

Booster Club Handbook



2020-2021 School Year

MCHS Band Boosters' Handbook

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Welcome

I would like to welcome you to a new and exciting year with the Mayde Creek High School “Mighty” Ram Band program on behalf of the Mayde Creek High School Band Booster Club. We have some exciting changes to our leadership staff as we welcome a new head band Director, Donnie Christian and a New Color Guard Director, Alexandria Cook as well as new Executive Committee members. If you are an incoming freshman or new to MCHS, welcome to the Mayde Creek Band Mighty Ram Band Family, which is a truly unique and rewarding experience. We are so pleased that you and your student will be involved in one of the most successful high school band programs in the Houston area.

The Booster Club has created this handbook for you because it is something that we all wish we had when became first time high school band parents or to refer to when questions came up. It describes/covers almost everything that happens with the MCHS Band programs, all from a parent’s perspective. In addition, the sheer size of this handbook should also suggest to you that there are many opportunities for you to be involved and participate in our Band Family and Booster Club.

The MCHS Ram Band Programs is the largest student group at Mayde Creek High School and we want you to be an integral part of our Band Family. You may do so through attendance, participation, and volunteerism at various band activities and events as we all work together as a Band Family to support and grow the most exciting and dynamic high school music program in the State of Texas. We encourage you to read through this handbook and consider where you might be of service.

It has been said that “No one does everything, but everyone can do something.” Each of you has something to give, in your own way, whether it be time, resources, connections, energy, or presence. Every contribution, no matter how big or small, is needed and appreciated as the MCHS Ram Band program continues to grow and succeed. Please join me and rest of the Booster Club in supporting our student musicians we want you to be an integral part of the growth and success of the MCHS Mighty Ram Band.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Mr. Christian, myself anytime or any booster board member. Once again, welcome to the Mighty Ram Band Family and we look forward to seeing and meeting you soon.

Ram Pride!,

Joe Skelton, President
MCHS Mighty Ram Booster Club

Basics on the MCHS Mighty Ram Band

Our Mission

The primary objectives of the Mayde Creek Mighty Ram Band Boosters are to collaborate with the Mayde Creek High School Band Directors, High School officials, and the Katy Independent School District officials to promote the advancement of the Mayde Creek Mighty Ram Bands music program; and to encourage the growth and development of an exceptional music program that complements and expands the educational opportunities of MCHS students.

Why the Handbook?

The Ram Bands and the Band Boosters are unimaginably busy, and for incoming band families, sometimes it's a lot to try to take in all at once. The information on the following pages will familiarize you with our organization, it's functions, projects, and committees. Because the Ram Bands family is so large, it's almost impossible to contact everyone at once, so we thought it would be a good idea to try to create this handbook. Lots more information, including an online calendar, is available at our website, www.mchsrband.org.

Any questions you may have can be directed to any Band Booster Officer, Committee Chair, or the Band Director.

Who are the Band Boosters?

The Mayde Creek Ram High School Band Boosters (MCHS BB) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization to which all parents and guardians of Mayde Creek Mighty Ram students automatically belong. Our organization welcomes not only the parents/guardians of students participating in the Mayde Creek Ram Bands program but also anyone interested in supporting the Ram Bands.

What We Do (and What We Don't Do)

First, and foremost, The Mayde Creek Ram High School Band Boosters support the Band Director and the students of the Mayde Creek Ram Bands. Our support typically functions through fundraising and volunteering "backstage". The Band Boosters manage an annual budget in order to support the Ram Bands program.

Ram Band activities are not completely covered by the Katy ISD Budget; therefore, the Band Boosters assist with raising money to support the band program. Some of our fundraising efforts include the annual the sale of spirit items, Spirit nights at local businesses, hosting along with the other Katy ISD high schools our own Katy Invitational Marching competition, 5k Color Run and Silent Auction. In addition, the money we raise helps supply the Ram Band with things like festival fees, clinician expenses, trailer fees, instrument repairs, and food.

Our other form of support – Volunteering to help "backstage" – is equally important. Parental involvement is essential to the success of the entire band program. When parents offer time and effort to chaperone, assist with uniforms, serve on the 'Pit' crew, help at band camp and competitions, and help with fundraising – we are giving our time and effort to our sons and daughters and the ultimate success of the program.

There's one more thing that Band Boosters do...We have fun!! You'll find many opportunities to meet new people, form relationships and have a great time. Band families have a lot of school spirit and sit together in the stands at football games and competitions to show their support of the band.

Basics on the MCHS Mighty Ram Band

It takes a group of dedicated students, parent and fans of MCHS to keep the Ram Band program great!

The Mayde Creek Ram High School Band Boosters is devoted to the support and advancement of the Ram Band program. With increasing numbers comes the obligation for new uniforms, music, fixing or replacing more instruments and buy/cooking meals during competitions volunteerism and support are greatly needed and these items are typically not funded by the Katy Independent School District. You have a unique opportunity to help promote a band program with a proud legacy in our area. To continue and expand on our band program tradition of excellence, the Band Boosters need every parent to become involved!

Whether it's fundraising, chaperoning, event organization, volunteering, or just showing up for monthly meetings, all that we ask is that you share with us your ideas and a little of your time and energy.

When Do We Meet?

Everyone has something to contribute and we need each one of you!

All Band Booster meetings are at 7pm in the Band Hall on the first Tuesday of each month unless otherwise noted. We will post an agenda online a few days before each meeting for your review.

Upcoming meetings are as follows:

2020-2021 Booster Meeting Dates	

If you miss a meeting, don't worry. Meeting minutes are available online on the Booster page at www.mchsrband.org



2020-2021 Band Booster Executive Committee

Position	Name	Contact Information
Director of Bands	Donnie Christian	DonnieChristian@katyisd.org
Associate Director	Molly Casillas	MollyRCasillas@katyisd.org
Assistant Director	Maria Singer	MariaESinger@katyisd.org
Color Guard Director	Alexandria Cook	AlexandriaCook@katyisd.org
President	Joe Skelton	Jskel71@gmail.com
Vice President		
Secretary Webmaster/Social Media	Allen Lewis Jr	AllenBlewis@katyisd.org
Membership/Volunteer Coordinator	Lorraine Voong <i>(temporary until filled)</i>	lorrainevuong@yahoo.com
Lead Treasurer	Roxanne Perales	theperalesfamily@sbcglobal.net
Assistant Treasurer		
Fundraiser Officer I	Norma Serrano	Ns8691@icloud.com
Fundraiser Officer II		
Events Officer I	Harmony Decker	Harndecker23@icloud.com
Events Officer II	Ximena Flores	ximena@st-mail.com

Executive Committee Description

Band Director(s) The Band Director(s) shall serve as the director(s) of the band program and the chairperson(s) of the Band Boosters. The Band Director shall be an ex officio member of all standing and special committees and shall serve as the chairperson of the Travel Committee.

