

❖ June 1, 2011 ❖

WWW.RUSTBURGBANDS.ORG



RUSTBURG HIGH SCHOOL
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Rustburg Band Notes

Michael D. Straw, Band Director

Dear Parents and Students,

The 2010-2011 school year was another great year! I appreciate the opportunity to have worked with your children this past year! We congratulate our Senior Band members for a great year and wish you "Good Luck" in your future endeavors. I want to say "Thank You" to band parents for your help, interest, and hard work in support of the band program in Rustburg! Without a supportive parent organization it would be impossible to offer and to achieve the things we do for your children. Kudos to both students and parents for a fantastic team effort!

Every band member is to be congratulated on his or her accomplishments as a group this year. The band is an organization that requires teamwork of each member and because each individual made a solid contribution we had a very successful year! I would like to recognize and highlight the special achievement of band members that earned the following awards: (* denotes Senior)

Outstanding 8th Grade Band Member
Daniel Oliver

Most Improved Musician
Courtney Moore

Outstanding Freshman Band Member
Kaitlyn Somazze

Outstanding Sophomore Band Member
Chase Poole

Outstanding Junior Band Member
Jessi Schultz, Mary-Alison Lane

Outstanding Percussion Player
Jed Gallagher

Outstanding Woodwind Player
Olivia Cochran

Outstanding Brass Player(s)
Darrius Slaughter, C.J. Johnson

Most Outstanding Musician
Crystal Hall

Outstanding Senior Band Member
Brittany Pennington *

John Philip Sousa Award
Steven Sensabaugh *

Elizabeth Smith Memorial Scholarship
Recipients for Band Seniors
Steven Sensabaugh * & Frank Goff *

Emily East Memorial Scholarship
Recipient for Band Seniors
Tevin Herndon *

Band seniors * are: **Steven Sensabaugh, Brittany Pennington, Brianna Eisenhauer, Kelsey Wright, Ben Leeming, Zach Layne, Salina Williams, Tevin Herndon, NaHyun Kang, and Frank Goff.**

Congratulations to these band members and the band seniors "*Class of 2011*" on your achievements and many thanks for your leadership!

Sincerely,

2011-2012 M.R.D. INFORMATION

Enclosed with this information is the MRD 2011 band summer practice calendar and the 2011 fall calendar of events for the Marching Red Devil (M.R.D.) Band. This newsletter and all newsletters throughout the school year will be available on the band website at (www.rustburgbands.org) for downloading in Adobe Acrobat format. Hard copies of the MRD calendar will be available in the band room and you can view it online in the Google calendar on the band website. In addition the band website is becoming more interactive. Students and parents can fill in forms online and they will be sent by email to Mr. Straw.

Attendance at Band Camp is mandatory for those that are a participating member of the Marching Red Devil Band.

BAND CAMP AT RHS

The dates for Band Camp are **AUGUST 1-12**. Band Camp hours are from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Veteran marchers will notice a different camp schedule this year. I have to be in Massachusetts on Saturday, August 13 for my daughter's final performance at the Tanglewood Music Institute and to bring her home. Travel plans may require an 8 or 9 day camp instead of our normal ten-day camp. Any changes in the number of band days will be posted on the band website. The MRD Bands first home performance will be **Friday, August, 26**. There is NO CHARGE for Band Camp because it is held at Rustburg High School.

As a general rule, the only exception for this attendance policy is if a student is traveling out of the country or an extenuating medical circumstance. **Family vacations and student jobs must be planned around the band camp dates and times!**

There will be afternoon practices the week following band camp. **Attendance at these afternoon practices is required.** Please refer to the enclosed calendar.

SUMMER PRACTICE SCHEDULE

The summer practice schedule will begin on July 12. Please refer to the enclosed calendar for practice and performance dates. While summer practices before Band Camp are not mandatory, attendance is highly suggested to get a head start on the show for the coming year. Students should come to get their music and a CD of the show.

HOME/PLAY-OFF FOOTBALL GAMES

Below is a list all of regular season and play-off football games for which the band is responsible:

| OPPONENT | DATE | TIME | PLACE |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| William Campbell | Aug. 26 | 7:00 pm | Home |
| Alleghany | Sept. 9 | 7:00 pm | Home |
| E.C. Glass | Sept. 23 | 7:00 pm | Home |
| Amherst (<i>HOMECOMING</i>) | Oct. 7 | 7:00 pm | Home |
| Brookville | Oct. 29 | 7:00 pm | Home |
| Play-offs Region Quarter Finals | Nov. 11 | 7:30 pm | T.B.A. |
| Play-offs Region Semi Finals | Nov. 18 | 7:30 pm | T.B.A. |
| Play-offs Region Finals | Nov. 25 | 7:30 pm | T.B.A. |
| Play-offs State Semi Finals | Dec. 03 | 1:00 pm | T.B.A. |
| Play-offs State Finals | Dec. 10 | 1:00 pm | T.B.A. |

AFTER-SCHOOL PRACTICES

When school begins the band will practice daily. Beginning August 22rd (first day of school) the band will practice from 2:45-5:00 pm. Once students have learned the

drill and music to my satisfaction, practice hour will be the normal 2:45- 4:45 pm. Student's jobs must be planned around practice hours. There will be no early dismissals or excused/approved absences because of jobs. There are no practices the day of home football games. By the last weekend of October, after the last contest, the after-school practices are generally cut back to approximately two days per week. Please refer to the band calendar in this mailing. Updates will be printed for students to pick up in the band room AND posted on the band website.

