

MBG Director Newsletter

September 16th

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! Also, a big thanks to all who stayed for our first annual MBG BBQ on Saturday afternoon. A sincere thank you to all involved!

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/805084ba9a628a2fb6-mbg201920>

This link is permanently available on the top of the Marching Black and Gold page at 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.

Friday, September 20th - OFF Saturday will be a long day, rest up!

Saturday, September 21st - Hopewell Harvest Fair and USBands Competition at Hunterdon Central

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** bring all of our pit equipment, which is a change from years past.. This event is open to the public and all are encouraged to attend.

Our first competition of the year will take place at Hunterdon Central HS (84 Route 31, Flemington NJ 08822). Our performance will be adjudicated by a panel of judges and we will be given a score and a placement. We are a group III A band and there is one other school in our class (Burlington Twp.). 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. Please come out and support the band in the stands and cheer us on before, during, and after our performance. If this is your first time at a marching band competition, you are in for a treat! Please expect to pay a nominal fee for individual tickets to the event.

8:45 am	Report to TL, load drumline and large instruments onto MBG Bus, Load Truck at PODS
9:15	Depart TL for Hopewell Elementary
9:30	Arrive, unload, set up, warm up
10:00	Hopewell Harvest Fair Performance (in Show Shirts), Load, Depart
10:45	Depart Hopewell Harvest Fair
11:00	Return to TL - Dismissed (students should not stay at TL)

3:00 pm	Report, Change
3:30	Depart TL
4:00	Arrival, Get Settled, Warm Up
5:15	MBG at Gate
5:30	Performance
5:45	Following our performance, students will have time to change into their regular clothes,

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use the restroom, and then move back to the stadium. Once back at the stadium, they will have time to buy food at the concession stands (bring money for this), and we will watch the remaining bands together as a group. [A complete schedule for the competition can be found here](#)

9:30 Awards and Judges Critique
The staff members participate in a roundtable with the judges to gather feedback

10:15 Approximate Departure

10:45 Approximate Return to TL, Unload, Unpack, Dismissed

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.

Rehearsals this Week - We will have a normal rehearsal schedule this week (Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00 - 6:00). A friendly reminder to try and avoid scheduling appointments during rehearsal hours. Consult the [MBG Handbook](#) (page 5) for attendance policies.

Looking Ahead

Friday, September 27

Homecoming Football vs. Ewing

We will perform at the Pep Rally during school

Saturday, September 28

Rehearsal and Competition at South Brunswick HS

Performance time at Hunterdon Central - 5:45 PM

Award Ceremony at 9:00 PM, Return Approximately 10:00 PM

Any student who wants to attend the Homecoming Dance may leave following the performance as long as a parent has emailed Mr.

Schwartzter by 9/26 and has arranged appropriate transportation

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. Schwartzter)
- **MBG Parent Coordinators** - email mbgparents2019@gmail.com if you are not receiving their updates throughout the season
- **SignUp Genius** Website to facilitate volunteer sign ups throughout the season. Available on MBG page of www.hopewellvalleybands.org as a pinned post on HVBands Facebook and Twitter Page and [HERE](#)
- **Website** 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