

Parent Survival Guide 2017-2018

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**Sponsored by
Northmont Band Boosters**

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Joy McKarns	Breakfast with Santa	santa@northmontband.org
TBD	Advent Tree Farm	advent@northmontband.org
TBD	Sub Sale	sub-sale@northmontband.org
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A Parents' Survival Guide to Making it Through Marching Band

WELCOME!

You are joining a family of special people with a pride and desire for excellence that is unmatched. Northmont Marching Band has a winning tradition and a long history of accomplishments. We all put in a lot of hard work; but the friendships, experiences and memories will last a lifetime . . . guaranteed!

The first year of marching band can be overwhelming. There are monthly meetings, band competitions, band practices, fundraisers . . . the list goes on. This handbook is intended to answer many questions both new and old members have about the Northmont Marching Band program. This handbook is a guide to answer your questions in general. It is not an all-inclusive document. For specific answers and complete details, we encourage you we encourage you to contact one of the Booster Board Members listed on the first page. We sincerely hope you find this handbook helpful and refer to it often.

During the fall marching season, whenever reference is made to Marching Band, it includes playing members, color guard, percussion, and front ensemble.

If you ever have a question not addressed in this handbook, do not hesitate to ask it at the next Band Booster meeting or consult the appropriate chair or fundraiser lead listed on the first page. If it is urgent, call on the Band Booster officers. We are all in this together and we all want new band families to feel included and informed so that the entire band year can be enjoyed to its fullest.

For other helpful information, you can also refer to our website: www.northmontband.org

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AUDITIONS

PLAYING MEMBERS

Every interested student is eligible to audition for marching band. The Band Directors hold auditions in early spring of each school year. Middle School and Senior High students will be advised of where and when auditions will be held. Auditions will consist of sight-reading and practiced music, along with basic marching requirements. Auditions are used only for placement in concert band and for chair position, and only a general placement on the marching field. Everyone who auditions and expresses an interest in marching band, makes marching band.

SECTION LEADERS

Section Leaders are experienced playing members selected by the Band Directors to help band members assigned in their instrument section. They are also responsible to see that members of their section know their music each week. Sections are separated according to instrument and larger sections may be sub-divided into two or more groups, each with its own leader, due to the number of musicians.

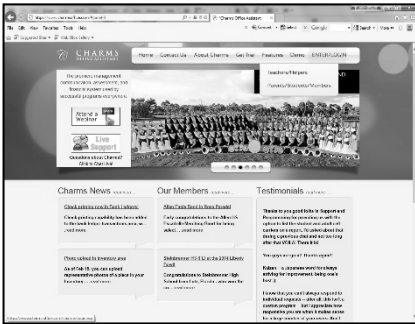
COLOR GUARD MEMBERS

Every interested student is eligible to participate in the guard clinic and tryouts. Marching season color guard clinic and tryouts are held in early spring with practice starting immediately after tryouts. Guard/dance camp is held at Northmont High School; attendance is mandatory. Parents, relatives and friends are invited and encouraged to come to camp on the last day to see the routines and techniques the guard has learned during the week.

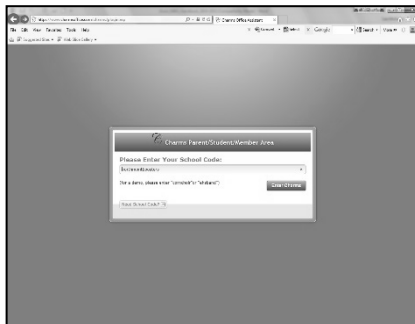


CHARMS is a comprehensive web-based database that enables you to personally manage your student's band account. Modules include student information, account information, volunteer sign ups, and mass e-mail capabilities. Each student has an information page established that each parent needs to access and update. To access Charms please follow the instructions below.

You can also cut and paste the link below into your browser to go directly to the sign in page:
<https://www.charmsoffice.com/charms/plugin.asp>

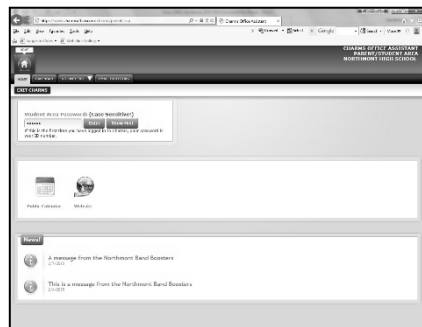


When you go to Charms (www.charmsoffice.com), this is the first screen you will see. Click on 'Login' at the top right corner and then on 'Parents/Students/Members.'



This is the sign in page. Your school code is northmontboosters. Enter this code in the box provided.

Click on the 'Enter Charms' button.



You are now at the login page.

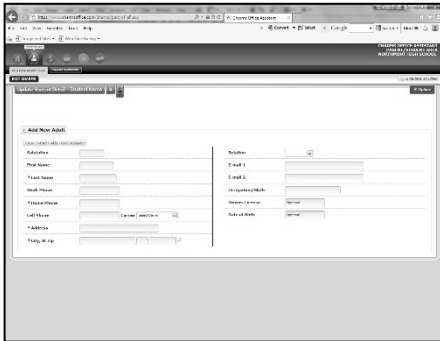
Enter your student's school ID number as the password (or other password that you have set up with the Student Account Coordinator) and click the 'Enter' button.

(Please ask your student for their ID number if you don't know it.)



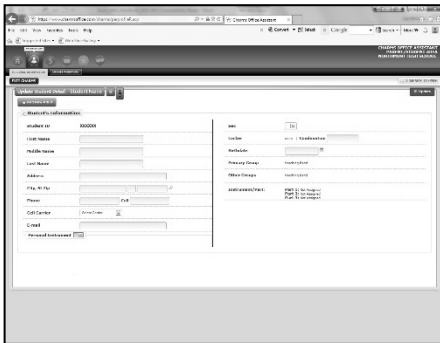
You are now at your student/parent page.

