



# THE PIONEER BANDS WELCOME

## Our Incoming 9th Grade Families & CLASS OF 2016!

ANN ARBOR PIONEER HIGH SCHOOL  
2011 NATIONAL GRAMMY SIGNATURE SCHOOL

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### Welcome to the Pioneer Band Family!

All of the bands at Pioneer had a wonderful year — from the marching field to the Michigan Music Conference to the concert hall to the front lawn — each performance was filled with excitement, enthusiasm, and musical excellence.

### THE BANDS

The Pioneer Band Program is made up of four major and distinct performing ensembles, plus various other opportunities for students to play as part of smaller ensembles:

**Varsity Band** Students in the Varsity Band work on developing their musical skills within their instrument family of woodwinds and brass/percussion. The ensemble comes together as a complete band several times a year to further develop their group skills and to participate in public concerts.

**Concert Band** Students in Concert Band have demonstrated an advanced level of musical ability. The ensemble concentrates on concert performance throughout the year, participating in all regular school concerts and festivals. The Concert Band also works on marching fundamentals in the fall, joining the regular Marching Band on the field at the Homecoming Game.

**Symphony Band** Musicians in the Symphony Band consistently achieve a superior level of performance. In the fall, the Symphony Band serves as **THE MARCHING BAND** and performs at home football games. The remainder of the year is focused on concert rehearsals, preparing the ensemble for adjudication at band festivals, and performance at public concerts.

**Jazz Band** Students in this ensemble study and rehearse a variety of jazz styles, including classic arrangements and improvisation. The Jazz Band presents several concerts throughout the year.

### 2012 Band Camp

As summer approaches it is time to start thinking about **Band Camp!** **Band Camp 2012 will be held at Interlochen Arts Camp August 7-13, 2012. Incoming 9th Grade Students' Forms/Fees are due by Friday, May 4th, 2012. I will be accepting 200 students to band camp;** after members of Symphony Band and Concert Band who are required to attend, it is a "first come first accepted" basis. We are excited to start your child on their Pioneer High School musical journey. Pioneer Band Camp is the BEST way for your incoming 9th grader to get to know over 200 students with like interests, work ethic, etc. all in an environment that is accepting, nurturing, and supportive. I hope all of you have a relaxing summer, and look forward to another great year for the Bands at Pioneer next year. I look forward to getting to know you and working with your student musician. If ever a concern arises, please don't hesitate to call me at Pioneer High School — **David A. Leach, DIRECTOR OF BANDS**

### 2012-13 Pioneer Bands Registration: MONDAY, AUGUST 6th, 2012

The Pioneer Bands require ALL band students to register for band Monday, August 6th — 9 AM—NOON at Pioneer High School. Your participation in the registration process is vital to the success of the Pioneer Band Program. A REGISTRATION PACKET will be mailed to each incoming student in mid-summer with forms and information. Please fill out all forms and bring them when your student registers for Band.

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**Incoming 9th graders must complete the Incoming Band Student Information Form at: <http://tinyurl.com/PBA2016REG>**

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**DAVID A. LEACH**

**DIRECTOR OF BANDS**

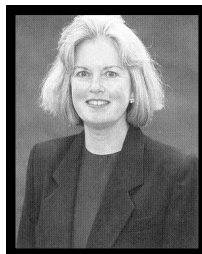


Born and raised in Ann Arbor and a proud graduate of Huron High School, **David A. Leach** has served as Director of Bands at Pioneer High School since 2002. He received his Bachelor's

and Master's Degrees in Music Education at Eastern Michigan University and studied trumpet with Professor Carter Eggers, conducting with Professor Russell Reed and Dr. Max Plank, and attended master classes in conducting with Professor Elizabeth A. H. Green. He began his teaching career at Ypsilanti High School and spent fourteen years there before coming to Ann Arbor. Mr. Leach has served on the executive board of the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association's District XII as Secretary and Vice-President of Adjudication and has been a member of the organization since 1988. He is a member of the Music Educators National Conference. He is a member of the First United Methodist Church, where he is a member of the Music Committee. Mr. Leach has been included in Who's Who Among America's Teachers three times, a listing of the best teachers in America selected by their students. In 2000 the University of Michigan chapter of the national music fraternity Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia honored Mr. Leach with the Scott Pendleton Memorial Award for outstanding achievement in music education. In 1999, 2001, 2002, and 2005 he was nominated for Disney's American Teacher Award. He is the 2005-06 Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association District XII Teacher of the Year. He is a proud member of the 2010 GRAMMY Gold Signature School Award-winning Pioneer Music Department, a top high school music program in the nation.