President: Oversees all operations, officers and committees of the Mayde Creek High School Band Boosters (specific committees to include but not limited to: money/registration day, parent orientations, uniforms, meal plans, meals service, spirit wear, chaperones, end-of-year-banquet, solo/ensemble, hospitality, scholarships, middle school liaison, senior trip). President will also sign on bank account.

Vice President: In the absence of the President, this individual will perform all the duties of the President and when so acting shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions of the president. He/She will also be the chairperson for the pit crew.

Fundraising Officer I: This individual will focus solely on fundraising opportunities, vetting any opportunities presented and taking it to the board and/or general booster membership when necessary (i.e., spirit nights at local vendors, selling of spirit items, car washes and 5k Color Run).

Fundraising Officer I: This individual will assist Fundraising Officer I with ALL events (i.e. Mayde Creek Family Showcase, Band Banquet, Senior Night etc.). He/She will *oversee* each committee that runs these specific events *and any additional events* chosen by the board.

Secretary This individual will take and record minutes at executive board meetings, general booster meetings; coordinate registration and booster memberships; assist president with social media and website accounts; file paperwork with the school district.

Membership/Volunteer Coordinator: This individual will maintain membership database and input all volunteer requests into CHARMS for all to sign-up. He/she will be responsible for recruiting volunteers for ALL events, keeping track of volunteer hours to be reported to the school, point of contact for parents' questions, relaying information to parents and students may need.

Lead Treasurer: This individual will sign on bank account and keep all financial records of the MCHSBB; to include, updating bank account information when necessary, signing all checks, making deposits and paying any and all bills, invoices. He/She will assist with all student's band fees, prepare budget and will also prepare financials to present at monthly executive board meetings and to present at monthly general booster meetings.

Assistant Treasurer: This individual shall be involved with yearly internal audit and budget process. Perform additional duties as needed to insure the smooth operation of the operation.

Social media/Website coordinator: These individual attends board meetings, maintains Facebook, Instagram, Twitter accounts as well as maintain the MCHS band website with information that needs to be posted. Monitor all social media we institute for appropriateness and confidentiality.

Communications

Communication is essential for our organization to work properly, so we have opted to use several different electronic forms in order to get the information that you'll need to know about upcoming events.

- The Ram Bands' Website www.mchsramband.org
- Charms Website www.charmsoffice.com
- Direct Emails
- Instagram: @ maydecreek_ramband
- Twitter: @mighty_ramband
- Facebook: @mightyramband

If you have any questions about the website, please contact our Webmaster: Allen Lewis, Jr. at mchsmightyramband@gmail.com

Ram Band Website

The Ram Band have their own dedicated website, www.mchsramband.org, which contains a wealth of information about what's going on in the Ram Band program.

- Band Calendar
- Photos and Videos
- Description of Ram Band programs
- Information about upcoming events
- More details about upcoming fundraiser events
- Access to Band Boosters meeting minutes
- Access to retrieve previous emails sent out about band information
- Link to Charms website
- Link to the MCHS Ram Band Instagram, Twitter and Facebook accounts

Charms: Why is it Important?

The Ram Bands and the Band Boosters use a software program called **Charms Office**. Although you can link to it from the Ram Bands website, it is separate application that allows us to:

- Integrate student and parent contact information
- Tracks the Ram Bands calendar
- Manage inventory
- Assign and barcode uniforms
- Work on finances (including individual student accounts)

To log into CHARMS, please follow the steps below:

Step	Action
1	Browse to: https://www.charmsoffice.com
2	Click on the "Enter/Login" button in the upper right corner
3	In the "Parents/Students/Members" section, please enter the following school code: MaydeCreekHSB
4	Click on the "Enter Student/Parent Area" button

**When your student first joins the band please double-check the personal contact information (Click on “Update Info” icon). Don’t forget to update the account anytime your information changes.

It is VERY IMPORTANT that the phone and email information for both the student and their parents are current.

The contact Information in your student’s Charms account is what we use to send out Band updates and information that includes emails from Mr. Christian as well. If you have additional family members that you would like to receive band communications, please enter them in your Charms contacts.

Emails

We have found that emails are a great way to reach everyone so expect to see a few of them in your “Inbox”. We realize that people are typically inundated with a sea of email from here, there and everywhere. There are times when it’s hard to just keep up with it all. With that in mind we intentionally do our best to keep emails to a minimum while keeping you and your student informed.

Most of the emails you will receive come from Mr. Christian, any of our Band Directors or booster members with weekly information or usually it will contain volunteer and fundraising information.

Mr. Christian has published a calendar that has been provided by email and is available in Charms Office. These calendars include all bands intermixed and can be confusing. The calendar is also available at www.mchsramband.org.

Questions

Please be sure to ask questions. This guidebook provides a lot of information, but it may not cover everything you need to know. Contact a member of the executive board if you have a “Booster” organization question. Band program and student requirement questions should be directed to one of the Band Directors. Color Guard program questions should be directed to the Color Guard Instructor.

Volunteering with the Boosters

This section highlights the activities and events that require support from volunteers. This list may change during the year as the schedule or needs of the program changes.