The first thing you need to do is to go to 'Update Info.' This is the icon that looks like a blue bust in the bottom left corner of the icon menu. Click on that icon.



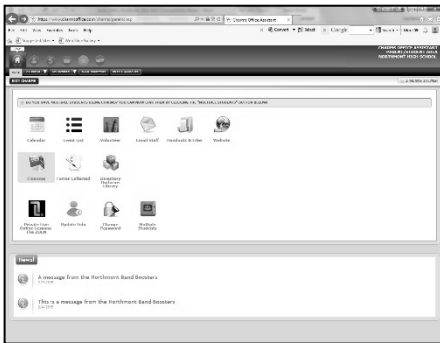
On this screen you will update the information on your student if needed. You should find their name, address and parent's information already populated in the fields shown. Please check all this information to ensure that it is correct.

Please update it if it is not correct!

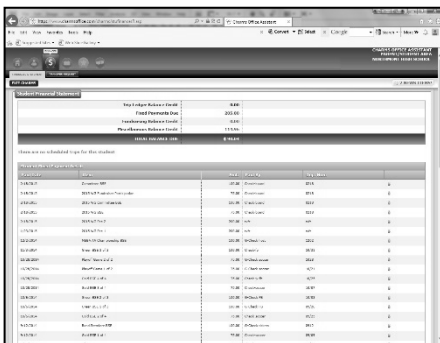


Click on 'Add New Adult' which will take you to this screen.

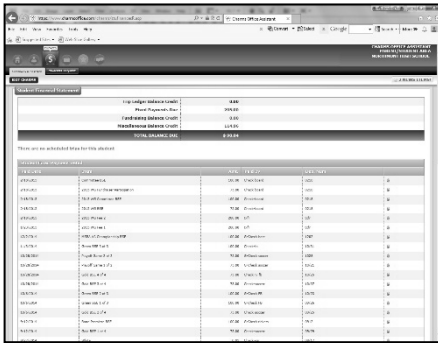
It is very important that you take a minute and enter all the information on any adult family members. The e-mail addresses and phone numbers entered on this screen will be how the Northmont Band Boosters will contact you for all communications. You may enter any number of adult family members.



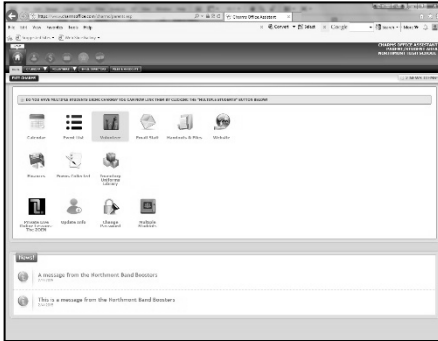
Click on the 'Home' tab at the top of the screen to take you back to the Home screen. Click on the 'Finances' icon in the icon menu.



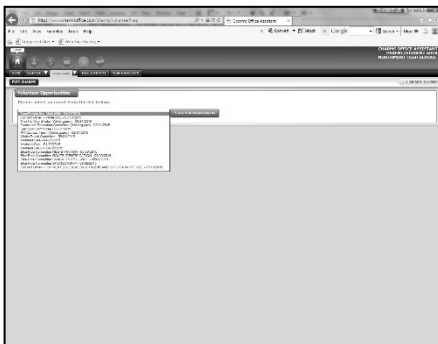
On this screen you will find your student's financial statement including out of pocket payments and miscellaneous credits explained later on in this document. Payments (both out of pocket and "sweat equity") are shown under the 'Student Fixed Payment Detail' section at the top of the screen.



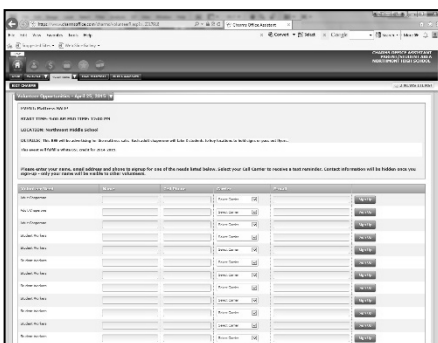
Scroll to the bottom of your student's financial statement. Credits for Scrip and fundraising activities are shown under the 'Student Miscellaneous Ledger Detail' section.



Click on the 'Home' tab at the top of the screen to take you back to the Home screen. Click on the 'Volunteer' icon in the icon menu.



On this screen you will find the current volunteer opportunities for Booster Supported Events (BSEs) that you can sign up for. Simply click in the box to reveal a drop down menu of the current opportunities. Click on the event you wish to sign up for and then click the 'Show Volunteer Needs' button to the right.



Find an open slot and fill in the appropriate information requested in the boxes provided. Be sure to enter ALL requested information as this is how you will be contacted regarding this particular BSE. Also, ensure that you have chosen 'Adult Worker' or 'Student Worker' appropriately. Once you have completely entered the requested information, click the 'Sign Up' button to the right. Congratulations! You have just signed up for a BSE!

Thank you for updating your student's account. You are now able to see their financial statement, update records, sign up for Booster Supported Events (BSEs), and receive e-mails and One Call Now messages from the Northmont Band Boosters.

Go Mobile!

Charms is also available as a mobile app! Mobile-customized Charms is available on whatever mobile device you carry: iPad, iPhone, Blackberry, Android, Nook and whatever comes next. Simply go to an app store and download the Charms Blue - Student App.



