

## MBG Director Newsletter

September 18th

**Congratulations** to the members of the Marching Black and Gold for their first public performance of the year at last Friday's football game and thank you to all the parents who assisted. **Please** remember to sign up to volunteer using the SignUp Genius (linked below).

**Volunteers** The SignUp Genius website lists the parent volunteer opportunities throughout the season. When we travel we need assistance distributing and collecting uniforms, loading (and then moving and loading) equipment, chaperoning the students, and more! Please visit this link to sign up to volunteer to assist:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0549aaab2ca46-mbg20182019>

This link is permanently available on the top of the Marching Black and Gold page at [www.hopewellvalleybands.org](http://www.hopewellvalleybands.org) and is a pinned post on our Twitter and Facebook page (@HVBands). It will also always be linked at the bottom of this newsletter. A separate sign up will be coming shortly with volunteer opportunities for our Home Show on Saturday, October 20th.

### **Friday, September 21st - Away Football @ Ewing HS** (900 Parkway Ave, Ewing Twp, NJ 08618)

4:30 pm	Report, Change into Uniform, Equipment Loading @ PODS (load truck and bus)
5:10	MBG Departs to Ewing HS
5:30	Approximate Arrival, unload, into bleachers, warm up for pregame performance
6:30	Ready to take field for pregame
6:40	Take the field for pre-game performance
7:00	Game begins
10:00	Approximate End of Game
10:30	Return to TL, Unload, Change, Dismissed

### **Saturday, September 22nd - Hopewell Harvest Fair and USBands Competition at Hamilton HS West**

We will begin our day Saturday with a performance at the Hopewell Harvest Fair, which takes place at Hopewell Elementary School (on the grass field). Students should wear their show shirts for this performance. We will begin with the Star Spangled Banner, perform excerpts of our show, and perform a few other selections. We will **not** bring all of our pit equipment, but pit members are required to attend to carry the banner, the American flag, and participate in a number of other ways. This event is open to the public and all are encouraged to attend.

Our first competition of the year will take place at Hamilton High School West. Our performance will be adjudicated by a panel of judge and we will be given a score and a placement. I believe we are the only band competing in Group II A. As I tell the students, while high scores and placements are nice, they shouldn't be the sole measure of our success. Our experience is a journey, and our success will be measured by consistent improvement and reaching our potential at any given performance.

9:00 am	Report to TL, load drumline and large instruments onto MBG Bus
9:20	Depart TL for Hopewell Elementary
9:35	Arrive, warm up
10:00	Hopewell Harvest Fair Performance (in Show Shirts)
10:30	Depart Hopewell Harvest Fair
10:45	Return (to AFT4)

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11:00	Brief Tune Up Rehearsal
12:00 pm	Lunch (bring your own), Change, Load MBG Bus and Truck at PODS
1:15	Depart TL
1:45	Arrival, Get Settled, Warm Up, Travel
3:15	MBG at Gate
3:30	Performance (students will stay in stadium, MBG Pit Crew loads)
4:00	Awards and Judges Critique <i>The staff members participate in a roundtable with the judges to gather feedback</i>
5:00	Approximate Departure
5:30	Approximate Return to TL, Unload, Unpack, Dismissed

A few notes: because we perform just before the host band, we will not be changing out of uniform until we arrive back to Timberlane. After our performance, the band will stay in the stadium to watch Hamilton HS West's performance and then participate in the awards ceremony. We will depart as soon as the MBG staff is finished with the judges critique (as noted above).

### Uniform Reminders for Percussion & Winds

- Show shirt under your jacket
- Long black socks
- Hair off the shoulders when wearing shako
- Remember your gloves
- Athletic/mesh/gym shorts, athletic pants, sweatpants, etc. should **not** be worn under the uniform pants (compression shorts are acceptable). Students have the opportunity to change in the locker rooms and rest rooms at TL

**Spring Band Trip to Virginia Beach Music Festival** Please see the trip announcement letter for a proposed trip to Virginia Beach for the Marching Black & Gold, CHS Symphonic Band, and CHS Jazz Band. The marching band would be participating in the international "Virginia Parade of Nations" and have the opportunity to attend and watch the prestigious **Virginia Festival Tattoo** featuring hundreds of performers from around the world putting on an astounding display of inspirational military music, majestic massed pipes and drums, show stopping drill team maneuvers, colorful and elegant dancers, and much more. This trip is open to all members of the MBG (8th grade included). [Click Here](#) for a direct link to the letter or visit the MBG page at [hopewellvalleybands.org](http://hopewellvalleybands.org)

**USBands Yamaha Cup Moved** I've been informed by USBands that the management team at MetLife Stadium is not letting them use the facilities on Saturday, October 13th because the Jets have a home game on Thursday, October 11th and the Giants have a home game on Sunday, October 14th. I don't know why it took so long to realize that this was a conflict, but it is the information that has been sent to all directors who registered to attend. The Yamaha Cup will now take place at Rutgers University. While not an NFL Stadium, Rutgers has a great facility. Ticket prices will be reduced for those that attend. We will attend the Yamaha Cup at Rutgers University on October 13th and throw down a performance for all to be proud of!

**Performing Arts Parent and Student Form** Supervisor of Visual & Performing Arts is asking all VPA families to complete this quick online form. The information contained will help us to be able to

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communicate effectively with students and parents who are involved in the Performing Arts during the 2018-19 school year. [Click Here](#)

**MBG and HVBands Gear** I am **still** working with the vendor to finalize details for our band gear and hope to have an order form available within the coming days - stay tuned!

**USBands Scholarship** USBands is giving back to students from schools who participate in its events by offering scholarship opportunities. At least two scholarships will go to students who: demonstrate magnificence in their community, can articulate how their involvement in music has influenced their life, and can describe how music will continue to have an influence in their life. At least one scholarship will be awarded to a student who will be pursuing further education in music, and another scholarship will be awarded to a student pursuing any higher education. Higher education includes but is not limited to vocational training, conservatory, and other college degrees. Scholarship recipients will be determined by the USBands Advisory Board and announced in November. Find scholarship application materials [here](#).

### Looking Ahead

Friday, September 28th      **Homecoming vs. Nottingham**  
*Report time likely 4:45*

Saturday, September 29th      **OFF**

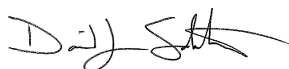
Friday, October 5th      **OFF**

Saturday, October 6th      **Cavalcade of Bands Competition at Plymouth-Whitemarsh HS (PA)**  
*Morning rehearsal to precede competition.*

### Communication

- **Director Newsletter** Published weekly and emailed, distributed to students, posted on website and social media outlets (if you are not getting weekly emails, please contact Mr. Schwartzer)
- **SignUp Genius** Website to facilitate volunteer sign ups throughout the season. Available on MBG page of [www.hopewellvalleybands.org](http://www.hopewellvalleybands.org) as a pinned post on HVBands Facebook and Twitter Page and [HERE](#) A separate SignUp Genius for our Home Show will be available soon
- **Website** [www.hopewellvalleybands.org](http://www.hopewellvalleybands.org) acts as a resource to find forms and information
- **Remind** Text messaging service for important updates and changes - [Sign Up Here](#)
- **Social Media** Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) for photos, updates, and more!
- **Email** I can be reached at [davidschwartzter@hvrsd.org](mailto:davidschwartzter@hvrsd.org)

Thank you!



David J. Schwartzer