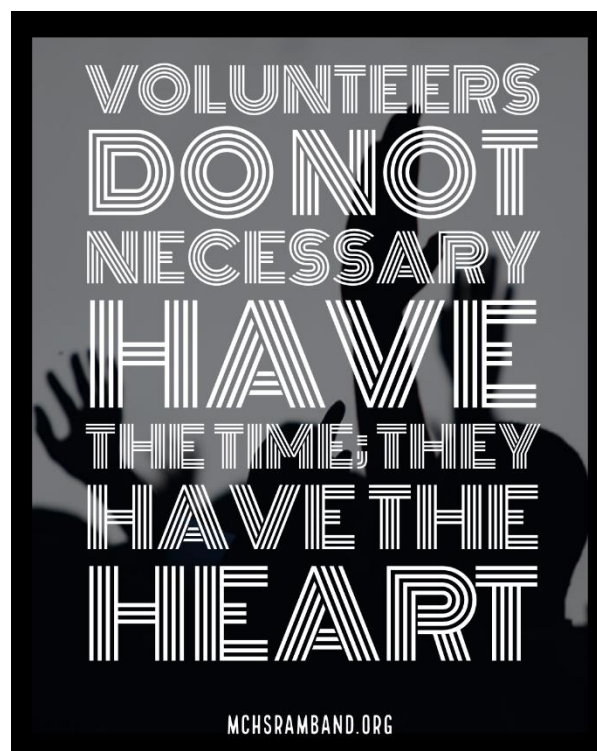
Band Chaperones, Truck Drivers & Pit Crew Assistants (Marching Season Football Games & Events)

Chaperones are responsible for assisting the directors and ensuring the safety of the band students. The chaperones are responsible for monitoring students, water coolers, uniforms, plumes, and performing other duties as needed. Chaperones ride buses with the students and ensure student headcount on assigned buses. Chaperone designations and duty assignments are coordinated by the Head Chaperones.

Truck Drivers are also needed on a voluntary basis to assist with transportation to/from events and football games.

The Pit Crew is responsible for activities associated with the sideline percussion area for performances as well as loading and coordinating the transportation of percussion and larger band instruments, equipment, and props. Chaperones volunteering to assist with pit crew are not required to have a Percussion/Drum line student. The Pit Crew is coordinated by the Vice President.

All adult Chaperones and Pit Crew Assistants must always wear a visible identification badge and or shirts and must enter the stadium with and sit with the band during the event.



Marching Band Chaperone Guidelines

Thank you for volunteering your time as a Chaperone for the Mayde Creek High School Mighty Ram Band. We appreciate the time and talent you have committed to this responsibility and look forward to a wonderful year.

The following is a list of guidelines to assist you in understanding what is expected of the students and you, as a Chaperone, during sanctioned activities. After reading these guidelines, if you have any questions or concerns about a policy, please feel free to ask the Chaperone Chair.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

The primary function of a Chaperone is to be the eyes and ears of the Directors with regards to the safety of the students. In addition, a Chaperone should be vigilant to the dangers that might be present outside the band family, as well as errors of judgment they (the students) may make themselves. Chaperones are a vital part of this organization and are a highly visible part of this organization, to the students and the public. With such a vital responsibility, it is critical to display conduct that is always moral and ethical.

The primary focus of the Chaperones are the Band Students, therefore no Chaperone should bring anything (small children, pets, etc.) that may distract them or otherwise prevent them from providing full attention to the band.

Chaperones assist the program by reminding the students of the guidelines and expectations expressed by the Directors to provide for their safety.

Chaperones are not to be regarded as disciplinarians. Any infraction of the rules, offensive behavior, disrespect, or other problems that arise and are regarded as serious in nature should be reported to the Chaperone Chair. It is his/her responsibility to report such occurrences to the Band Directors. Do not, at any time administer or threaten disciplinary action to any student. Do not, unless there is a life-threatening situation, touch the student as a disciplinary action.

Chaperones should encourage the timely return of students to marching when they seek first aid. If the student is in the first aid tent/area for more than 10 minutes, the Chaperone should contact the Chaperone Chair, who will discuss the situation with the Directors to make a decision regarding contacting the student's parents to take them home.

It is important to be positive. Treat the students the way you would like other adults to treat your son or daughter. Be consistent and fair with everyone. Ask questions rather than make accusations. Please keep in mind that teenagers are in a maturing phase and try to have a positive influence on that process.

Consumption of alcoholic beverages or substances by any Chaperone before or at any band event is strictly forbidden. Chaperones are never "off-duty" during a band trip or function.

Smoking is prohibited on all Cobb County School Board property. Chaperones should never smoke around students in any circumstances, including during overnight trips.

Above all, the key to being successful as a Chaperone is FLEXIBILITY.

Chaperone Lead Responsibilities

First aid kit and the students medical forms are in the Chaperone Locker in the band room. Combination --- (contact Chaperone lead for combination). **Only Chaperone leads are allowed in the band locker and to see the students medical form if there is an emergency. All medical information must be kept confidential.** In the front of the medical forms is an exception report which lists all allergies, health issues and anyone who is not allowed to have over the counter medication. Any medical emergency that occurs during practice or a chaperoned event needs to be immediately communicated to the chaperone chair.

If the students divide up with some inside and some outside, one chaperone should stay with each group and each should have a first aid kit. Wet bulb must be checked and recorded anytime students are outside.

Make sure all medication dispensed is written down for our records.

What to Wear (Games and Performances)

Chaperones are asked to wear shorts, jeans (comfortable pants) and MCHS Ram Band Chaperone shirt. Shirt purchases may be ordered through the Chaperone Chairperson. Each Chaperone will also be given a name badge on a lanyard which they must wear at all times.

Football Game Procedures

All Chaperones should arrive no later than 5:00PM (or designated time as stated by the Director) to confirm their assignments with the Chaperone Chair. It is required that all Chaperones wear his/her Chaperone shirt and khaki bottoms (pants, skirt, shorts) with ID badge/lanyard. This enables students to locate Chaperones easily should they need assistance. Chaperones are required to travel with the band on the bus to all games. A Chaperone Lead will be assigned to every bus, who will in turn communicate the readiness of that bus to the Chaperone Chair.

Each bus will be equipped with a "mini medical kit." A cell phone for communication on trips is recommended. The Lead from each bus will have the mini medical kits with them at all times while on the bus. The Chaperone Chair will take a full medical kit into the game or competition.

No other family members or visitors are allowed on the buses.

Students must be in uniform any time they are in public. They may need to finish dressing on the bus before it arrives at the school destination. ALL students should be wearing their Band T-shirt and shorts so that "getting dressed" on the buses is only a matter of putting on the uniform and getting zipped, pinned or buttoned. Please be sure the students wear the uniforms properly at all times.