FEES

Each year you will receive a Financial Agreement (FA) stating the specific fees, requirements, and payment information. Band participation fees vary from year to year depending on what competitions the band will be participating in and the number of anticipated band members. The 2017 Fall Marching Band Fees are \$550. These fees cover instruction, drill writing, music arrangement, travel costs, uniform rental & maintenance, props, and competition fees, to name just a few of these associated costs. Please refer to the chart below to see how the 2017 Fall Marching Band Fees are actually broken down. Financial Agreements (FAs) for Winter Guard will be available after the Fall Marching Band season has completed and once programming and the number of participants are determined.

2017 Marching Band Fees

Item	Out-of-Pocket Fees per Member
Instructional Staff	\$140.00
Show Writing & Arrangement	\$95.00
Equipment/Props/Flags	\$60.00
Uniform Rental/Maintenance	\$55.00
Competition Fees & Expenses	\$15.00
Competition Food & Meals	\$20.00
Transportation	\$60.00
Semi Truck & Trailer Expenses	\$30.00
Student Awards & Activities	\$20.00
General & Administrative Expenses	\$55.00
Total	\$550.00

Additional expenses for individual color guard members may include:

- Color Guard equipment and implements (bodysuit, gloves, hairpiece, rifles) (approx \$25, \$15, \$25, \$45 respectively)
- Color Guard wind suit - (approx. \$90) – 1st year and as needed
- “N” Shirt to be worn under uniform at competitions and sometimes worn as an alternate summer uniform (approx. \$15)
- \$25 activity fee (to be paid to Northmont City Schools, not the Boosters)

OPTIONAL COSTS

The items listed below are all optional items for band members and available for Band Boosters:

- Show shirt and/or sweatshirt. A show shirt is designed each year depicting the show theme. *One short-sleeved show shirt for the student is included with the band fees.* Many parents like to show their support by wearing a show shirt at football games and competitions. Some students like to have a sweatshirt to wear on colder evenings. Show shirts and additional “show items” are available for purchase one time per year, generally in June. This will be announced at the Booster Meeting and on the website.
- Picture buttons, key chains, etc.; this is a band booster fundraiser.
- Competition show pictures. Group photos are taken at all BOA (Bands of America) competitions. Students can fill out an order form at the competition. In addition, BOA has photographers at field level taking random photos of individuals, not all members are photographed.
- Student jackets. These jackets are totally optional and up to the parent to provide. Many students do have them and it provides a place for all of the patches received each marching season.
- CD. At the Marching Band’s last performance, appropriately called Last Blast, the music is recorded and is available for purchase. This is NOT a Booster fundraiser.
- Competition tickets. There is an admission charge for spectators at each competition. Some competitions consist of ‘Prelims’ in the morning/afternoon with ‘Finals’ in the evening. Tickets for these events can be purchased at the gate separately or as a combo package. Many local/smaller competitions run about \$8-\$12 per ticket. BOA competitions are \$15 and up; BOA Grand Nationals tickets cost upwards of \$25-\$65.
- Food money. This will vary. Due to performance times and distances to competitions, it sometimes becomes necessary to stop for a meal (usually a fast food restaurant) on the way to and/or from a competition. Even if the band does not have a scheduled stop for food, students work up an appetite and usually like to have a snack and always a drink. A meal is provided by the Band Boosters for the students at selected all-day events.

FINANCING THE NORTHMONT MARCHING BAND PROGRAM

There are numerous expenses associated with financing the Northmont Marching Band program. There are instructor fees, fees for writing the music and drill, uniform maintenance, props, competition fees, travel fees, storage fees, and maintenance fees for our semi-truck and trailers to name just a few of these associated costs. The actual annual cost to run the program far exceeds the amount of money collected from fees. Therefore, the NBB utilizes a two--tiered approach to finance the various Northmont Band Programs. One tier is through the previously mentioned fees which can be offset through a variety of ways (fundraisers and Scrip) to defray any out of pocket expense. The second tier is through Booster Supported Events (BSEs) which involves “sweat equity” by each booster member for the booster organization to earn additional needed funds to pay for the band program expenses, and decrease fees paid out of pocket.

FUNDRAISING

A variety of fundraising opportunities are offered throughout the year (such as the Spring Flower Sale, Sub Sale, and Dream Vacation Raffle) and booster members are encouraged to take advantage of them. Fundraising activities are very important to the booster organization. ALL FAMILIES are strongly encouraged to participate in all of our major fundraisers. This will make the fundraising effort equitable for all members who benefit from the program. We try to make it fun and it is one of the best ways to meet other booster members. Opportunities are provided through most of the fundraisers for students to earn credit toward fees and expenses. Many families raise their student’s entire band fee amount through fundraisers. This is one of the best ways to help offset the amount of additional costs associated with being part of the band program.

OTHER FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Throughout the year other opportunities might become available to earn additional credits for your student’s account. In the past, such opportunities have included working additional Dragons games or other concessions. The credits for these types of events are typically \$25. When these opportunities become available, a call will go out announcing the opportunity. These additional opportunities are not guaranteed and are usually announced at the last minute, so if this is something that you are interested in you will need to take advantage of them immediately.



A Service of Great Lakes Scrip Center®

Scrip turns everyday shopping into cash for your organization when families use special retail "gift cards" to pay for everyday purchases (like gas and groceries) instead of the usual credit/debit card or other money. Scrip is available through the Great Lakes Scrip Center from over 400 national retailers and are purchased at less than face value by the Northmont Band Boosters. Scrip is available for everyday expenses like groceries, restaurant eating, gasoline, books, clothing, hardware and other essentials. Scrip also makes great gifts.

Why buy Scrip?

The Northmont Band Boosters can purchase Scrip at discounted prices. The difference between the face value and the discounted purchase price becomes profit for the Northmont Band Boosters, and 100% of the profit received from Scrip you purchase is credited directly to your student's account. Profits vary from 1% to 13% depending upon the retailer.

