

Pioneer Band Association

Building a Foundation for Musical Excellence

NOTES



BAND 2005-06 BEGINS WITH OUR FIRST PBA MEETING!

The Kickoff to 2005-06 takes place with our first PBA meeting of the school year — **Tuesday, September 13 at 7:30 pm in the Band Room (B126).** We will welcome our new families and focus on plans for this fabulous year! Pioneer Band Association meetings are a great way to meet fellow parents, the officers & the directors, find out more about upcoming events and participate in the official business of the Association. PBA Meetings are the best way to learn of schedule changes that your child may forget to mention, and are held 7:30 to 8:30 pm in the Band Room.

PLEASE JOIN US!



FROM THE PODIUM

WELCOME TO OUR NEW FRESHMEN AND WELCOME BACK ALL RETURNING BAND STUDENTS AND OUR PIONEER BAND FAMILIES!

Band Camp continues to be the highlight of my summer. Believe it or not, I start planning next years Band Camp on the drive home from Interlochen contemplating just how to make it better each year!. Since returning from camp this fall I have received a few notes, and had some lengthy conversations from incoming freshmen families (not to mention several "seasoned" families) lauding the "positive life changing experience" Band Camp was, and continues to be for their children. To each of you that wrote or called, thank you — these letters and conversations mean more than you could possibly know.

Now for the fun stuff! The reaction of the audience said it all! From the opening of *Emperata Overture*, through the power of *Mars*, to the last note of *Stars & Stripes*, the crowd could not wait to get to their feet — what a blast to be a part of that Ann Arbor Pioneer Bands tradition! Of all the experiences available to students at Pioneer, Band Camp continues to be one of our students' fondest High School memories. To the family, friends, and alumni who made the journey north to witness both the performance and demonstration, thank-you so very much for supporting these kids decision to be a Pioneer musician, and to this year's senior class, you have insured that this will be a "year to remember" in the Pioneer Bands rich history!

Thanks and Appreciation to everyone who made the start up of another school year and our band camp so successful, especially:

All our **parent and student volunteers** who helped make Band Camp Registration the smoothest ever!

All our **parent and student volunteers** who loaded (and unloaded) the Band Camp buses and found room for all that stuff (thank you bus #4), as well as those who helped on Band Camp Sunday at Interlochen.

All our **parent and student volunteers** who have done such a great job with our new Pioneer Band Apparel.

And especially **The Uniform Committee volunteers** who worked so hard all summer and even harder in the last two days so that we are ready for the first game.

YOU ARE ALL WONDERFUL!

There is always something happening in the Bands at Pioneer. Please pay close attention to this newsletter, attend curriculum (Capsule) night on September 19th, and parent-teacher conferences. Come to PBA meetings (the second Tuesday of each month in the PHS band room), and attend concerts. It is only through your active participation in your student's life that you will know what is happening. Your presence at your student's activities are extremely important. This is the best manner that we as parents can demonstrate our unconditional love and support for their activities. If you don't hear music at your house (from your child's instrument, not the radio) you and your child need to discuss if you as a parent are making a wise investment. Your student's instrument can run several hundred dollars. In addition, reeds, oils, lessons, all cost \$\$\$\$. Are you making a wise investment? Practice is a dividend on that investment as well as performances. In Math, Science, English, etc. your student is expected to complete assignments and Band is no different. Our assignments are learning our parts to proficiency. Don't be satisfied with your student telling you "I practiced before you got home"; encourage them to demonstrate their proficiency by playing their part for you.

In conclusion, I wish to thank you all for your time and the support of your child's decision to become a high school musician. Your active support and presence is priceless, and before you know it will all be over and they will be asking grandma and grandpa (you and the spouse) to baby sit so that they can have a little quality time.

— **David A. Leach** *Director of Bands*

September/October 2005

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PBA NOTES
NEWSLETTER

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continued on page 2

**PIONEER BAND PICNIC ALLMENDINGER PARK SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2005 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

All Band students and their families are invited to our Annual Band Picnic at Allmendinger Park from 1:00 to 4:00 pm on **Saturday**, September 24, 2005. This is a great opportunity for new families to get acquainted with other band families and for new and returning band members to get together. There will be food, games and good company. We'll have hot dogs and hamburgers (regular and vegetarian), starting in the early afternoon.

All eating utensils will be provided.

We also ask that each student bring a dish to share, listed by initial of last name:

LAST NAME	A-C: BEVERAGES	LAST NAME	D-J: DESSERTS	LAST NAME	K-P: SALADS/VEGETABLES
		LAST NAME	Q-Z: FRESH FRUIT		

There are opportunities to volunteer. Please call Karen Smith-Krass 214-9042 or email at secretary@aaaapioneerbands.org.

Join us as we celebrate the beginning of another great Pioneer Band year!

PLEASE BRING: A Dish to Pass (see above) and Mitts, bats, balls, frisbees, etc.

WE NEED TO KNOW IF YOU ARE COMING! RSVP IN BAND ROOM BY WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

BAND DIRECTORY COMING SOON!