Standard Bus Procedures

1. Chaperones should check over each bus before anything is loaded and relay any problems to the driver and Band Directors.
2. The front seats on both sides are reserved for Directors and Staff.
3. Students will board by classification and position, i.e. seniors, leadership, juniors, sophomores, freshmen. They must ride on the bus to which they are assigned. NO bus changes are allowed except at the Director's discretion for cause. The name of any student who is not cooperating should be given to the Chaperone Chair so that they may handle it with the Band Directors. If you have a situation that requires attention in route, contact the Chaperone Chair via cell phone. Do not force a confrontation with the student while in route. If the situation is considered an emergency, have the bus driver flash the bus lights and pull over at a safe spot so that the Band Directors can handle the situation immediately.
4. On school buses, everyone will remain seated while the bus is in motion.
5. The bus driver must be treated with respect at all times. Different drivers have different standards however, whatever they say goes!
6. Nothing is ever to protrude outside the bus windows (heads, arms, instruments, paper, etc.) nor thrown or dropped out of a window.
7. All students are to keep the bus clean at all times. At the end of the trip, every student should check the area around where he/she was sitting. ANNOUNCE to the students to check for uniform items, instruments, trash and any personal belongings before they get off the buses.
8. Normal conversation is appropriate; shouting or screaming is not acceptable. No obscene or objectionable language is to be tolerated.
9. Singing may or may not be allowed according to the policy of the bus driver. No instrument playing, drumstick tapping or other loud noises that might distract the driver will be allowed.
10. No food or drinks (other than water) are allowed on the bus. If an exception ever occurs regarding this matter, the Chaperones will be notified in advance.
11. Personal music devices are acceptable with headphones as long as no one hears them besides the person wearing the headphones.
12. Public display of affection between students is **not allowed** on the bus at any time.

After all students have left the bus, check the bus for trash and left behind items.

Game Procedures

Water is the bloodline for the band before and after performances. It is an important responsibility of the Chaperones. Water coolers should be filled at all times for the distribution to the band students water jugs. It is extremely important that students have access to water during warm-ups and after performances. Often, color guard, band, drums and pit warm up in separate areas and Chaperones will attend each of the warm-up areas for supervision and water.

Depending on location and accessibility of the stadium, the band will enter in 2X2. There may be times when this is different, but the Director will inform the Chaperones in advance. Chaperones should be spaced evenly along the line of students to avoid issues in any area of the line. If the equipment truck is close to the buses students will not march to that position but will march 2X2 to the field.

The band will always move as a group. Chaperones should walk on each side of the band until the band enters the performing area, at which time they will drop behind the band and let the band be clearly seen. No one should "break ranks" (cut through the band) except in an emergency. Should a single student or small group need to leave an area for any reason, they must be escorted by a Chaperone.

The band will sit in a block in their appropriate sections. Chaperones should sit around the block and act as a buffer zone for the band members. No one is to be in the band block except the students, Staff, Chaperones and Directors.

Students should stay in the designated area and be ready to play at any time. Alumni are allowed to enter the group with the Director's approval as long as their being there does not interfere with the Directors will handle it.

Students may leave the band section for breaks to the restroom, but must be accompanied by a Chaperone.

Football Game Procedures

The Chaperone Chair will report early. All other Chaperones should check in with the Chaperone Chair at least 15 minutes before students' arrival time.

Chaperones will help ensure that the students are prepared for the game by checking to see they are properly dressed, instruments are accounted for and ready to use, etc.

Keep visitors and parents from distracting the band members from their focus on the show. The band section will be roped off, and visitors should not be encouraged to enter this section. Visitors and parents should also be discouraged from bringing food and drinks to the students. Students are not allowed to eat while in uniform.

During the half time performance, the Chaperones will refill the water jugs of band members with fresh water. Once the students return, the Chaperones are responsible for disturbing snacks to the students are well as making sure the area is clean.

Do not eat or drink anything in front of the students. If you feel you must have something to eat or drink (other than water), do so at the concession stand.

During the Games

Drum majors lead stand music selected by Directors. At the end of the 1st quarter, Drumline and Guard gather for warm-up. With approximately 8 minutes remaining in the 2nd quarter, the band will gather with their respective instructors in the area designated by the Band Director. Uniforms personnel will hand out shako plumes.

Drum majors move band out on the field when the guest band finishes and wait to begin show. After the band complete playing the Martinetti song, band boosters and or chaperone gather music for band to continue their performances. Drum majors return unit to home side bleachers for water and/or refreshments.

After the Game

Band plays a few selections from the stands. When the game ends, the band returns to the busses to travel back to Mayde Creek High School band hall to unload and return to their homes.

PLEASE NOTE – AT ALL GAMES – HOME AND AWAY – A designated Chaperone will stay late at the school until ALL students have been picked up. We do not leave any student waiting at the school alone, nor do we take any student home without prior written arrangements.

Events and Committees

Lock-In:

The band lock-in is an all-night activity for all band students held on a Friday, Aug. 9th this year from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. Although this event is not mandatory, all students are encouraged to attend and participate. This overnight event includes a variety of teambuilding and fun-filled activities such as relay races, blowup games, video games, movies, dodge ball, and more! Snacks such as drinks, cookies, chips, etc., are provided by the students according to their sections. Volunteers are also needed to chaperone this event.

KISD Invitational Marching Contest (Katy Marching Festival):

This contest which is hosted by KISD is held at Rhodes Stadium in October of each year. The duties and responsibilities are shared by all high schools in the Katy Independent School District and their associated band booster organizations. While one KISD school takes on the responsibility as host for all contest participants, another school operates the concession stands and another oversees the parking and gate admissions. The proceeds from the Katy Marching Festival are divided equally between the six KISD Band Booster Organizations after all expenses have been paid. No students and/or children can volunteer due to liability issues.

UIL Marching Contest:

Other designated KISD schools will then host and run the associated UIL Marching Contest which also takes place in October. The proceeds from the concession stands and gate receipts from UIL are equally divided between the six KISD Band Booster Organizations after all expenses have been paid.

Uniform / Hat Committee:

The Uniform Committee assists with uniform fitting and sizing adjustments at the beginning of the Marching and Concerts Seasons in addition to coordinating the dry cleaning and maintenance of uniforms. The Uniform Committee Chairperson needs assistance to hem marching uniform pants before marching season and to hem concert uniform pants and dresses prior to concert season. Volunteers also assist in issuing/collecting uniforms and hats throughout the year (marching, contest performances, cleaning etc...) and assist with any needed repairs.

Other Events/Committees

Band Banquet
Game Day Meals
Hospitality
Marching Contests
Color Guard Assistances
Mayde Creek Band Family Showcase

Photographer
Video Operator
Equipment Repair
Spirit Committee
Other Fundraisers
Other Events

Fundraisers

Because the Mayde Creek Ram Band Boosters, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, it relies heavily on fundraisers, individual donations and corporate contributions to generate its operating funds. The organization is run and manned by volunteers; it does not have paid staff. Our success is dependent upon the combined efforts of our many volunteers. We have a variety of fundraising programs and hope that every parent/guardian can find one in which to volunteer. The following sections describe our major projects.

