

# The Bands of Gateway High School



Gateway High School \* 3000 Gateway Campus Boulevard \* Monroeville PA 15146 \* 412-373-5751  
Mr. Robert Read, Director: [rread@gatewayk12.org](mailto:rread@gatewayk12.org) Gateway Band Website: [www.gatewayband.org](http://www.gatewayband.org)  
JUNE 2009



**BAND SCHEDULE** Please check your e-mail for valuable updates to the Band's spring/summer schedules. The June/July daily schedule includes:

M-F 6/22-6/26 – Band Mini-Camp –  
Winds/Percussion - 9:00 / Guard - 5:30  
Tue 6/30, 7/7, 14, 21 – Full Ens. Rehearsal – 5:30  
7/21 – Band Booster Meeting – 7:00  
Fri 7/3 – Full Ens. Rehearsal & Picnic – 4:30  
Sat 7/4 – 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade – 8:30

**FAIR SHARE ASSESSMENTS** for the 2009-10 Gateway Band Season take affect this July. Each member of the marching band is assessed a “Fair Share” fee for the year. This money is used to pay for entry fees, transportation, clothing, equipment, and other costs associated with the band. The Board restructured the fees and fundraising distributions this year to simplify the process. The Fair Share Assessment this year, which now includes your child's trip to West Chester PA this fall (as opposed to a separate fee), is \$380. Payments can be made over a four-month period according to the following structure:

7/21 – \$95 8/18 - \$95 9/15 - \$95 10/20 - \$95

To offset the Assessment, families will be given many opportunities for fundraising that will go entirely to the student's 'bucket' (eliminating the former 'split'). For example, sell a case of candy bars and you have \$100+ going towards your assessment. Sell four cases and you are paid in full! Work 4 Steeler games and you are paid in full. Or just write a check for \$380. General Fund support can be made from participation in such fundraisers as the annual craft show, concessions, and raffles.

On-time payments earn points towards your participation goal and ensure your student will be eligible for any trips, gifts, and special events. Checks made out to Gateway Band Boosters may be given to any board member or mailed to Janet Kelly ~ 707 Bilberry Drive Monroeville PA 15146.

If, for any reason, you cannot make these payments on their due dates, you must contact a member of the board ASAP to work out a payment schedule. There is also a limited amount of Financial Aid available to assist families with meeting their fair share obligation. Request for assistance should be forwarded to the Band Booster President and/or Financial Secretary. All such communications are confidential.

June 2009

**FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES** Watch for info for old and new fundraisers to support the General Fund or fill your child's 'bucket' to help offset the Fair Share Assessment or purchase optional clothing items, guest banquet tickets, etc. Some great opportunities available this year are:

- \* Heinz Field Fundraisers – Pitt and Steeler games
- \* Candy Bar Sales – One case of candy sold per month can more than offset the fees!!
- \* Vera Bradley – Raffle and Sales
- \* Entertainment Books
- \* Gateway Band Stadium Seats
- \* Dinner Night Outs

**VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES** The kids really need our support, and like fundraising, there will be many opportunities to help out. Coming soon:

- \* June Mini-Camp and August Band Camp
- \* July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade Rehearsal Picnic
- \* Uniform Preparation

**GET READY FOR SUMMER MINI-CAMP** Just a reminder that mini-camp will be the week of June 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. Anyone not on vacation is encouraged to attend. Winds and Percussion will meet at 9:00 am and Color Guard will practice at 5:30. See you there!

**FOURTH OF JULY FAMILY & ALUMNI PICNIC** For all band and alumni families will be held Friday July 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4:30 – 6:00. Rehearsal for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade will immediately follow from 6:00 – 8:00. Hot dogs, chicken fingers, and drinks will be provided. Band families are asked to bring the following:  
Side Dishes – Flutes, Trumpets, Percussion  
Salads – Clarinets, Saxophones  
Desserts – Color Guard, Drum Majors  
Munchies (3 bags each) – Baritones, Mellophones

ALL FAMILY MEMBERS are invited to the picnic. If unable to attend, please still send requested food item with your band member as all items are necessary to have a successful event. Come out and enjoy with the Gateway Band Family!