The 2005-06 Pioneer Band Directory will be distributed by mid- September. It contains rosters of each band and names, addresses, phone numbers and parents/guardians of the students in the band program. The Band Directory editor is Gail Stout (phone 663-7634, fax 663-7659, newsletter@aaaapioneerbands.org). Please call if you have additions/deletions/changes to your entry in the directory.

WE NEED YOUR PBA REGISTRATION FORMS TURNED IN BY SEPTEMBER 14, 2005 TO CREATE THE DIRECTORY!!

FALL 2005 PIONEER BANDS FUND RAISING EVENTS

CAR WASH Our annual Pioneer Bands Car Wash is scheduled for **Sunday, October 1**, from 8 am to 4 pm at the Pioneer High School parking lot. *Rain Date: October 2.* **All Pioneer Band Students (and band families!) participate.** Students take pledges from friends, relatives and neighbors for this annual fundraiser. Pledges are for an amount per car washed by the students. Donations are also accepted from those having their car washed. Make plans to get your grubby vehicles cleaned at the **October 1st Pioneer Bands Car Wash early and often!**

CANDY SALE The Fall Candy Sale is the Pioneer Bands' annual MAJOR fund-raiser, and is our most consistently profitable fund raiser. *This year the sale begins September 13 and ends September 27.* The cooperation and understanding of all band parents with respect to this important activity is very much appreciated. Boxes of candy will be issued to each student to sell to friends and family. The students (and parents) are responsible for purchasing any candy that remains unsold. *It is best for parents to write one single check per student to turn in to Mr. Leach.* (Checks are made payable to the PBA).

PTSO THRIFT SHOP Parents and Students from the Pioneer Bands donate four hours of time per family at the PTSO Thrift Shop, and a portion of the proceeds are then awarded to the Pioneer Bands. Schedules are set up by the student and parent with the PTSO Thrift Shop (996-9155). It is important to set your schedule EARLY in the school year, as often there are too many workers! Contact PBA Thrift Shop chair **Ann Antonuk phone: 994-1567 e-mail: a2bya2@hotmail.com** with questions. The Thrift Shop hours are-11-7 weekdays, 11-6 Saturday, and 11-6 Sunday. The Thrift Shop is located at 2289 S. State. **NOTE: In lieu of 4 hours of time donated to the Thrift Shop, band families are asked to donate \$40.00 to the Pioneer Band Association.**

WE'RE MAKING IT EASIER FOR YOU!

The PBA and the Pioneer High School Bands have always tried to make the financial commitment for each family to be as simple as possible. Our Pioneer Band Families can use MasterCard and Visa to pay for program fees, tour payments apparel, scholarship donations, etc. As this process evolves, please let us know how we're doing, and if you have any ideas to make this process even easier, PLEASE let us know! Thanks for your help!

-Gail Stout, President president@aapioneerbands.org

PBA ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Pioneer High School Bands have always enjoyed strong support from parents, families, alumni, and the Ann Arbor community as a whole. Our PBA Advocacy Committee channels that support. The committee is dedicated to making and sustaining contact among Pioneer High School band families, with the School Board, and with the music faculty, students, and families in the middle and elementary schools in the Pioneer attendance area. Parents, students, alumni and friends of the Pioneer Bands are all invited to join the Advocacy Committee. Please e-mail Gail Stout at president@aapioneerbands.org, or join us at a Band Association meeting!

Making connections among Band families: To facilitate connections among band families, the Advocacy Committee helps out with the band directory and sets up a phone tree for Symphony, Concert, Varsity, and Jazz Bands. The committee is seeking 30 volunteers from among these bands who would each be willing to telephone or e-mail no more than eight to ten other families to remind them of Band Association meetings, concerts, and other social events. In the spring, a few of these volunteers would also be asked to contact a small group of incoming freshmen to welcome them to our band family.

Making connections with the School Board: In September, a group of Pioneer band members will speak during the public commentary portion of the School Board meeting. Band members will describe their experiences both at summer band camp and within the total band program and will thank the Board for all of their support.

Making connections in the elementary and middle schools: The Advocacy Committee is committed to forging ties with the elementary and middle school teachers, students, and families in the Pioneer attendance area. In the coming year, the Advocacy Committee hopes to send small groups of musicians into these schools to talk about Pioneer Bands and to perform excerpts from their solo and ensemble pieces.

PBA FUNDING COMMITTEE

Maintaining funds for a large organization like this can be a daunting task but with the help of every family we will remain the strong supportive group that we strive to be. Our traditional fundraisers in the past few years have included a yearly car wash and candy sale as well as volunteering time in the PTSO Thrift shop. Money is also raised year round through apparel and CD sales. Finally, the **Robert Albritton Endowment Fund** serves as a long term fund that will help band students enrich their band experiences outside of the school curriculum.

Our **CAR WASH** is a fun event in the fall where bands members collect pledges and donations and then wash as many cars as they can on car wash day. This is a great social event where freshmen can get to know other band members and everyone has a great time. The **CANDY SALE** starts in September. Finally the PTSO Thrift Shop operates year round. Band members and their families donate their time (usually 4 hours per year) to stock and maintain the shop and the hourly wage is paid to the Pioneer Band. Since many school organizations use this as a funding mechanism it is strongly encouraged that families call early in the school year to book their time. Time slots fill up quickly.