Katy Ram Challenge Bike Ride:

This event will be held in April. The Katy Ram Challenge is a recommended training ride for the BP MS150 Houston to Austin Ride. This event is a fully supported bike ride. Volunteers are needed to plan and organize starting early in the fall of the previous year. A few days before the ride, volunteers will be needed to assist with additional tasks associated with putting ride packets together and registering riders. On the day of the actual ride, we anticipate needing 100-150 volunteers to man registration, several stations and rest stops throughout the various routes available to riders. This is our biggest fundraiser in terms of effort and financial benefit.

5K Color Run: This event is normally held in the spring of the campus of MCHS. The Color Run is a five-kilometer, untimed event. At each kilometer mark, Color Runners are doused from head to toe in a different colored powder. Participants wear white at the starting line and finish the race plastered in color. Volunteers are needed to plan and organize starting early in the fall of the previous year. A few days before the run, volunteers will be needed to assist with additional tasks associated with putting run packets together and registering runners/walkers.

Friends of the Band Campaign: The purpose of the Friends of the Band Campaign is to obtain additional financial support of the Mayde Creek High School Ram Band Boosters through financial contributions from businesses, individuals and families.

Grocery Card Rebates:

Grocery Card Rebates are a year-round program which helps the MCHSBB raise funds while you do your grocery shopping at Randall's. Participation in the program costs nothing. Information is available at all booster meetings or by visiting a Randall's courtesy booth and requesting to have the Mayde Creek High School Ram Band Boosters code assigned to your Customer/Shopper card.

Spirit Items:

The Booster organization offers a variety of "spirit items" for sale. By purchasing spirit items, supporters can "show their support" at games and every band event throughout the year. The profit from these spirit items sales goes into the organization's operating funds.

Car Wash:

A car wash is being planned for August 18th this year at two locations: Fry Road at Sums and Hwy. 6 in the Bear Creek area. Students will bring home specific details.

Silent Auction (at the Holiday Concert)

Do part of your Holiday shopping with the Band Boosters. A variety of themed baskets, services, memorabilia, and products will be available for bidding. Most items are donated to the boosters therefore this is a very profitable fundraiser for the organization.

Firework Stand (*Winter Break/New Year's Eve and 4th of July*)

This is a new fundraiser for the band. Adults man the cash registers while students pull items and man the door checking receipts as people leave. We provide services for two weeks prior to New Year's Eve and each day is broken down into shifts. This event is expected to be very profitable for the band. If it works well this year, we will add it to the schedule in the future.

As a member of the Mayde Creek Mighty Ram Band Booster organization, we need your help to ensure all fundraisers are successful. Please join our volunteer pool today!

Where does the money go?

The funds that are raised pay for many things throughout the school year. A partial list of the events and activities which the MCHS Ram Band Boosters fund are listed below:

- *Marching Shows (Purchase of music and choreography);*
- *Supplemental Instruction;*
- *Technician & Clinician Fees;*
- *Contest Entry Fees (Marching Shows, Region Auditions, UIL, etc.);*
- *Equipment Needs (Sound systems, projectors, cameras, electronics, musical instruments etc.);*
- *Transportation*
- *Leadership Programs*
- *Banquets*
- *Scholarship Programs (Private Lessons, & Seniors); and*
- *Uniforms*

There is no secret or magic formula for the boosters and band's success. The Band Boosters is an organization that runs entirely on volunteer power for the benefit of all students in the band program. With all members working together, we can achieve success and ensure that the years in band will be some of the best and most memorable years for our students.

Volunteer Hours: How Your Time Adds Up!

Recording volunteer hours is important as they are reported to MCHS for inclusion in the Katy ISD VIPS (Volunteer in Public Schools) program. All KISD schools are required to track, monitor, and report this information for a variety of government reports, grants, etc. Volunteer Hours are earned when students and parents donate time and energy to support either a fundraising activity or an event in support of the overall program.

- Participation/Volunteer Hours are required for parents/guardians to qualify to serve on the Executive Board of the booster organization. (See#6 below.)
- Each band student/family is encouraged to accumulate a minimum of 75 Hours each school year.
- Participation/Volunteer Hours have NO DOLLAR VALUE.
- Participation/Volunteer Hours will be accounted for by each Event Team Coordinator or Committee Chair and turned over to the VIPS Coordinator at the conclusion of each event for posting.
- Participation/Volunteer Hours may be earned by a student and/or designated representative.
- A minimum of 75 Participation/Volunteer Hours, 25 of which must be earned by the student, are required for eligibility for the band booster organization board positions.
- Participation/Volunteer Hours accumulate for each school year which is defined as May 1st – April 30th. Hours may not be carried over to the next school year.
- All Participation/Volunteer Hours earned by parents are given to each band member in the same family on an equal basis. Participation/Volunteer Hours earned by students are accumulated on an individual basis.
- The following Volunteer Positions earn an extra 10 hours per year: Band Booster Executive Board Members, Booster Committee Chairpersons, VIPS Coordinator and Webmaster.

Band Students should see the student handbook or a director for information regarding Volunteer & Participation points earned and reported by students.

Scholarship Guidelines

Scholarships will be granted on a funds available basis at the end of the school year. The financial health of the Boosters and availability of scholarships is dependent upon successful fundraisers and volunteer support. In order to participate in any scholarship, students must be a member in good standing with the Boosters and the school. All fees for the current year must be paid in full and the student must be UIL eligible.

Private Lesson Scholarships

Private Lesson Scholarships will be granted on a fund's available basis. Qualifications:

- Band member must be on the directors' list of students who take private lessons.
- Band member must be in good standing (fees paid, equipment and uniforms returned, etc.).
- Payment of up to \$16 per ½ hr lesson for no more than 4 private lessons will be awarded at the end of the academic year. Maximum amount of the award is \$64.00.

Senior Scholarships

Senior Scholarships will be granted on a funds available basis at the end of the school year. The Booster Executive Board determines the maximum dollar amount available during the budget process. The number and the dollar amount of Senior scholarships will be determined in late March. Applications will be given directly to the eligible seniors.