Example: You need some gardening supplies, so you buy a \$100 Home Depot gift card for \$100 through the Northmont Band Boosters. Cha-Ching! You just earned a \$4 credit for your student's account because The Home Depot gift cards are available from Great Lakes Scrip Center at 4% less than face value. When you check out at The Home Depot, you simply pay with your Home Depot scrip card (or phone app) instead of using a credit or debit card!

Do any special conditions apply to Scrip?

Carefully read the information provided on the list of retailers. The information will explain any special provisions for a particular retailer. Generally, using Scrip is the equivalent of using cash. However, retailers usually will not return large amounts of cash as change so we suggest that you purchase the lowest denominations available. Coupons may be used in conjunction with Scrip. Participating retailers and discounts are subject to change without notice.

Monies earned through Scrip are paid directly to NBB and treated as "credit" and not cash, and therefore are not refundable. However, these funds are transferable from sibling to sibling within a family.

What's the fine print?

Scrip purchases are not tax deductible. Scrip earnings have no cash value except to the Northmont Band Boosters. We know that this is a terrific, no cost way to financially support your child's band program and save for their high school marching band financial requirements.

For further information on the Scrip Program, see www.shopwithscrip.com or contact the NBB Scrip Coordinator at scrip@northmontband.org.

How do I place an order?

The Northmont Band Boosters keeps a supply of Scrip for immediate sale for certain vendors (Speedway, Kohl's, and many restaurants) that is readily available to purchase without ordering. Scrip orders and purchases are accepted every Tuesday night between 6:00-7:00 PM at the High School lobby outside of the band room (Door # 4), except for Booster Meeting nights when Scrip can be purchased in the commons up until the Booster Meeting begins at 7:30. Obtaining and placing orders for friends, co-workers, and family members will also help to increase the amount you earn each week.

How do I pay for an order?

Orders must be prepaid by cash, check, or credit card; however, checks or credit cards are preferable. Make checks payable to the Northmont Band Boosters. Please add your student's name in the memo line for proper credit. If your check is returned for insufficient funds, you will be required to pay with cash on all future orders.

When will I receive my order?

Orders placed by Thursday will generally be available for pick up the following Tuesday at Scrip. However, you may purchase any Scrip cards we have on hand for immediate use.

How can you order online?

Orders may be placed directly from the Great Lakes Scrip Center by setting up your own ShopWithScrip account. Go to www.shopwithscrip.com and click on the 'Register' button at the top of the page. Next, click 'Join a Scrip Program.' You will then need to enter our organization's unique enrollment code provided by the NBB Scrip Coordinator. This code allows the ShopWithScrip system to link your account activity with our organization. Next, fill in all the required information and click 'Register.' You will be asked to select two challenge questions and provide answers, which will be required if you forget your password. Keep in mind that your answers are case-sensitive.

Your orders will be sent directly to the NBB Scrip Coordinator for pickup. You can also pay for the cards you order online by setting up a PrestoPay account through the Great Lakes Scrip Center.



PrestoPay lets you pay for your ShopWithScrip orders online—no more dropping off checks! PrestoPay securely links a bank account to your ShopWithScrip account so you can choose electronic debit when you checkout online. The rebate is automatically credited to your organization, and you don't have to worry about cash or checks.

PrestoPay makes ordering so convenient! For a small convenience fee of only \$0.15 per order, you can order and pay for scrip on your ShopWithScrip account at any time, day or night. PrestoPay is completely secure. You create a secret PIN number to use at checkout, so you know your account is protected. It's easy to get signed up for PrestoPay:

1. Click on the PrestoPay link on your ShopWithScrip Dashboard.
2. Enter your bank account and account holder information.
3. Within 2-3 business days, Great Lakes Scrip Center will deposit two small amounts in your bank account. The next time you log in, enter these amounts in your PrestoPay registration to verify the account, and choose a PIN number to use for online payment.
4. You will receive an email with an approval code to send to your coordinator.

What if Tuesday evenings are inconvenient for my family to pick up the cards?

If you have your own personal ShopWithScrip account at the Great Lakes Scrip Center *and* have a PrestoPay connection established with your bank account, you also have access to special features that enable you to acquire Scrip more quickly and conveniently.



You can order ScripNow electronic gift cards (eCards) on your ShopWithScrip account. Just print out ScripNow on your home printer and use it in stores just like a physical gift card, or you can use it for online shopping by entering the card number and PIN at the checkout page.

ScripNow is perfect for last-minute purchases, like dining out or a quick trip to the mall. You have access to the scrip you might need for any unplanned purchases, which is especially great when your scrip store isn't open, your program is closed for a break, or your organization isn't placing an order for another week.

Although the selection of available retailers for ScripNow is not inclusive of all Scrip retailers, the selection is growing all the time. You can see the complete list of available ScripNow brands by clicking on the Shop link at the top of your ShopWithScrip account page, and then selecting the ScripNow Card Type on the left. For most brands, you can even choose the denomination of the eCard. When you pay for your ScripNow order with PrestoPay, it will process automatically in minutes. Of course, you can also pay your coordinator by cash or check, and you will receive your eCard once they release the order.

You can also send ScripNow as a gift. It's easy to customize the eGift with a personal note, and send it to anyone, anywhere, with an email address. There's no need to risk sending gift cards in the mail when you can send a ScripNow eGift!

Reload AND *ReloadNow*

Skip shipping, get scrip faster, and do some good for the planet by reloading gift cards. Reloading is a time-saving option that allows you to add funds to gift cards you've already purchased through your ShopWithScrip online account. You don't need to wait for new gift cards to ship, and you can use Reload to order exactly as much as you need!

