

**Fontainebleau High School Crimson Band  
Band Monthly Meeting**

**Held: Tuesday August 23, 2011**

**Place: FHS Auditorium**

Purpose: Provide information to band parents about upcoming activities

Meeting called to order: 7:10pm

Debbie Castro, Crimson Band Booster Club President for 2011-2012 began by welcoming all band parents. Introductions were made of those members of the 2011-12 Crimson Band Booster Club Board who were present.

Agendas were available to all those present highlighting the topics to be covered along with pertinent contact information.

**Jamboree: This Friday Aug 26<sup>th</sup>**

All students must stay at school. They will practice, get fed supper and change for the game. Make sure students bring black pants NOT JEANS, black socks, black belt and marching shoes. Red polo's and black caps will be handed out to each student. Students may wear a black or white undershirt if desired. Please make sure all items are clearly marked with your students name and remind them that whatever is brought to school needs to go home with them.

**\*\*Volunteers are needed @ 5pm to pass out shirts and hats. If you are available contact Teri- see agenda for contact info.**

**Game Day MOM:**

Looking for a Mom to volunteer for this position for all football games. Duties will include making sure that students have socks, gloves, etc. to dress out for the games. Please contact Debbie Castro if interested.

**Booster shirts will be handed out Thursday Aug 25 in front the Gym after practice**

**Color Guard:**

Help needed with hair & makeup from 4:30-6pm each game day. Contact Rhonda Lopez 985-373-3976.

**Watering Crew:**

Still need volunteers especially for the games later in the schedule. Volunteers plan on meeting at the concession stand at 4:00pm to begin the set-up process. Get your entrance pass at the back gate. Please wear a Booster shirt or any red shirt you have. For the away games we do not ride the buses with the students. After setup you can drive yourself or carpool with other volunteers and follow the buses.

**\*\*\*\*We are in need of any parents who have a truck with open bed space or a small trailer which can be towed to volunteer to transport the tubs and ice chest for all away games. Please contact Susan Mumphrey 504-430-0330.**

**Concession Stand:**

Volunteer sign-up sheets were out front in the lobby area for band parents to sign up for any of the home games. All games have openings. Set-up times have changed to 9-12 and then 4-5:30. Contact Kristine Kelsey 985-249-9690.

**Rules: must be 18, arrive on time, wear a red or black FHS shirt, passes will be issued at the back gate only for those working, no eating in the concession stand, food handlers wear gloves, drinks must be kept below the serving area, you may eat one (1) food item on break outside of the concession stand.**

Free food is provided to the STP Sheriff personnel and school administrators. Please send them to the back door.

**Game Day Feeding & After School Practice:**

Help is needed. Contact Tina Mroski [tmroski@charter.net](mailto:tmroski@charter.net)

**Sponsorship Program:**

New program to try and gain more sponsor support for the band program. A brochure and letter has been put together by Mr. Hicks. Help is needed to send out mass mailings and then make follow-up phone calls. Contact Debbie Castro

**New Band Trailer:**

A used trailer has been purchased and this Saturday Aug 27<sup>th</sup> clean-up and work on the trailer will begin in order to get it ready for use in the upcoming band festivals. Big tools and air tools are needed. Contact- Dave Lopez, see agenda for contact info.

**Sewing:**

Rob is hoping to have more costume material in this week and there will be more cutting and sewing to get started on. If you can help, stop by the uniform portable after practice on Thursday and you can pick up a project.

**Freezer Needed:**

The concession stand is in desperate need of a chest or stand-up freezer. Contact Debbie.

**Fundraising:**

Still need adult volunteers for all events currently scheduled. Please refer to agenda for current list of events and dates.

A raffle is also being planned for a pair of tickets to the LSU/Northwestern game on Saturday Sept 10<sup>th</sup>, which is the first home game for LSU. Price will be \$5.00 a chance. More info to come soon.

**March-A-Thon:**

Looking for a coordinator to head up the event and volunteers to work. This is a mandatory event scheduled for the evening hours and will come to an end the following morning. Students get pledges or a blanket donation to raise money while marching and learning the show. Trouble scheduling the event due to multiple conflicts but date looks like it will be Sept 29<sup>th</sup> as that Friday Sept 30<sup>th</sup> is the Parish Fair holiday. The location of

this event is yet to be determined but Mr. Hicks is checking into holding it at the Castine Center.

**Marching Festivals Planned:**

**October 1<sup>st</sup>- Gulf Coast Community College, Mississippi**

**October 22<sup>nd</sup>- Ft. Walton Beach, Florida**

**October 29<sup>th</sup>-SHOWCASE- Lafayette, Louisiana**

**November 2<sup>nd</sup>- East Jefferson High School, Metairie**

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Mr. Ralph Hicks then addressed the parents and spoke about other topics of concern or interest:

**Band changing location for games:**

The band will play in the Bandstand for the Jamboree game this Friday but after that for all regular season home games the band will move back into the big stands with the crowd. He feels the band can generate more excitement and crowd participation if they are in the stands with the student body and fans.

