
❖ Mr. Austin's Note's ❖

2010-2011 school year: 1st letter

August 2010

From the podium

Music Boosters

Music Boosters hold meetings every second Wednesday of the month.

Boosters and I discuss performance and trip plans. Parents are urged to attend meetings as well as work as chaperones, ticket takers, sewing helpers, concession stand workers and other jobs supporting our program.

Evening practice

Period 1 Symphonic Band meets 6:30 a.m. daily and **Wednesday night practices** from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Note, Drumline meets throughout the year and does competitions in Bakersfield plus concerts in Ridgecrest in addition to all Symphonic Band performances.

Stage Band meets

daily during period 2 to prepare for performances including the 2nd semester Jazz Festival at Fullerton Junior College (poss.) & December/May Concerts.

Cadet Band Members

are required to attend the 5 performances outside of the school day on:
September 17 football game
October 23 Desert Fair Parade
December 8 Bands Holiday Concert
December 11 TENTATIVE R/C Parade

CHARMS via our website:



For trip details, uniforms, downloads, attendance at performances... login with the student permanent ID# (from student ID card) to use our Charms site linked to <http://burrosband.org>.

Calendar online

updated throughout the year. Please go online to the web site: <http://burrosband.org>

Band Festival

Band members who pay \$150 each, have a 3.0 gpa, complete Smartmusic tests & submit forms by January 15 will have Festival plans including the March 3/4, 2011 SCSBOA District Festival and Disney overnight trip.

Symphonic Band dates:

8/28/2010 Uniform-fitting day
9/9/2010 Parade/Pomona, noon bus
9/11/2010 Parade, 8am call
9/15/2010 cornerstone; PPAC
9/17/2010 football 1, 5:30pm
9/24/2010 football 2, 6pm
9/25/2010 FFF Jackson park
10/9/2010 football 3, 5pm call
10/19/2010 Rosamond field comp.
10/22/2010 football 4, 6pm
10/23/2010 DEFair Parade, 8am call
10/29/2010 football 5, 6pm
10/30/2010 field comp. TBD
11/6/2010 field comp. TBD
12/8/2010 Band Holiday Concert
12/11/2010 Parade, 8am call

Inside This Letter

Schedules

Policies

Behavior contract

General program information

nuts and bolts from Mr. Austin to parents

ATTENDANCE

The biggest challenge for our program is working around people's schedules. The worst thing I've dealt with has been cancelled performance because of too many schedule conflicts. Several important resources including time & money were wasted as a result.

Owing to the obvious need for us to be efficient and effective, I've adopted an attendance policy that ties grades to attendance.

1. All practices and performances known to this date are mandatory. If for any reason, a student must be late or absent, the written note/excuse must be signed by a parent and if the excuse is too late or unreasonable, full credit will be lost.

2. No student will be allowed to make up performance credit without a parent-teacher conference.

3. A second tardy earns detention and three unexcused tardies earn OCS (On Campus Suspension).

Grades reflect the individual student's attendance as well as performance and learning.

FESTIVAL DRESS AND UNIFORMS

ALL musicians must wear concert black for Festival. Grades suffer for inappropriate dress.

The band members' manual has much regarding marching band uniforms. For Festival, ALL musicians must wear black clothes except white shirts for stage performances. **Girls are required to wear LONG dresses/skirts/slacks to the ankles.** No bare shoulders, bare backs, short "V" neck, long slits, no flip flops, tennis shoes or jeans. Any attire that "shows off" skin is inappropriate. **Guys wear black jackets with long black ties.**

Please have black festival concert dress before the trip and/or graduation.

SOLO and ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL:

The most significant element of our music program curriculum:

All Symphonic Band members are *required to perform in a sanctioned solo/ensemble festival like the one we host on Saturday, February 12, 2011.

SCSBOA (Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association) judges listen to our students play their solo and/or ensemble music. After the performance, judges give verbal and written comments. All first semester members receive applications for our February S/E festival which will be due in January.

**Drumline members attend PPAACC competition instead of the SCSBOA festival at BHS.*

Summer music camp?

Last summer, BHS Band members enjoyed music study at DMA/Riverside, Wildwood Music Camp and other summer music opportunities.

If you'd like to keep the music playing during the summer, please get info as soon as possible, apply [to the camp] and when possible, audition/apply for scholarships. Let me know what assistance I may provide regarding summer music study.

Rules and the Parent/Guardian form

Burroughs Band members are expected to follow these rules:

1. Be nice
2. Be safe.
3. Be productive.

Grades are based on Smartmusic tests, uniform care and performances.

Parents' advance written excuse may earn makeup assignment (5 concert reports) for the student.

Consequences may include *step, detention and/or point loss.

- A = 90% - 100%
- B = 80% - 89.99%
- C = 70% - 79.99%
- D = 60% - 69.99%
- F = below 60%

*steps include explanation of rule infraction, date, and action taken.

- 5 steps result in dismissal without credit
- 4 steps require parent/teacher conference
- 3 steps require administrator involvement
- 2 steps involve parent contact
- 1st step is a warning

In order to assure that each student's parent/guardian is aware of the class rules, the following contract is required and failure of a student to deliver this form and the BHS code within five days of receipt will result in points lost.

The Burroughs Band rules are:

1. Be nice
2. Be safe
3. Be productive

..... Cut here then return the bottom form (signed) to Simon Austin.....

Agreed to and accepted by:

student signature parent/guardian signature email date

instrument brand name _____ serial number _____

The BHS website publishes band photos which may include the student: Yes No
Circle one

Comments:

I want to know

Inside this newsletter, you will find lots of information. Let's keep positive communication flowing. I hope that you will feel motivated to share with us what's going on, went before and/or what your hopes are for BHS music students in the future.

PARENT/GUARDIAN:

Please sign the contract (page 3) and return it today.

Keep in touch

ON THE INTERNET?: Our web site is at:

<http://burrosband.org>

2010-'11 Parents

Meeting is

Wednesday, Sept. 1

6:00 p.m.

in the bandroom

Other items:

If you have an item you would like to donate to our program, contact me at 375-4476 ext. 288 to make arrangements. Once paperwork is complete, you will receive a letter regarding your donation from BHS and/or the Sierra Sands Unified School District. All donations must be approved by the S.S.U.S.D. school board. Please let me know if you do not receive a letter of donation acknowledgement within a few weeks of your donation to our program. Thanks in advance for your support!

From SIMON J. AUSTIN

Sherman E. Burroughs High School Band

<http://burrosband.org>

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(760) 375-4476 #288

FAX (760) 375-1735

Post Office will
NOT deliver
without postage

Is your address label correct? If incorrect, please write cross out wrong information and write your updated correction/s.