents  
that volunteer the smoother  
these offices are run.***



# BOOSTER CLUB MEETINGS

The Booster Club will meet as needed in the fall and spring at 7:00pm in the Bay City High School Band Hall. The band directors give valuable information about dates, events, etc. at the meetings.

We are in need of officer help for the Bay City Booster organization. If you are able to assist, please let Mr. Longoria know. Everyone will work together to make the offices run smooth but we need someone to take the lead. Please contact Mr. Longoria at 979-401-1131 or [mlongoria@baycityisd.org](mailto:mlongoria@baycityisd.org) if you are able to hold an office.

We want to continue to support the students as best we can. Please let us know if you can help!



# FUNDRAISING

The main Fundraising effort for the Bay City Band Booster Club is through earnings of the concession stand at all Home Football games.

Different duties of the Concession stand include:

Thursday Night Set-up – On Thursday night, volunteers help move equipment and get set-up for the Friday night football game.

Friday Night Concession Stand Volunteer – There are many jobs required to run a successful concession stand. The Booster Club requests that each parent work two full games in the concession stand.

When you work for Thursday Night Set-up, or Friday Concession Stand, you as parents earn money towards your child's band account. This money can be used to pay band fees, instrument rental fees, or any band trip expenses. All other funds from the concession stands go into the Band Booster Club Account. This money is used by the club for needs of the students and band directors to ensure the best possible program is offered. We have purchased instruments, provided away game snacks, offered HS Seniors scholarships, and assisted the Band Directors both at JH and HS with their needs.



# SUMMER BAND

The Bay City High School Band has mandatory summer rehearsals in July and August to get ready for marching season. When students meet in the summer, they will work on marching fundamentals, their marching show for the fall semester, and stand music for the football games.

When you look at the schedule, please be aware of specifics on different groups. You will see Full Band, Percussion, Woodwind, Brass, or Color Guard.

If you or your child has any questions, please email Mr. Longoria at [mlongoria@baycityisd.org](mailto:mlongoria@baycityisd.org).

## Marching Competition

The band meets in the summer to prepare for their UIL Marching Competition in October. Every year, the Band has an opportunity to advance to the next level of competition; AREA, and then to State. TBeing at all summer rehearsals is very important to learn marching fundamentals, work on music, and begin the UIL Marching Show. We look forward to a great year.



**PRIORITY**

Please check the attached schedule for dates/times/location.

We will learn our show the first week of August. Everyone needs to be present.

**PLEASE CHECK THE JULY AND AUGUST CALENDAR AND BE SURE TO ATTEND ALL REHEARSALS!!!**

**Color Guard:**  
Dr. Cowart may have a separate schedule for you. At this time, you will show up to all full band rehearsals.

# CONTESTS & CONCERTS

## **Marching Contest:**

We participate in a Pre UIL Marching Contest and Region Marching Contest both held in October. Bay City competes against other bands in our district with the opportunity to advance to Area every year if a score of a 1 is received.

## **Solo/Ensemble Contest:**

Solo/ensemble contest held (usually) in February at Edna High School. Students are allowed to choose their own music from several selections given by the band directors.

## **Spring Band Contest:**

UIL Concert and Sightreading is held in March or April. Students prepare music for Concert evaluation and then Sightread a piece for several minutes then perform it for a judge. They are scored in both areas.

## **Music Festival:**

The Band Participates in a music festival each year. Information will be given later in the semester concerning this music festival.

## **Spring Concert:**

During the spring concert (which is usually held in May), students again perform pieces that they have worked on throughout concert season. This is the final performance of the school year.

## **Play-Off Games**

All Band Students are expected to attend all play-off football games. These games occur the weeks following regular football season. The dates will vary depending on location and stadium availability. As soon as Mr. Longoria finds out information and sets up transportation for the band, he will post the information on the Band Webpage, Google Classroom, Facebook page and send it out through the remind app.

## **Out of Town Events**

Whether it's a football game, competition, etc., the Band students are required to ride school provided transportation (bus) to the event.

However, parents may take students home in their personal vehicles afterwards. A written permission slip **MUST** be provided! This Home After Game (HAG) note, must be turned in to the band directors on Friday morning. Students will only be released to a parent (no boyfriends, girlfriends etc.) and the adult must sign them out at the bus with one of the Band Directors prior to leaving the event. If your child is coming home with another student's parent, you must fill out a Request for Alternate Transportation Form from Student Services on the Monday prior to the Friday game.





# MISCELLANEOUS



**Expenses:** Students are responsible for several expenses. If your child rents a school instrument or is a percussionist they will have the following:

**All Members:** 1 Case of Bottled Water (24 count)  
Band Fee \$40  
Band and/or Color Guard Shoes \$40

**Members Renting School Instrument:**  
Instrument Rental Fee \$50

**ALL PERCUSSIONIST:**  
Percussion Instrument Rental Fee \$30

Shoes are not required to be re-purchased each year unless requested by the student.

**Yard Signs:** The Booster Club provides band member yard signs for each student. The signs are awarded to the Freshmen at the end of the year at the Spring Concert.

**Scholarships:** Scholarships are offered to graduating seniors in the band. There are two special scholarships chosen by the scholarship committee to recognize musical performance and most helpful. There are also general scholarships for members that have participated in the band during their high school years. These scholarships are awarded by a scholarship committee appointed by the Band Booster club.





## Questions you or your child may have concerning Blackcat Band

What do I need for marching band?

You will need to bring your instrument, flip folder, music lyre, tennis shoes, cool clothes and a water bottle. No sandals. Tennis Shoes only!

I use a school owned instrument. When will I get it?

You should have been issued your school instrument prior to leaving the previous year. If you haven't received it yet, please see Mr. Carrizales immediately.

What is the rental fee for school owned instruments?

Instrument Rental fee is \$50. Percussion Rental Fee is \$30.

Will there be any other fees for the school year?

YES. Band Fee which includes band shirt-\$40. Band/Color Guard Shoes-\$40.

I can't pay all my band fees at once. How can we work this out?

Mr. Longoria will make payment arrangements with you. Start saving your money now so you can make your band payments starting in August. Parents you can work in the concession stand on Friday to pay for these fees.

Am I required to be at band camp?

YES. It is important for you to be there to learn the marching fundamentals and play through all the band music. We are preparing for UIL Marching Contest.

Will I need to be in Dress Code?

Yes. Please wear comfortable clothes that follow the dress code.

If I have difficulty, can I get some help?

YES. The Drum Majors, Section Leaders, and Upper Classmen will be able to assist you with playing and marching. Please ask questions if you do not understand something. The Band Directors will also be available for you to ask any questions.





We look forward to starting the New School Year with you as an active parent with the Booster organization. We have lots of good things happening. If we work together, we will definitely be able to do great things for the band.

Please join REMIND: text @bchsband23 to 81010. When you put your name, please put your child's name in there as well.

Check out the high school facebook page [www.facebook.com/bchsblackcatband](http://www.facebook.com/bchsblackcatband) and the school webpage [www.bcblackcats.net/band](http://www.bcblackcats.net/band) for further information. The website will be updated before the end of the school year.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Longoria @ [mlongoria@baycityisd.org](mailto:mlongoria@baycityisd.org) or by phone 979-401-1131

Remember if you are interested in taking the lead as an officer, please message Mr. Longoria.

Thank you,  
Rudy Ramos  
Band Booster President