As a final note, the funding committee is actively looking for interested band parents to help re-evaluate our current fundraisers and/or research new ones. Please join us in making this a fun and productive year!

-Meena Khankari, Treasurer treasurer@aapioneerbands.org

PBA ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE

The goal of the Enrichment Committee is to organize and enhance programs that have enriched the Pioneer High School Bands program in the past. Traditionally, participating in the Pioneer Bands has been an enjoyable as well as educationally rich experience. Learning and friendships are enhanced by the fun activities that the Pioneer Band Association helps to organize. At the annual fall picnic, the bowling outing, the biennial Pioneer Band Gala and the spring Band banquet, band members, parents and friends of the Pioneer Bands come together. As chairperson of the Enrichment Committee, I invite all students, parents and friends of the Pioneer Bands to join me in making this year's activities successful. Ideas for additional events are also welcome.

-Denise Johnson, Vice President vicepresident@aapioneerbands.org

Pioneer Band Association

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 ANN ARBOR, MI

Building a Foundation for Musical Excellence

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We're On The Web!
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PLEASE NOTE: DATES IN *ITALICS* ARE CHANGES FROM THE CALENDAR DISTRIBUTED ON AUGUST 15TH. PLEASE CORRECT YOUR CALENDARS!

Sept.

8	2:20-4 pm	Marching Uniform Distribution	Band Room	Symphony Band
9	2:20-4 pm	Marching Uniform Distribution	Band Room	Symphony Band
12	7:30-8:30 pm	Mandatory TOUR Meeting	Little Theatre	Symphony Band Families
13	ALL DAY	CANDY SALE BEGINS	BAND ROOM	ALL BANDS
13	7:30-8:30 pm	PBA MEETING	Band Room	All Band Parents
13	DEADLINE	TOUR PAYMENT INITIAL DEPOSIT DUE	Band Room	Symphony Band
14	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill Rehearsal	Band Field	Symphony Band
15	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill Rehearsal	Band Field	Symphony Band
16	4:30 – 10 pm	HOME VS (LINCOLN) WAGONGATE	Hollway Field	Symphony Band
21	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill Rehearsal	Band Field	Symphony Band
22	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill Rehearsal	Band Field	Symphony Band
23	4:30 – 10 pm	HOME GAME (ADRIAN)	Hollway Field	Symphony Band
24	1:00-4:00 PM	BAND PICNIC	ALLMENDINGER PARK	ALL BANDS/FAMILIES
27	ALL DAY	CANDY SALE ENDS; \$\$ DUE	BAND ROOM	ALL BANDS
28	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill Rehearsal	Band Field	Symphony Band
29	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill Rehearsal	Band Field	Symphony Band
30	4:30 – 10 pm	HOME VS (TECUMSEH) HOMECOMING	Hollway Field	Symphony/Alumni Band

SEPTEMBER 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	2	2	2	2	2
2	2	2	2	2	3	

Oct.

1	8 AM-4 PM	ANNUAL BANDS CAR WASH	PIONEER HS	ALL BANDS/PARENTS
2	8 AM-4 PM	RAIN DATE CAR WASH	PIONEER HS	ALL BANDS/PARENTS
3	DEADLINE	TOUR PAYMENT DUE	Band Room	Symphony Band
4	7:30- 8:30 pm	PBA MEETING	Band Room	All Band Parents
4	2-4 pm	<i>Marching Uniform Distribution</i>	<i>Band Room</i>	<i>Concert Band</i>
6	2-4 pm	<i>Marching Uniform Distribution</i>	<i>Band Room</i>	<i>Concert Band</i>
12	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill Rehearsal	Band Field	Symphony/Concert Bands
13	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill Rehearsal	Band Field	Symphony/Concert Bands
14	4:30 – 10 pm	HOME GAME (VS. CHelsea)	Hollway Field	Symphony/Concert Bands
		SENIOR BAND MEMBERS RECOGNITION		
19	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill Rehearsal	Huron Field	Symphony/Huron Bands
20	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill Rehearsal	Band Field	Symphony/Huron Bands
		<i>RECEPTION following Rehearsal</i>		<i>PBA Hospitality Committee</i>
21	4:30 – 10 pm	HOME GAME (VS. HURON)	@ Huron HS	Symphony/Huron Bands

OCTOBER 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	2	2	2
2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3					

Nov.

1	DEADLINE	TOUR PAYMENT DUE	Band Room	Symphony Band
3	5 th Hour	Marching Uniform Check-In	Band Room	Symphony Band
5	DEADLINE:	SOLO/ENSEMBLE FEES DUE	Band Room	ALL BANDS
**7	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	Band Room	Symphony Band
8	7:30- 8:30 pm	PBA MEETING	Band Room	Band Parents/Guardians
**14	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	Band Room	Symphony Band

NOVEMBER 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2
2	2	2	3			