When your Reload orders are placed and paid for before 3:30 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday, the funds will be added to your card overnight! Plus, for a growing number of retailers, you can add funds to your cards even faster with ReloadNow. When you pay for your order with PrestoPay, funds will be added to your card in minutes, 24 hours a day/7 days a week. If you pay by check, the funds will be on your card minutes after the order is released by your coordinator.

You can see the complete list of available Reload and ReloadNow brands by clicking on the Shop link at the top of your ShopWithScrip account page, and then selecting the Reload Card Type on the left. Choose a brand and you'll see whether it's available in Reload or ReloadNow. The first time you reload a gift card, you'll enter the card number and name the card for future use, for example, "Mom's Starbucks Card." Once you select the card, just enter the dollar amount to load, your PrestoPay code, and that's it! Orders paid for with PrestoPay will process automatically, and those paid for with cash or check will have to be released by the coordinator.

Earn rebates without having to ship new gift cards when you reload. Reloading is perfect for all your regular purchases, like gas and groceries, and helps you make sure you always have the scrip you need.



MyScripWallet is ShopWithScrip's mobile website, offering the widest selection of electronically delivered products and the highest rebates available anywhere. You can order electronic gift cards, reload physical cards, and in many cases redeem them right from your phone! And it's fully integrated with ShopWithScrip.com, so you only need one login and you can use your PrestoPay account in both places. MyScripWallet lets you shop on-the-go, earning rebates on every purchase.

You can login to MyScripWallet using your same ShopWithScrip username and password. Once online, you can browse the full selection of direct delivery products available on ShopWithScrip.com with the same great rebates, then place an order and pay with PrestoPay right on your phone! MyScripWallet is supported on Apple and Android mobile devices—just type www.MyScripWallet.com into the browser, login, and you'll be ready to shop!

MyScripWallet also gives you access to any ScripNow eCard you've purchased, even when you're on the go. ShopWithScrip and MyScripWallet are fully synchronized, so you'll be able to view eCards you've purchased on either site, whether you ordered them on your desktop or through MyScripWallet. Even better, many stores will allow you to redeem eCards, and reloaded plastic cards, right off the screen of your mobile device. If the printed eCard or physical reload card is required, you'll see that noted right on the product page.

BOOSTER SUPPORTED EVENTS (BSEs)

The Northmont Marching Band would not be what it is without the sweat equity contribution by the member families. These sweat equity opportunities, or Booster Supported Events (BSEs), enables the booster organization to earn the additional funds that are needed to pay for marching band program expenses and decrease fees paid out of pocket by member families. For instance, the Northmont Band Boosters has contracted with the Athletic Department to run the concession stand for *all* stadium events. In addition, there are several other BSEs events where the booster members are needed to volunteer their time to work shifts so that the booster organization earns needed funding. For those booster members who have challenges participating in the BSEs, we would encourage you to enlist the support of other family members or friends to work the BSEs or contact a board member to discuss options. Typically, ADULT members (over 18) from each family are required to fulfill these BSEs, which vary from year to year. Please refer to the current Financial Agreement regarding the BSE requirements for the current year. If these BSEs are not fulfilled, a \$75 surcharge per unfulfilled BSE will be applied to your student's account as the opportunity to fulfill the BSE has expired (an additional \$35 surcharge will be applied to your account for each event you commit to but do not fulfill or do not provide a replacement).

NOTE: *BSEs are investments of time and are not always easy or a preferred way for you to spend your personal time, but they are critical to the success of the NBB program. Individuals who choose to not support BSEs will be surcharged as published for events not supported. These surcharges will be treated as fees for collection purposes. This surcharge represents either estimated revenue lost, or actual charges that may be assessed the Northmont Band Boosters for not providing appropriate staffing as contractual obligated.*

COMMITTEES

One of the required BSEs that each family is required to fulfill is participation on a Booster Committee. Committee participation is essential for the successful operation of the Northmont Band program. This BSE requires each family to fulfill 25 hours of committee duties throughout the band calendar year (May-April). Each committee chair is responsible for keeping track of the committee members' hours. If you are interested in joining a particular committee, please contact a member of the Band Booster Board listed on the contact sheet at the front of this handbook.

Special Events Committee

This committee is responsible for the planning and organizing of fundraising events. Duties include working with a co-team lead to coordinator fundraising events such as annual dinner fundraiser, token auction, ice cream social; flower sales – spring, fall and wreath; sub sale; car washes and other events as needed. Duties may involve making phone calls, running copies, distribution of order forms, collecting order forms/ placing order, event promotions and working with PR committee on promotional material. Team leader needs to be at event.

Public Relations Committee

This committee is responsible to promote the band program within the community, school and booster membership. Responsibilities: photographers needed to take pictures of any and all band events/functions and compile best pictures for PR use and website posting; Videographer for any and all events/functions for PR use and annual band recap DVD; handles the picture buttons process; graphics person to prepare PR materials such as flyers, banners, yard signs, tickets, etc.; oversees the spirit wear program; and works with various booster committees. Committee responsibilities include preparing and placing press releases, articles and ads in local and Dayton papers and other venues as needed. Committee members work on projects for the Booster Board and all Committees, with emphasis on the Special Events Committee.

Finance Committee

This committee will assist the treasurer and assistant treasurer with all financial business including banking accounts/investments and insurance coverage of the booster organization. Duties also include money collection procedures for each fundraising event on a rotation basis. Committee reports to the President. Financial experience is necessary to be selected to serve on this committee. This committee is responsible for coordinating all aspects of board election process including the recruiting of members to run for board positions and overseeing election. Please submit a resume to the board for consideration.