Qualifications:

- Band member must be a graduating senior.
- Band member must have participated in a High School Band Program for four years or a total of eight semesters.
- Band member must complete and submit the scholarship application by the specified deadline. No extensions will be granted. All applications must be mailed to:

MCHS Ram Band Boosters, Inc.

P.O. Box 5505 Katy, TX 77491

- Band member must be in good standing (fees paid, equipment and uniforms returned, etc.).
- A committee will evaluate the applications and determine recipients. Members of this committee will be selected from the KISD community and will not have any relationships to the applicants.

OTHER INFORMATION

Contest Attendance - Almost from day one of summer band, preparation is under way for the UIL Marching Contest. A lot of hard work goes into putting the show together and as competition time draws near, we'll show our support of the Band by attending the contests. Everyone is encouraged to show their spirit at these events. Banners and posters are great visual reminders of our pride in our students. The Boosters will provide water and refreshments for the Band. We need parents, siblings, grandparents, neighbors, etc., at these events.

Proper Etiquette at Contests and Performances

Please note that there are certain etiquette standards for band contests and concert performances. It is appropriate to applaud when a group is introduced and at the end of each selection. It is also appropriate to acknowledge when high points of a marching show are performed by clapping. However, there should be **NO TALKING or NOISE** during the overall performance. During the week of contest, please show your support by letting the band members know what a tremendous job they are doing. It is important that we all show how proud we are of them for all the hard work they do.

Frequent Used Band Terms

Band Term	Definition
Band Pic Panoramic	During summer band a panoramic picture of the entire marching band in their marching uniforms is scheduled. Pictures may be ordered at the time the picture is taken. This is a group band photo only; individual pictures are taken later in the year.
Banquet	The banquet is held in May at the Pine Forest Country Club. This is a great end of the year celebration. The seniors "will" items to underclassmen, band directors submit awards, and band scholarships are presented. A nice dinner is served, and a DJ provides music to unwind to after the business section of the event. There is a cost to attend and registration is mandatory.
Big Brother/Sister	Upperclassmen mentor incoming freshmen. A freshman is assigned/selected by a big brother or sister, usually in the same section. The big brother/sister helps answer questions about band and school, often gives small gifts on game days, and gives the freshman another ally to start off their high school career.
Booster Meetings	The booster club meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month unless a band event conflicts with this date. A schedule of meetings is provided on the back of the receipt you receive on money day, on the calendar mailings, on the website, and on Charms. Booster membership is free, and all members are encouraged to attend.
Brick Orders	These fall under the spirit item umbrella. Students or families may purchase a brick with your students name and a sentiment that will be placed in front of the band hall.
By-Laws	These are the governing laws of the booster club.
Cage	The parking lot/practice area located in front of the bus barn at the school for marching practice.
Calendar Sync	Navigate to the CHARMS log on page for Mayde Creek HS Band. Click the "Calendar" tab, select the "Sync Calendar" tab located next to the "Exit CHARMS" tab, select your mobile device from the list of devices and follow the directions. This is a great way to have the most current schedule information literally in the palm of your hands.
Car Wash	This is the first fundraiser of the year. It usually occurs the second week of summer band. Students and adult volunteers set up car washing stations at two locations, one on Fry Road and one-off Highway 6. The students wash vehicles on a donation basis while the adults supervise. It is a fun way to raise a little money for the band.
Chaperones	The students travel by bus to each football game and marching festival. Each bus is assigned two parent chaperones. The chaperones must ride the bus and are not allowed to bring small children with them on the bus. The chaperones ensure the students safety, make sure the students are following the rules, and assist the directors as necessary. At halftime the chaperones fill water jugs, help with the plumes and flip charts. Attendance is taken for the bus prior to leaving school and prior to leaving the stadium or event venue. Upon return the chaperone makes sure the bus is free of trash and lost items.
Charms Access	You can access the CHARMS webpage two ways. You can navigate directly to the site at www.charmsoffice.com , select the "Enter/Login" tab, enter the school code (MaydeCreekHSB) under the Parents/Students/Members and select "Enter Student/Parent Area". A link to the CHARMS webpage is located on the band website as well along with the school code ~ www.mchsramband.org . The username for access is your student's school ID number. There is an option in CHARMS on the parent information page that allows you to change the log on for each parent if you choose to do so, please do not change the students log on, it should remain their student ID number for their personal access.
Clinicians	Specialists that come and supplement the instruction the students receive from the band directors.
Communication	The first stop for information is Charms, it will always have the most current information. All students and families members will be sent e-mails from the booster club membership coordinator and volunteer coordinator, and the director with updates on events, activities, and volunteer needs. The website is also a good way to find out what is happening with the band. You can access Charms through the website as well. www.mchsramband.org .
Concerts	Each student is fitted and provided concert attire. The girls are provided black dresses for the concert season. Boys are provided a jacket and pants but must purchase a shirt, cumber bund and bow tie. The shirt, cumber bund and bow tie combo may be purchased at money day or prior to the beginning of the concert season. Concert etiquette from the students and the guests is mandatory at these events. All mobile devices should be on silent and talking should be kept to a minimum while the bands are performing.

