

Greetings Parents and friends of the TV Band Program,

Our next meeting is January 10, 2006 at 6:30 PM in the Band Room.

On behalf of the entire Band Boosters organization, I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy start to the New Year. I can honestly say that November-December was one of the biggest roller coaster ride of emotions I have ever experienced. We achieved a peak of perfection by receiving a Superior rating at State Marching Band Finals on November 4 and then hit rock bottom with the news of Anthony Mitchell's tragic accident on November 10. These are "life lessons" that we all experience one time or another during our lives but to have them both happen in less than 1 week's time is difficult. I personally want to thank every family for their outward showing of strength and support of our band family and I'm appreciate everyone's efforts in both good and difficult times. We must now go forward since there is a lot of music season remaining yet this year. I must now challenge EVERYONE to stay actively involved and keep our program strong and growing. Let's not rest on our accomplishments. Ms. B tells me we have **92** kids involved in Jazz/ Concert band and our organization continues to have many needs and we will need everyone's contributions. The band needs to repair/replace the equipment bus and work on both the concession and hauling trailer, we will need new uniforms soon and some instruments are old and broken. If you're the parent/guardian of either an 8th or 9th grade student I encourage you to learn more about the music and band booster's organization by attending meetings and helping in fundraising events. Call on any band booster officer or Ms. Blevins to see how you can contribute! We need to demonstrate our support to an outstanding educator with an outstanding music program. Here's what's on the horizon.

KUDOS – We completed the 2nd Annual Marching Scottie Bazaar on November 18. This was our 2nd attempt for this event and things went very, very well. Thanks to Jen Booher for leading this effort and thanks to those who contributed. We earned over \$2,300 of which \$1,150 was donated to Dave & Mary Ford for Anthony's medical expenses. We have received many positive responses from both vendors and participants and this event is now growing into a very solid moneymaker for us. Mark your calendar for net year's event scheduled for November 17, 2007 and plan on participating!

POPCORN SALES/COAT CHECK FUNDRAISERS - We need student and parent workers to sign up to make & sell popcorn and work coat check at boy's varsity basketball games! There is a sign up sheet in the band room now and the kids have been strongly encourage to work these events so parents now it's your turn! The dates scheduled are as follows: **Popcorn sales: 1-16, 1-20, 1-26, 1-30, 2-9 and 2-13. Coat Check dates: 1-20 and 2-13.** Popcorn sales need 2 students and 1 parent. Coat Check takes 3-4 students. We have earned \$407.00 in 3 games to date with popcorn sales but we do need more parents and students for future events. The work is not hard, all the supplies are organized and ready, I think several of you may already be attending ball games anyway, and this is an excellent way to keep our group in front of people and get noticed. We need to do these projects because we continue to have operating expenses (sheet music, instrument repair, uniforms, etc) so every dollar we earn is critical and necessary.

SOUP & SALAD SUPPER EVENT. We will be conducting a soup& salad supper before the West M varsity basketball game on **January 30, 2007**. At this point we need 10-12 students to help with setup, serving food, waiting tables and clean up. In addition, we will need 4-6 parents to prepare food and supervise. We will ask for donations of soups, pop and water. The cost of the meal will be \$5.00 with soup, salad and drink provided. Pre-sale tickets will be available for \$4.50 from band kids/band room up until the 1-26-2007. Jackie Beardsley will coordinate the food preparation effort. This event earned almost \$500.00 last year so our goal will be to beat that mark. In the event of bad weather, the make up date will be 2-1-2007. Please help support this event in any way you can!

DVA BASKET HAPPENING EVENT We have been asked by Tricia Kidd, Director of the Dresden Village Association to supply a concession stand at the Basket Happening event. The event will be held on **February 17, 2007** from 8 AM to 4 PM at the High School Cafetorium. We need 8-10 parents and kids to help with food preparations and sales. We are being given the opportunity to set the menu and prices so this represents an outstanding opportunity to make almost \$1,000 for an afternoon's work. At this point we need parents and/or friends of the band not attending Solo & Ensemble to assist. We plan on selling light breakfast items like donuts, coffee, juice and lunch items like hot dogs, sloppy joes, nacho & cheese, chicken & noodles, cookies, candy, pop & water. Again we will need donated items and Jackie Beardsley will lead the food effort. The DVA has promised our organization will be recognized and we again have another opportunity to step forward and be recognized in the community. Let's get more new parents involved with this event and have some fun and fellowship while helping our kids!

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER –

January 30	Soup & Salad Supper
February 17	Solo & Ensemble Contest at John Glenn High School
February 17	DVA Basket Happening in Cafetorium
March 16	Celebration of the Arts at High School
March 24	Big Band Jazz Dance in Cafetorium
April 28-29	Longaberger Collector Club workdays at the Homestead (TBD)
May 12 –13	Longaberger Soccer Tournament work days at the Homestead (TBD)

ANTHONY MITCHELL BENEFIT- Kayla McCarty (and family from Andy's Auction Barn) are planning a benefit auction to be held at the end of January to raise money for Anthony's family. Not only has the family been left to grieve Anthony's loss, they now have some staggering medical bills to deal with also. Please consider donating any items for Andy to auction at the beginning of a regularly scheduled auction. All proceeds will be donated to the family and will be greatly appreciated and very much needed. If you have items or more specific questions about this event please contact Kayla McCarty at (740) 754-2814 or e-mail her at Kayla_mccarty@hotmail.com. Thanks in advance for supporting this great idea!

We are off to a great start for the year! We have been receiving many, many positive comments from school administration, the community, and within the music education circles. Ms B receives letters and e-mails often about the positive image our kids have created. We as parents and friends need to continue the positive energy and grow the program. Please let Ms. B (ablevins@tri-valley.k12.oh.us) or myself (steves5295@adelphia.net) know your thoughts and/or ideas about how we can continue to improve our organization.

Don't forget to check out the Band Website for event information at <http://teachers.tvschools.org/ablevins>. We will begin posting Booster Newsletters at this location in the near future. I still need many parents e-mail addresses. Sometimes this is the best and quickest way to communicate breaking news so please get me your information ASAP. You can also let me know you have no e-mail! As a reminder, please mark your calendar for future booster meetings on the 2nd Wednesday each month. Future dates are February 14, March 14, April 11 and May 9 and please plan on attending!

Steve Starkey
Band Boosters President