Concession Stand Supplies and Stocking Committee

These committee members will be responsible for inventory at the concession stand. This includes all inventorying of items, purchasing, and stocking before all events. May include trips to GFS and/or Sam's for purchasing needed items. Will need to be available Thursday evenings for pop stocking. This position requires heavy lifting. These committee members will report directly to the concessions manager.

Food and Travel Committee

Committee members will be responsible for coordinating and/or providing meals and other travel arrangements for marching band activities/events such as band camp lunches and senior dinner; band competitions and working with other committees as necessary. Other responsibilities include coordinating with the Band Nurse to ensure that a nurse is scheduled at each event, and supporting the various student groups supported by the boosters including but not limited to winter guard and pep band. In addition, assigned committee members will be responsible for feeding the students snacks at the competitions. PLEASE DO NOT REGISTER FOR THIS COMMITTEE IF YOU DO NOT PLAN TO ATTEND COMPETITIONS.

Recruitment Committee

Committee members will be responsible for planning and coordinating activities for the recruitment of new band members. These activities include but are not limited to: middle and elementary school concert refreshments, Wee Bolt Parent Night, Freshman Fireside Chat, etc. Committee members will also assist the Hospitality Committee when needed.

Hospitality Committee

Committee members will be responsible for planning and coordinating all social activities for existing members. These activities include but are not limited to: Annual Show Reveal, Strike up the Band for Hunger, Trunk or Treat, Wee Bolt Night pre-game party, other tailgate parties, etc. Committee members will also assist the Recruitment Committee when needed.

Corporate Campaign Committee

This committee of four (4) will be responsible for coordinating the Corporate Campaign program, updating the brochure and solicitation letter, and contacting local and national companies to sponsor the Band Boosters.

Guard Committee

This committee serves the actual performing groups and all things related to the competition schedules. The following are the duties of this committee serving the unit members and the director(s):

- All needs regarding the storage, assembly, cleaning and organizing of the costumes of all performing members.
- Organizes all travel to and from the contest site, and any other transportation needs during event(s).
- All chaperoning at the event when not in a competition setting.
- Hotel arrangements before, during and after a competition.
- Assist director with anything not covered by any other committee.
- Assist in all pre and post season planning with the director as it relates to the competitions and with the pit members regarding logistics.
- Consult with Marching Band uniform/travel & food committees/concession manager as needed for existing resources/equipment/storage area and food/paper supply needs.
- Create and/or maintain a binder with all information needed for future committees for this event.

Marching Band Member Expectations

Marching Band Members are any high school student and current 8th grade students planning on participating in the Marching Band.

BOOSTER SUPPORT EVENTS (BSEs)

Northmont Marching Band and Color Guard Members are also required to support the organization with their own BSEs. Each student will be required to participate in two student BSEs as part of their Marching Band commitment. The following is not a complete list, as other opportunities may arise throughout the year. **Students must work two (2) Student BSEs for the 2017 Marching Band season - all unworked student BSEs will be charged \$75:**

- **One (1) Seasonal Event** – choose from JV/Freshman/Middle School football, track or soccer concessions; Dragons Game (students age 16 and up only), Mattress Sale, Spring Flower Sale pick-up, Breakfast with Santa, Advent Tree Farm, or MEPA Winter Guard Show.
- **One (1) Car Wash** - each class has a car wash scheduled for a separate Saturday in June or July. Each student must work at one car wash, regardless of which one they attend.

NOTE: Student BSEs DO NOT earn monetary credit toward their accounts.

RULES OF CONDUCT

All band members are to follow the Northmont Rules of Student Conduct at **all** band functions. This is outlined under the section “School Sponsored Activities” in your student’s handbook.

All chaperones are to be given the same respect as any school faculty member. The chaperones are there to ensure the band members are safe and follow the rules of conduct. This will represent the Northmont City schools in a positive light. The chaperones’ comments and directions are to be followed without question.

Any band member not adhering to the rules of conduct or the director’s and/or chaperone’s directions, is subject to the consequences detailed in the rules of conduct and/or at the director’s description, dismissal from an event or the Marching Band entirely.

In the event the Marching Band has to stay overnight, all bags and luggage (including back packs and purses) are subject to search for any contraband including, but not limited to, alcohol, cigarettes, illegal drugs and/or weapons; to be conducted by the band/color guard staff, chaperones and/or any other designated adult. If contraband is found during a search, the student will be dealt with according to the Northmont Rules of Student Conduct and/or the Extracurricular Code of Conduct. Further, the band members will be given a curfew time for room check. Once room check has been completed, any member outside of their assigned room for any reason (excluding safety reasons) will be dealt with according to the Northmont Rules of Student Conduct and/or the Extracurricular Code of Conduct.

Any violation of the rules of conduct represents the Northmont City Schools in a negative light and can result in consequences against the individual; and if the school board decides, consequences against the Marching Band. Therefore, for the safety and enjoyment of all, follow the rules of conduct.

If your child is NOT riding the bus home from a competition and instead is going home with you, a written note **MUST** be provided to the chaperone of your child’s bus. Both parent and student must “check out” with their chaperone before leaving.

COMPETITIONS

MSBA

Mid States Band Association (www.midstatesba.org) is a regional consortium of high school bands from Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky that manages and oversees local marching band competitions.

In the Mid States Band Association (MSBA) system, there are seven judges involved in the evaluation of the bands. Of these, three are General Effect judges, two are Performance judges, and two are Caption judges (percussion and auxiliary). The caption scores do not factor in to the competition placement scores determined by the General Effect and Performance judges. In addition, there is also one Penalty and Timing judge. It is important to keep in mind that in a contest, bands direct their performance to the judges, as well as to the audience. In evaluating a band's performance, the judges consider:

- * quality of the music
- * marching and maneuvering
- * general effectiveness of the entire band
- * contribution of auxiliaries to the group
- * suitability of drill to music
- * difficulty in individual responsibilities
- * audience appeal

BANDS OF AMERICA (BOA)

Bands of America is a program of Music for All. More than 1 million people are alumni of Bands of America marching band events. Bands of America was created in 1976 as "Marching Bands of America" (MBA), renamed Bands of America (BOA) in 1984 and merged with the Music for All Foundation in 2006 to create Music for All. MFA's marching band events continue to carry the name of "Bands of America."