Corporate Sponsors	The band is always looking for various businesses to donate funds or in-kind donations to the band. They are recognized in the concert programs, on the band website, and on the t-shirts for the Katy Ram Challenge.
DI's – Drill Instructors Leadership Team	Each band section by instrument is assigned Drill Instructor(s)/Section Leader(s). Students must apply to be considered a Drill Instructor/ and participate in auditions. Once selected these students help teach other students in their section and maintain order during practice.
Drum Majors	Three students are selected after an application process and audition to be a Drum Major. These three students conduct the marching band during the field performances and in the stands. They are expected to help instruct students, maintain order, and be good role models
Fees	The student fees are broken into three sections for band members. General band member \$150, color guard \$650, percussion \$265. These fees are assigned based on the services and materials needed for that section. The fees cover costs such as dry cleaning of uniforms, transportation costs, clinicians, contest entry fees, uniforms, and other items.
Firework Stand	This is a new fundraiser for the band. We will help set up the fireworks stand to prepare for sales and then provide cashiers, floor workers, and doormen for two weeks prior to New Year's Eve. The band will receive a percentage from the sales.
Flip Charts	These are the small charts with music that the students use when marching, playing in the football stands, and for Martinetti performances during the halftime festivities. They are strongly recommended as they are very useful.
Game Day	If a game day falls during the school week the students must remain after school for practice prior to the game. Game day meals are provided after practice if the student purchased this option on money day. The students must wear their black band shirt and athletic shorts that fit under their marching uniform. When they get on the bus, they must have their water jug, hat box, flip charts with music, gloves, marching shoes, and instrument. At the game the students are not allowed to eat while they are in uniform. They can drink water only. They are expected to stay in their section and are not allowed to socialize with friends outside of band. All mobile devices must be put away during the game as well. The students must travel to and from the game on the bus. A tweet will be posted when the students are close to the school for parents to pick up their students. When picking up your student, please do not park or wait in the drive thru area. Please park in a parking spot and wait for your student to come to you. This helps with the loading and unloading of students and equipment. Also, please honk your horn as loudly as possible as the busses enter the parking lot to welcome our band home.
Game Day Meals	On days in which students do not have the opportunity to leave school for an evening meal between practice and game or event times, they have the option of purchasing game day meals. A light meal, water, and fruit is provided on each of these days. Students must select this option on Money Day and pay for all meals at that time. There are no single meals sold on the day of the event or partial orders. Game day meals are broken down into two category- rise: Student Paid and Booster Paid. The Booster club pays for two game day meals for all students during the fall marching season. These days are noted in Charms and the students are given menu options prior to the event.
Gift Wrapping	This fundraiser occurs on the days leading up to Christmas that the students are not in school. The students wrap presents for donations in the Katy Mills Mall. There are shifts that the students work, and they work all the way to the big money day of Christmas Eve. Wrapping supplies donations are solicited beginning at the first booster meeting.
Grocery Rebates	This must be the easiest fundraiser ever. Randall's and Kroger's allow people to link their reward cards to their school organization. For every dollar that you spend the band will receive a portion of the proceeds. We simply accept the checks.
Hat Boxes	Each student is designated a hat box and hat on money day. They are responsible for the care of the hat and the box.
Homecoming	The students can wear their mums or garters. The marching band performance is usually moved to after the game due to the homecoming ceremonies occurring at halftime. The usual game day procedure is followed. The Band Beau and Band Sweetheart are announced at this game.
Ice Social/Band Showcase	In September the eighth graders from the feeder middle schools come to MCHS and perform with the band in the Commons area of the school. The booster club provides ice cream and all the trimmings for a small fee during this event. Students wear their band polos and jeans for this event. They have an opportunity to go home after school but are expected to be back by a specific time designated by the band directors.

Jazz Band	This is an optional band that students may join. Practice is held after school. They perform at the winter and spring concerts along with participating in the Katy Jazz Festival in April.
Katy Jazz Festival	The Katy Jazz Festival is held in April and the duties are assigned by the district. They can be anything from hospitality for judges to putting out signs.
Katy Ram Challenge	This the main fundraiser for the band. It is a MS 150 recommended bike ride that takes place in April. The booster club coordinates, plans, and operates the ride. The ride has an average of 1200 riders each year and nets around\$17,000. It takes a lot of volunteer help and is a lot of fun to work.
Katy Rodeo Parade	The band marches in the Katy Rodeo Parade in March. All the Katy schools are combined into two big sections and march together from Rhodes stadium to Katy High School.
Leadership Camp	Learning sessions for the leadership team are provided in July and two workshop days are provided just prior to the start of summer band.
Letterman Points	In order to earn a letterman jacket, band students must earn a certain number of points. Points can be earned by participating in extra activities such as solo and ensemble, general participation, and region/jazz band tryouts. Once the required points have been accumulated the student will be given the option to purchase a jacket.
Loading Crew	This is a group of students that make sure all instruments are loaded properly on the busses and the trucks/trailer.
Lock – In	This is a fun team building event. It occurs at the end of the first week of summer band. The students arrive at 9pm on Friday and are virtually locked in the band hall/gym area until 6am. Each grade level is assigned an item to bring such as soda, chips, desserts, or fruits/veggies. The booster club provides hotdogs and nachos along with the necessary utensils and paper ware. Various activities are planned for the evening such as a dodge ball tournament, ice cream challenge, relay races, etc. It is a great way to celebrate the completion of the first week of summer band and a spirited welcome to the band family.
Marching Festivals	The band participates in several marching festivals each year. The usual marching uniform is used for the festivals with the addition of gauntlets to the uniform and a few restrictions. For instance, girls are not allowed to wear nail polish if their fingertips are visible with their gloves, the polish will be removed prior to the start of the event. Piercings are limited as well to stud type earrings for the girls only, all others must be removed during the performance times. Everyone must wear black socks. All hair must be neatly pinned under the hat during the performance. The students must have their hat box, water jug, marching shoes, and instruments as they enter the bus.
Money Day	This day kicks off the year. Students and family members follow a list of stations completing tasks necessary for band participation. They will update Charms information, collect necessary forms, sign up to volunteer, submit necessary district forms, purchase spirit items, get fitted for their marching uniform, and pay their appropriate student fees, including game day meal fees.
Patches	Patches are available for purchase at the various marching festivals. Some require the purchase of one patch and then a year rocker patch for each year that the student participates. These patches are usually sewn onto the letterman jacket.
Percussion Camp	These are learning sessions for the percussion group that are held in July
Piano Accompaniment	If your student participates in the Solo/Ensemble competition they may need an accompanist for their solo. The music that the student selects for the competition will dictate if they need this service. There is a fee for the service and this fee may be paid on money day or by the due date of the competition.
Pit Crew	The pit crew is made up of students and adult volunteers. They are responsible for loading, setting up the pit and percussion instruments and other items prior to the game, at half time, after the game, and unloading once back at school. The other large items are the drum major stands, tubas, and large instruments. Please help in clearing the path in and out of the band hall after a game or event to expedite the unloading process.
Plumes	Plumes are placed in each student marching uniform hat as they enter the field at halftime. The plumes are very delicate and cannot be touched by bare hands. A few adult volunteers pull and place the plumes for the students. There is a specific way to pull the plumes from the plume container, place the plumes in the hats, and returning the plumes to the container. The students are not allowed to remove or touch the plumes.
Practice/Rehearsals	All practice/rehearsals times are listed on the calendar mailings and on Charms.