BAND FEE

There will be a **\$100.00** Band Fee for **ALL** band members. ***This fee MAY possibly increase slightly.*** The band fee covers use of band uniforms, school-owned instruments, equipment, T-shirt, pizza/drinks at home games, etc. ***Our band fee is amongst the lowest in the area.*** Other bands in our immediate area have fees that range from \$250-\$450. Some scholarship money is available from the Rustburg Band Boosters. Some parents have sent in already sent in all or a portion of the Band Fee. **The band fee is to be paid in full by Friday, August 5.** Band members are responsible to provide the following parts of their uniform:

FLAGS: Leotard, Shoes, and Tunic to be announced.

INSTRUMENTALISTS: Black lace-up shoes, black socks and white gloves. **Black tennis shoes are unacceptable and therefore not allowed!**

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP?

Lunch, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, pencil, tennis shoes and socks, insect repellent and the rental fees for uniforms and equipment. Students will need to bring their own water bottle, sports bottle or cooler for the water and Gatorade that will be provided. Your child is expected to display good manners, good behavior and treat the school facilities with care and respect at all times. It is the parent's responsibility for knowing and giving your child permission to leave campus and to be a passenger with another adult or teenage driver.

UNIFORM DISTRIBUTION

Uniform distribution for musicians will take place on **Tuesday, August 2nd**. I need parent volunteers to distribute and fit the band members for uniforms at 8:00 am. The uniform will be left at school and your child is expected to take proper care of the uniform during the year. Uniforms are dry clean only.

MRD LEADERSHIP TEAM 2011-2012

Student leadership team includes:

DRUM MAJORS – Jessi Schultz and Crystal Hall.

BAND CAPTAINS – Olivia Cochran and Mary-Alison Lane

PERCUSSION CAPTAINS – Zach Burnette, Jed Gallagher, Brian Harvey.

FLAG CAPTAINS – Tori Eisenhauer, Mikayla Carlton

Flag Team Members 2011-2012

Mikayla Carlton, Tori Eisenhauer, Darlisha Davis, Sarah Grishaw, Oksana Davis, Jamie Hughes, Alyssa Lyons, Aly Mayhew, Katie Buckles, Brianna Burch, Emily Gallagher, Tia Clark.

Drumline Members 2011-2012

SNARE DRUM – Harrison Reynolds, Zach Burnette, Jed Gallagher.

TENOR DRUM – Brian Harvey, Andrew Smith.

BASS DRUM – Miranda Franklin, Marina Reid, Dustin Johnson, Jason Hendricks, Tom Wheeler.

PIT PERCUSSION – Tabitha Severson, Kelsey Hawes, Brandon Wright, Winston Elliott.

MRD STAFF MEMBERS 2011-2012

Mr. Michael Straw – Band Director

Mr. Walker Pennock – Assistant Band Director

Miss Lauren Williams – Flag Instructor

Mr. Steven Wright – Percussion Instructor

BAND HANDBOOK

The band handbook will be distributed the first day of band camp and is to be read by all students and parents. The signature page and band registration forms are due by August 5. The band handbook will also be online in Acrobat format.

RUSTBURG BAND BOOSTERS, INC.

2011-2012 Band Incentive Account Guidelines

The student account program will enter its fourth year in 2011-12. The goal of the Band Member Incentive Accounts is to allow students to accumulate points to qualify for trips including the spring trip or Florida trip. For more information visit the band website for policy guidelines for these accounts.

BAND BOOSTER MEETING DATES

The band parent organization, which is made up of all parents of any band student in the band program at Rustburg, will have periodic meetings throughout the school year. This parent organization is the **Rustburg Band Boosters, Inc.** Parent involvement is vital in your child's education and in their life as they mature into adulthood. We try to keep the meetings brief and "to-the-point" so we, as parents, can provide a strong supportive role for the band under Mr. Straw's direction. All meetings will be held in the RHS Band room. Meeting dates will be published on the band website and notices mailed home prior to meeting dates.

FUNDRAISERS and DROP BOX

It is highly suggested that students and families take part in the many fund raising activities that will be offered throughout the coming year. We will use "individual accounts" for all trip participants. Students will earn points as they did this past school year and their account will be credited towards their trip. Their account will be used for paying down the cost of the trip. The Band Boosters have installed a drop box in my offices at RHS and RMS. Students are to put their fund raiser money in the envelopes provided with their name, date, project, and then place it into the drop box.

PARENT VOLUNTEER FORM ONLINE

The band plans another very active year for 2011-2012. I need your help and assistance throughout the year in areas other than supervising your child practicing at home and getting them back and forth from practice. The list of activities will appear on the band website (www.rustburgbands.org) and will be mailed home as well as distributed to band members to take home at band camp. When parents receive our activity list, please check the activities that you are able to help with return this list to the drop box in Mr. Straw's office at the earliest possible date OR complete it online on the band website.

ATTENTION PARENTS

The major portion of the band budget is raised through the proceeds from the concession stands. Your support for the band AND your child is most important! Everyone can help in some way. Please contact Mr. Straw, return the **Parent Volunteer Form** when you receive it or fill out the Parent Volunteer Form online on the band website.