Bands of America Judging

In the Bands of America (BOA) system, there are eight judges involved in the evaluation of the bands. Of these, four judge the music performance and three judge the visual (marching) performance. The remaining judge keeps track of the timing requirements and notes rule infractions that may occur.

It is the position of Bands of America that music is the more important aspect of the Performance, with marching as the presentation and visual enhancement of the program. Similarly, more emphasis has been placed on the effectiveness to the audience and to general effect judges, than on fine-line perfection of the performance judges - which may be an aspect to work on for even better effectiveness. Consequently, the weight of the numbers in the Bands of America scoring

system places 60% of the value on music and 40% on visual, and at the same time, 60% of the score is within the area of general effect and 40% within the performance area.

BOA Competitions

During the marching band season, Northmont attends at least one Regional (one day) and may also attend a Super Regional (two day) or Grand Nationals.

Regional. There are generally 30+ bands performing at each regional. Prelims conclude around 4:00 PM at which time the field commanders from each band file onto the field, are given their band's rating and placement in their class and the top ten bands regardless of class are announced for participation in that evening's final competition. Finals generally begin around 7:00 PM with a full retreat of all band members on the field for placement announcements around 10:00 PM.

Super Regional. There are generally 60+ bands performing at each super regional. BOA Super Regionals attract bands from across the nation and make each venue a destination for these world class high school band events, second only to the Grand Nationals experience. Bands perform in a two-day preliminary competition with 12-14 bands (depending on the total number of bands enrolled) advancing to finals on the second day of the event.

Grand Nationals. Generally, 100+ bands from across the country perform at the Grand Nationals each November. There are no requirements to be met to participate in the Grand Nationals Competition. This competition begins with Prelims on Thursday and Friday. Friday evening, around 9:00 PM, announcements are made as to which bands will participate in the Semi-final round. Semi-finals begin on Saturday morning. Beginning with Semi-finals, the competition is structured just like the Regional, except the tickets for spectators for Finals (Saturday evening) are for reserved seats as opposed to general admission and therefore more expensive.

You can find a lot more detail as to the history of BOA and the entire BOA schedule on their website at <http://www.musicforall.org/what-we-do/boa-marching-championships/boa-marching-championships>. Buying a program at each event helps too. There is a lot of information in it, plus places to record placement, ratings and scores. If your student likes to collect memorabilia, these programs are nice souvenirs from each competition.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Northmont Band Boosters employs several methods of communication to regularly inform its members:

1. *Booster Meetings*. This is probably the best way of staying informed about practices, competitions, fundraisers, finances, and everything else related to marching band and guard. Booster Meetings are not necessarily held *every* month. However, when they do occur they are *generally* held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Northmont High School Commons. Booster Meeting dates are posted on the calendar on the band's website. Since lots of information is discussed at each meeting, it is advisable to bring paper and a writing utensil. We also recommend that you bring your calendar. The board attempts to keep the meeting to 1 to 1.5 hours.
2. *Charms Office Assistant*. It is extremely important to keep your contact information updated in your Charms Office Assistant account (www.Charmsoffice.com). The Northmont Band Boosters uses this information to regularly contact its members via emails and phone messages.
3. *One Call Now*. The organization uses the district's *One Call Now* telephone message delivery system to communicate information to you in a timely manner. The service calls your phone number(s) and plays pre-recorded messages from the boosters.
4. *Northmont Band Web Site*. Go to www.northmontband.org.
5. *Remind.com*. Remind sends alerts from Mr. Brough and Mr. Burciaga to the band/guard students and parents. You may opt-in by:
 - a. Going to <https://www.remind.com>. Click the "I'm a Student or parent" button.
 - i. Enter "northmo" for band alerts/reminders.
 - ii. Enter "nmontwg15" for guard alerts/reminders.
 - b. Or, by texting the class code ("@northmo" or "@nmontwg15") directly to 81010 on your mobile device. You may opt-out at any time by texting STOP to 81010. Standard message & data rates may apply. Text HELP to 81010 for additional information.You can also use Remind on-the-go by downloading the app on your iOS or Android device.
6. *Facebook*. Simply log in to your Facebook account, search "Northmont High School Band," and click "Like."
7. *Twitter*. Go to <https://twitter.com/NorthmontBand>.
8. *YouTube*. Go to YouTube, search for "Northmont High School Band," and "Subscribe" to our channel. Or, simply go to our channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX1xaYgMHYvYecccqPE5PgtQ>.

REHEARSALS/CAMPS/MEETINGS

MAY MEETING/REHEARSAL (MANDATORY)

A mandatory meeting/rehearsal is scheduled for Monday, May 22 from 3:30 – 5:30 PM. The meeting/rehearsal will be held in the HS Band Room. Music and instruments will be passed out at this meeting/rehearsal. It is mandatory for all marching band members to attend unless previously discussed with director(s) prior to fulfilling the band's contract and/or financial agreement.

JULY REHEARSALS

Starting in July, the Marching Band generally holds a few non-mandatory rehearsals leading up to Band Camp. The list of sectionals and locations will be available at a future date. Section leaders will also personally contact their sections to let everyone know about meeting days and times.