Preview Performance	This is a great way to get a sneak peek at what the students have been working on during summer band. It is usually scheduled on the Friday of the third week of summer band. Family members are encouraged to visit the practice area/cage to see what the students have learned so far. Popsicle treats are provided for the students and family members at the end of the event.
Private Lessons	If a student is interested in private lessons, they should contact the band director and they will be given the contact information for private lessons. Private Lessons are optional yet invaluable and prices vary.
Region Jazz	Students can try out for a spot in the Region Jazz Band. There is a fee for the tryout which occur in the fall and the actual band performs/competes in the Spring.
Scholarships	Each year the booster club budgets a specific amount to be distributed as senior scholarships in the spring. The scholarship requirements are posted on the web site and distributed at the booster club meetings and at school by the band directors. Each scholarship application is anonymously judged by outside band members, teachers, and booster club members. The scholarships are presented at the band banquet in May.
Scoring	Scoring is done on a scale of 1-5 with 1 being the best. If the band receives all "1"s for the Marching, Concert, and Sight-Reading Contests, they receive the honor of Sweepstakes. The band received Sweepstakes last year and has an awesome record of ten years of first division scoring results at the UIL Marching competition.
Sectionals	During concert season the students have individual section practices/rehearsals. The times for these "sectionals" are determined by the director of the band that your student participates in.
Senior Night	The parents and senior students are recognized prior to the beginning of the football game. A senior picture is taken at this time as well. Prior to game day each senior must complete and submit a senior bio to the directors to be read at the presentation time.
Shoe Fitting	Around the second week of summer band the directors set up a day in which students are fitted for their marching shoes. Shoes may be purchased for your student at this time if they are freshmen or if they have outgrown/worn out a previous pair of marching shoes. You may pay by cash or check made payable to Tote Unlimited and the cost is usually around \$42.
Showcase	In September the eighth graders from the feeder middle schools come to MCHS and perform with the band in the Commons area of the school. The booster club provides ice cream and all the trimmings for a small fee during this event. Students wear their band polos and jeans for this event. They have an opportunity to go home after school but are expected to be back by a specific time designated by the band directors.
Silent Auction	This fundraiser is held in conjunction with the Winter concert. Various items are solicited and available for auction up to the start of the last band to perform. A raffle for a big-ticket item is usually held as well.
Solo/Ensemble'	Solo/Ensemble is a competition that is strongly recommended for all band students to demonstrate their musical talent by performing a solo and or an ensemble with other band students. There are fees to participate, that may be paid on money day or prior to the contest due date. Music for the event may be purchased as early as December prior to the competition school year.
Spirit Items	Spirit items such as shirts, jackets, bags, and other misc. items are available for sale at money day, at the games, or by submitting an order form by e-mail to fundraiser1@mchsrband.org.
Spirit Nights	Various restaurants designate specific nights in which people indicate that they are from the MCHS Ram Band and the band will receive a portion of all sales for the evening.
Spring Trip	Each year a trip is scheduled for the band. Every four years the band has a big trip to Disneyland. Any other year the trip is much closer. The cost is estimated at the beginning of the year and broken into payments to make it easier for students to attend.
Summer Band	Summer Band begins the first full week of August. A calendar is sent to the student's home address in late July with practice times, however the most up to date times are posted in Charms. For the first three weeks of summer band the students learn the marching fundamentals and some drill in the morning and then the music in the afternoon. The students have a lunch break in the middle of the day, they can either bring their lunch or leave for lunch. They are encouraged to dress according to the weather. Each student will be provided a water jug and is encouraged throughout the day to keep hydrated.
Texas Roadhouse	This is another fundraiser that occurs in the fall and sometimes in the spring. The students sell frozen rolls from Texas Roadhouse prior to Thanksgiving and Easter. The students take orders and then the purchasers may pick up the rolls on designated dates. The rolls are frozen and directions for cooking are provided. Cinnamon butter is also sold at this time.

Town Pep Rally	Near the first week of school, MCHS hosts a town pep rally in which the fall sports teams are introduced. The band performs at this event. The students usually wear their band polo and jeans for this event. Parents are encouraged to attend to cheer and support the band members along with the athletes. This event is held on the MCHS football field behind the school.
Treat Days	The day of practice prior to a game day or marching festival day the students are provided popsicles after practice as a treat for all their hard work.
UIL Hospitality	In April the band hosts the UIL concert competition and the booster club provides hospitality for the judges and staff.
Uniforms	There are two uniforms provided by the district, marching uniforms and concert attire. Both uniforms require some additional items to be purchased such as marching shoes, cummerbund and bow ties, etc. All fitting for core uniforms are done on money day.
Varsity/Non-Varsity	The top band or wind symphony band is considered the varsity band. The other bands are non-varsity. This comes into play during the UIL concert competition in April.
Water Jugs	Each student is provided a water jug on money day or during the first week of practice. Students are required to bring the jug with them to all practices, games, and events. They must be filled with water ONLY.
Website	Pictures, videos, upcoming events, calendars, forms, booster info, and much more is all located on the band website. www.mchsrband.org .
8th Grade Night	The eighth-grade students from the feeder middle schools join the band at one of the football games. They sit with their coordinating sections and participate with the high school band members.

You Know You've Been a Band Booster Too Long When

(which are all GOOD things):

1. The band director knows you by your first name.
2. You think you'll have more time to yourself when summer vacation ends.
3. You know all the band booster officers' home and work phone numbers.
4. You can name all the major band fundraisers.
5. You begin to look forward to volunteering at the next fundraiser.
6. The 2-minute warning at a football game takes on a whole other meaning.
7. You know the details of the band budget better than that of your family's.
8. You start to think of the kids in the band as your own.
9. You consider hot dogs as part of a balanced diet.
10. Your personal backpack contains extra black socks, bobby pins, and hair spray.
11. You realize that after next year you will not have a child in the band and you're considering adoption.
12. You want to volunteer.
13. You own more band t-shirts than you do dress clothes.
14. You wear your band t-shirts in the off-season.
15. You realize there isn't an off-season.
16. You can find your way around the high school without asking for directions.
17. You're thinking about getting your CDL.
18. You're on a first name basis with the judges at the band competitions
19. All your friends have kids in the band.
20. You've bought the original soundtracks to all the band's music.
21. You can name the band directors of all the schools in the area.
22. You know the names of the shows the band competes with.
23. You send suggestions to the band director.
24. The band director takes your suggestions.
25. You leave home on an errand and end up in the high school parking lot.
26. You buy a minivan because your vehicle didn't hold everyone in your carpool.
27. You know all the section leaders.
28. You continue to volunteer for band events even though your youngest child is no longer in the band.
29. You enjoy the smell of wet uniforms.
30. You carry back-up field paint to competitions at other schools.