**BAND CAMP** The 2009-10 Marching Band Camp has been scheduled for the weeks of August 10 and August 17. Remember, Band Camp is mandatory so plan your vacations accordingly!

**GATEWAY BAND ANNUAL CRAFT SHOW** Thanks to Susan Guerrieri for all the great work she puts in to the craft shows. Susan will be 'graduating' this year

and would like to share her knowledge with the next chairperson. If you would be interested in chairing this important event, please see the Board. Due to a conflict with a band show this November, GBB, with Susan's support, will be moving the date of this successful fundraiser to November 21<sup>st</sup>.

**GATEWAY BAND LEADS THE PENGUINS** Congratulations to the Band for being chosen to lead Mario Lemieux and the 2008-09 Stanley Cup winning Pittsburgh Penguins in their victory march through the city!



**FROM THE DESK OF MR. READ:**

#### **BAND MEMBERS AND FAMILIES**

Someone asked me yesterday if I enjoyed being a band director. My response was quick and energetic. "ABSOLUTELY" was my first response, but then I went on to explain that I have so many opportunities to share GREAT things with the kids and parents. I really do LOVE my job! And one of those GREAT things was being able to share in the memories we'll all have of the Pens Victory Parade. I will tell you that I was a little concerned with who was going to show up on Monday morning. But the power of technology pulled through. What a great turnout!

I want to thank those band members and families who changed some plans, altered some time schedules, or cancelled other activities so they could participate in the parade. I really appreciate your commitment and dedication. Too bad we didn't get to see more of the Penguins (if we saw any at all), but to be a part of all of the excitement was definitely worth it. EVENTUALLY, we all did return to the high school, but I think that was the worst part of the day – getting OUT of Pittsburgh. Some of the band saw places I'm sure they've never seen before!

The band played well, marched well, and presented a great image of themselves, the school, and our communities. THANK YOU & CONGRATULATIONS!

So now... I think the 2008-09 band season is over. Now we begin the 2009-10 season...

#### **2009-10 BAND BOOSTERS OFFICERS**

President – Joe Wightkin	412-856-2882
gbb.president@gatewayband.org	
Vice President – Martti Kinnunen	
gbb.vice.president@gatewayband.org	
Treasurer – Donna Zaccagnini	-
gbb.treasurer@gatewayband.org	
Financial Secretary – Janet Kelly	412-372-2049
gbb.financial.secretary@gatewayband.org	
Secretary – Beth Humenik	412-841-2259
gbb.secretary@gatewayband.org	
Ways and Means – Lisa Babjak	724-327-6838
gbb.ways.means@gatewayband.org	
Past President – Dave Cook	412-310-7232
gbb.past.president@gatewayband.org	

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#### **BAND EMAILS:**

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[gbb.email.list@gatewayband.org](mailto:gbb.email.list@gatewayband.org)  
[gbb.publicity@gatewayband.org](mailto:gbb.publicity@gatewayband.org)

Gateway High School Band Boosters  
P.O. Box 535  
Monroeville, PA 15146

**ACT 34/CHILD ABUSE CLEARANCE.** Please be aware that School District Policy 916 requires that any adult having contact with students (whether as chaperone, pit crew, hemming uniforms, etc.) MUST have clearance forms. The cost of each form is \$10 and is to be paid by the individual. The Act 34 Criminal History Form must be sent in first so that a copy of that processed form can be attached to the Child Abuse Form. Once you've received both clearances, please give a COPY to Mr. Read (keep the original). You do not need to re-apply for these clearances if you've already done so. You can find both online.

Criminal History Request Form:

<http://www.psp.state.pa.us/psplib/psp/sp4-164.pdf>

Child Abuse History Clearance Form:

<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/resources/documents/pdf/fillinforms/dpwchildabuse.pdf>

**IMPORTANT ADDITION:** You must receive an Act 114, Federal (FBI) Criminal History Report at: [http://www.pa.cogentid.com/PDE\\_Main.html](http://www.pa.cogentid.com/PDE_Main.html). Please note this is a longer process because the form must be completed online then you go to a fingerprinting center for completion. The cost of this clearance is \$40 (note no cash or personal checks are accepted.) **It could take 8 weeks to obtain this clearance.**