



Welcome to the winter Memorial High School Band Parent newsletter!

In an effort to consolidate information, much of what would be in this newsletter is now posted on the Old Abes Bands website, <http://oldabebands.com>, which will have the most current information. Links are within this newsletter.

Greetings to all band students and parents!

Now that we are well into the school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful volunteers who made our fall band season a success. Band parents were very busy with football concessions and the tailgate party, both which would not have been a success without the help and support of our great parents. I would also like to thank our talented students and director for all the fantastic performances we had the privilege to enjoy. So, a sincere THANK YOU to each and every one of you; without you, the Memorial Band Program would not be what it is today!

I look forward to 2016! We have a very busy winter and spring ahead us with concerts, Pep band games, Thrift Sale, Solo Ensemble, and Evening of Jazz. Many of these events will require parent volunteers. Please be sure to sign up to volunteer when you can. Whether big or small, a commitment of your time is greatly appreciated.

Happy New Year!

Val Logan
MHS Band Parent Organization
President

Upcoming Performances

Did you know there's a calendar of events online?

[Full calendar of performances and events can be found online here.](#)

Upcoming Performances continued . . .

Pep Band (Eagle, Concert, Old Abe)

[Full schedule online here.](#)

Students are responsible for the games they are assigned. They need 5 games to get one freebie where they won't need to find a sub. All other games, students must find a sub in their instrument group if they can't make it. State Band members will be decided by amount of individual games played.

Freshman Pep Band

February 5; February 25 6:30pm MHS

Dress is the official Old Abe Band t-shirt and jeans. Arrive at 6:30 via Door 19 in the band area. We walk down to the game gym together, and all band members get in free. We usually learn about a dozen songs, and we play pre-game tunes, "On Memorial" and "The Star-Spangled Banner." We stay and play at halftime. Once the half is completed, we return to the band room. At that point, the band room is locked, and there are two options: students may go home or go back to the game. Halftime usually ends around 8:30 or so; games usually end about 9:15.

Elementary Jazz Tour (Jazz I, Jazz II)

Friday, January 8 During the school day at various elementary schools

Students play and talk about the jazz program to young aspiring musicians. A fun event for both ages!

McNally Smith Jazz Festival (Jazz I, Jazz II)

Saturday, January 23 Minneapolis, MN

More information to come.

Jazz Concert (All Jazz)

Monday, February 1 7:00pm MHS

Freshman Band Trip

Freshman are headed to Madison May 13-14 to see *The Lion King*! [More information can be found online here.](#)

Fundraiser Events

Committee chairs are planning for the spring. Please consider doing what you can to help out.

Thrift Sale

Set-up: Friday, April 15	3:00pm–10:00pm	MHS gym
The sale: Saturday, April 16	8:00am–1:00pm	MHS gym

Got stuff? No donation is too small! [More information here on how to donate and volunteer.](#)

Pops Concert

Wednesday, May 11

7:00 pm MHS

The Pops concert is a celebratory performance and fundraiser for all concert bands, honoring graduating seniors and featuring pies served and eaten in the hallways of Memorial High School. [More information about the Pops Concert \(and how you can volunteer!\) here.](#)

Evening of Jazz

Saturday, May 21

6:00pm Heyde Center for the Arts

Thank you to Joe and Marilyn Lustik and Shannon Young for stepping up to co-organize the Evening of Jazz. We are still looking for one more person to join in organizing this event.

This is a fun-filled, multi-generational evening of dancing to the big band sound. We transform the Heyde Center for the Arts into a big band venue and are entertained by all MHS jazz bands. [More information about the event and how you can help out can be found here.](#)

Other Webpages to Note

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Scholarship Information](#)

[For Sale and Private Lessons](#)

Contact Information

Band Directors

Mr. Eric Dasher: Director of Old Abe Wind Ensemble, Concert Band, and Freshman Bands

edasher@ecasd.us (715) 852-6360 [More about Mr. Dasher](#)

Mr. Scott Hensiak: Director of Jazz Bands and Eagle Bands

shensiak@ecasd.us (715) 852-6361 [More about Mr. Hensiak](#)

Band Parent Organization

[Band Parent Board Directory](#)

Find Us Online

Skyward: Make sure your family is using Skyward, the school district's student information system. Log in at: <http://www.ecasd.us/District/Departments/Technology/Skyward-Information>.

Facebook: Join "Memorial High School Band Program" on Facebook.

And finally: Is someone you know not receiving e-mails from the Band Parent Organization? [Please have them contact us so we can add their email address to our list.](#)