**Mark your stuff:**

Please make sure that all student items: band shoes, bags, clothing, etc. is clearly marked with students names and remind them frequently: bring everything home. The band has donated lots of clothing & shoes to the homeless because students failed to retrieve items they have left behind in the band room.

**Volunteers:**

If you have volunteered to work at football games you get to come in thru the back gate.

If you are not working you must pay admission and go thru the stadium gate.

Comp Meals for Mr. Vitrano- He can get a free meal for himself or whomever he chooses. It is Mr. Hicks' policy to take care of his boss and keep him happy; as he is very supportive of Mr. Hicks and special requests he has in conjunction with the band.

**Chaperones/Fund Raising events:**

The carwash fundraisers are going fantastic but Mr. Hicks wants to remind chaperones that student's behavior needs to be monitored and any actions that could be perceived as inappropriate need to be stopped (Ex: students appearing to be undressed while holding signs advertising the event). Be careful and make sure that the Band is represented in a positive way all the time. You never know who is watching from afar.

Chaperones are cautioned to not smoke or drink during their shifts and if the function involves students to please beware of your own actions at all times.

**Rehearsals:**

Have been going well and the students are doing great. Wanted to remind parents that they are keenly aware of the heat index and this is monitored very closely by Coach Gardner. If above 109deg everyone is kept inside. Practices are timed and frequent breaks provided based on the weather conditions.

Full week rehearsals will start Monday Oct 17<sup>th</sup> and last 2 weeks up to Showcase. Students may get out at 5:00 or 5:30.

### **Marching Band Festivals:**

Check the schedule listed above. The point of going to festivals is to help the kids get ready for the show. They need to repeat the routine several times to get better and Mr. Hicks and Mr. Beyers want to receive the judges tapes and comments so they know what areas of the program need to be worked on and fixed before Showcase.

### **Capital Investments:**

The band came across a great deal and has purchased an 18 wheel trailer to expedite hauling of all the percussion equipment. The cost was \$3200 dollars used. (Original price was \$25,000). Having one large trailer should be more cost effective as the band will only have to pay expenses for one driver and gas for one vehicle instead of many. Mr. Hicks has also been purchasing used, field ready, equipment from other drum corps because lots of our equipment was falling apart and needed replacement. He recently spent \$30,000 on about \$100,000 dollars worth of band items such as chimes, xylophone and timpani.

### **March-a-Thon:**

Multiple dates have been considered but it looks like the event will be held overnight Thursday Sept 29 until Friday morning Sept 30<sup>th</sup>. The venue has not been finalized but could possibly be scheduled at The Castine Center in Mandeville. Will need parent volunteers that don't have to work or can take off on Friday to man the event.

### **Big Band Concert:**

In the past concerts have been held with The Glenn Miller Band, Count Basie Band or Maynard Ferguson. These have been very profitable for the band program. He is hoping to arrange something for this Spring but will depend on the band's schedules. More to come about this undertaking.

## **BAND NEEDS**

### **LED Christmas Lights Needed!**

Band is looking for donations of Cool White LED lights for use in the program. Please give to Mr. Hicks or Mr. Beyers

### **Golf Cart or 4-wheeler!**

Band needs assistance with moving percussion equipment from the band room to the field and it is very difficult with only student muscle. Unfortunately the golf cart purchased last year was stolen over the holidays from outside the band room. Arrangements have been made to keep the equipment locked up in the school to prevent future theft.

### **Scaffolding! (15-20ft)**

If anyone knows of some that can be borrowed or rented, please see Mr. Hicks.

**Band Sponsorships!**

If any business is interested in donating “stuff” instead of money, it will be accepted and they can be classified as a sponsor at a certain level based on the value of the donated goods. Each sponsor will get a donation letter for tax purposes.

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**Information-** Mr. Hicks asked that all questions or concerns of any kind be brought to him for clarification. E-mail is the quickest way to communicate with parents about any concerns they have. Parents can reach Mr. Hicks by email at [ralph.hicks@stpsb.org](mailto:ralph.hicks@stpsb.org) or e-mail CBBC President Debbie Castro or Mr. Beyers.

Please check the CHARMS website for the full schedule of band events/activities.

In closing Mr. Hicks reiterated that he is very pleased with the positive attitudes of the parents and students this year. The kid’s attitudes are awesome and they are all psyched with the show this year. Please keep the kids responsible with their schedules and the work they have to do. He asked parents to continue to give of their time to their children and to friends of their children. One day they will be grateful.

Meeting adjourned: 8:16pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by:  
Susan Mumphrey  
Secretary  
CBBC 2011-2012