**NANCY R. WARING**

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF BANDS**



**Nancy Waring** has worked with the bands at Pioneer High School since 1992. She has helped to produce the high level of performances for which the bands are known at music festivals and

performances here in Michigan as well as Orlando, Chicago, Boston, New York, Virginia Beach, Myrtle Beach, Toronto, Orlando, and Beijing and Tianjin, China. During her tenure the Pioneer High School Music Department has been chosen two times by the Grammy Foundation as a Grammy Signature School (2001, 2003), three times as a Grammy Signature School Gold (2004, 2005, 2010), and in 2006, the top National Grammy Signature School in the country. Ms. Waring is included in the ninth edition of Who's Who Among America's Teachers, a listing of the best teachers in America selected by their students.

Ms. Waring's teachers include Roy Ernst, Larry Teal, Joseph Mariano, Keith Bryan, and Elizabeth A. H. Green. She is a graduate of The University of Michigan School of Music where she received a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education (1971) and a Master of Music degree in Flute Performance (1972). She has performed as principal flutist and soloist with several orchestras in southeast Michigan. Before her appointment at Pioneer High School she was substitute flutist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. At present she is the flutist with the Intrada Woodwind Quintet and freelances with area orchestras when time permits.

Ms. Waring has taught flute on the faculties of the University of Toledo and the Interlochen Arts Academy. She has maintained a private flute studio in the Ann Arbor area for over thirty years. Ms. Waring also wrote the proposal for, developed the course structure and content for, and teaches the Music Theory and Technology course at Pioneer High School.

**PERFORMANCE ACTIVITIES**

The Pioneer Bands perform several concerts each year. In addition, the band ensembles, along with small group ensembles and individuals, participate in various music festivals. Performance activities include:

- ♪ **MARCHING BAND** pre-game and half-time shows at all home football games. (*Symphony Band, with Concert Band Members for Homecoming Game*).
- ♪ **JAZZ BAND CONCERT** in January
- ♪ **DISTRICT SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL** in January (*All Students*)
- ♪ **WINTER BAND CONCERT** in February (*All Bands*)
- ♪ **DISTRICT BAND FESTIVAL** in March, held at Pioneer. (*Symphony & Concert Bands*)
- ♪ **BANDS IN REVIEW** in March (*All Bands*)
- ♪ **STATE SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL** in March (*All Students who qualified at District Festival*)
- ♪ **CONCERTO CONCERT** in Spring (*For Seniors By Audition*)
- ♪ **PICNIC POPS** in May (*All Bands*)
- ♪ **JAZZ SUMMIT** in May

Further details on each performance activity will be explained in the classroom, at Pioneer Band Association meetings and in future communications. See the Calendar for specific dates, times and participating groups for each activity.

**SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Several activities are planned each year to build friendships and esprit de corps among our band students and families. They include:

- ♪ **BAND PICNIC** in September
- ♪ **BOWLING PARTY** in January
- ♪ **BAND GALA & Auction**
- ♪ **BANDQUET** in May
- ♪ **SENIOR BRUNCH** in June

**THE PIONEER BAND ASSOCIATION**

The Pioneer Band Association was formed over 20 years ago as a parent booster club for the bands. It draws most of its membership from the parents of current band students and staff, but membership is open to all alumni and friends who want to advance the band program. Pioneer has a large student population, and membership is a great way to keep the school experience personal, especially for new parents and students.

The mission of the Pioneer Band Association is to provide financial and physical support to the directors, students and families of the Pioneer Band Program. Our purpose is to promote and enhance the quality of the total band experience for all. To achieve these goals, the Band Association pledges to:

- support the band program with supplemental financial aid and with the donation of volunteer time and talents
- encourage excellence in musicianship
- encourage and nurture the social growth and friendships of both students and parents
- work to foster responsibility, pride, school spirit and good sportsmanship