BAND CAMP

Band Camp is held from July 31 through August 11 from 9 AM till 9 PM Monday - Friday at the high school with meal breaks from 12-1 PM and 4-6 PM. These are the only scheduled 9 hour rehearsal days for the Fall Marching Band season. The students will need to pack their lunch unless told otherwise. It is mandatory for all marching band members to attend band camp unless previously discussed with director(s) prior to fulfilling the band's contract and/or financial agreement. Advise Mr. Wissman in writing if you will be on a family vacation during the month of July and your student will miss any of these rehearsals.

The purpose of band camp is not just to practice (although there is plenty of that). It provides the opportunity for band members to get to know one another and form a supportive and cohesive unit. Therefore, several evening activities are planned during band camp to help accomplish this. In 2017, the following evening activities are planned:

- TBD - Band Pictures
- Tuesday, 8/1 - Soaring Sounds, Centerville HS
- Friday, 8/4 - Talent Show
- Wednesday, 8/9 - Senior Band Camp Dinner
- Thursday, 8/10 –Scavenger Hunt/History Night
- Friday, 8/11 – Parent Preview/Section Sleepover Night
- Saturday, 8/12 - Englewood Festival and Parade (7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)

These activities are coordinated by members of Mr. Wissman's Leadership Team with approval of the directors and are for the band members only. Band members spend a great deal of time together and it's vitally important that they all work together to become the best they can be. Band camp provides the atmosphere to get the marching band season off to a great start.

DAILY REHEARSALS

Starting with the first week of school, the Marching Band generally will rehearse Tuesday and Wednesdays from 3:30 - 6:30 PM. Thursday rehearsals are set for 6:00 - 8:30 PM. Percussion and Guard will likely rehearse at a separate time from the band on at least one of these days. These separate dates/times will be made available during Band Camp. In addition, there will also be rehearsals from 3:30-6:30 PM on Mondays of BOA weeks. Periodically there may be other days off, which will be announced by the Band Director.

The Pride of Northmont Marching Band Terminology

Adjudication – see Scoring

Auxiliary – see Guard.

Battery – the marching band percussion section that carries drums and marches; is comprised of snare drums, bass drums, and quads (see Quads).

Cadence – the beat played by percussion during a parade to indicate the marching pace. Also played as the band marches off the field after a field show or rehearsal.

Captions – the individual aspects of a band's performance that are judged independently using specific criteria (captions for music performance, visual performance, percussion, auxiliary (guard), and general effect are the standards).

Caption Awards – various independent awards a marching band can win at competitions and generally includes: Music Performance, General Effect, Visual Performance, Best Percussion, and Best Auxiliary. Points can total up to 100 for each adjudicated category.

Class/Classification – a method of grouping bands into “like” groups or classes, and the classification method between MSBA and BOA differs. MSBA has five classes and classifies bands according to the total number of playing members in the band; Northmont was an MSBA Class AAAA band in 2014. BOA has four classes and classifies bands according to the enrollment levels (grades 10-12) of the schools from which the bands are from; Northmont was a BOA Class AA band in 2014.

Clinicians/Techs – personnel hired to help out with various sections and technical aspects of the band and guard, as in brass instructor or drumline instructor.

Color Guard – see Guard.

Drill – the steps and positions that make up the marching band show. (see Sets)

Dot Book – a 3x5 spiral notebook that is each individual student’s personal map of the show. The dot book contains their specific show coordinates, spot on field, relation to other people, relation to the form, direction that they come from and the direction they move. They also include counts for each set and extra notes such as step size and visual details. If a show formation is the map, the dot book is the “YOU ARE HERE” for each band member. The band members build and maintain their own dot books.

Drum Major(s) – student conductor(s) who direct a marching band as it plays.

Drumline – the entire percussion section of a marching band; includes both the Pit and the Battery.

Flags – flags/silks used by the guard during a marching band show.

Front Ensemble – formerly known as the Pit. See Pit.

Gauntlets – wrist and lower-arm covering; part of the marching band/guard uniform.

Guard – a group of students who add color and style to marching band performances with flags and other props. Also known as the Auxiliary, the term was originally used for the flag/rifle carriers who stood at the front of marching show and evolved into the modern color guard with the addition of dance, decorative flags and costumes.

Pit – marching band percussion section (percussion instrument team) that does not march (plays on the sidelines), comprised of instruments such as tympani, marimbas, xylophones, gongs, etc. (a.k.a., Front Ensemble).

Pit Crew – parents and volunteers who construct the props and help assemble the pit instruments, push them onto the field and set them up for competitions and football games.

Plumes – the feathered portion of the marching band hats (very fragile); provided by band.

Podium – see Tower.

Quads – set of 4 connected drums carried by member of the battery.

Rifles – imitation rifles made of solid wood, which are spun and tossed by the guard in a marching band show.

Run-Through – practicing the marching band show.

Sabers – imitation swords made of solid (unsharpened) steel, which are spun and tossed by the guard in a marching band show.

Scoring – see “ADJUDICATION HANDBOOK” in the BOA Official Procedures and Adjudication Handbook (http://www.musicforall.org/images/2015_Rulebook_-_FINAL.pdf), starting on page 24 for a description of scoring for BOA. Scoring rules are not universal across judging organizations, but this is a nice insight into the whole process from a judge's point of view.

Section – students who play the same instruments, i.e. the trumpet section.

Section Leader – band student who is in charge of a marching band instrument section; such as "alto sax section leader."

Sectional – a practice or rehearsal by a section of instruments.

Sets – sub-set of the shows.

Step Off – the precise moment when a marching band parade performance starts.

Tower – raised platform upon which conductors stand.

Winds – the non-percussion part of the band; any instrument that is played by blowing air.

Winter Guard – a competitive auxiliary group that competes indoors to pre-recorded music during the winter months after marching band season has completed. The winter guard season ends with the Winter Guard International (WGI) World Championships in April.