

WHAT IS A BAND...?



CENTRAL OF CARROLL CO.

What is “Rookie Camp”?

The week of rookie camp is held for one week during the summer. The section leaders and officers of the band work with new marching band students to teach the basics of marching. It gives these new students a chance to get to know Mr. Ruby, their section leader, and learn “how to march” before they participate in the week of full marching band camp.

In addition, Visual Ensemble and percussion members will have their own week of “Pre-Camp” with new members.

What is “Band Camp”?

Band camp is one week out of the summer that consists of a large amount of rehearsal time and chance for our students to get to know each other and develop friendships that not only last all year but often times a life time. A large portion of our band budget is required to put an award winning show on the field year after. We hire professionals to arrange our music, write the drill, and qualified instructors are brought in during camp to help teach each section. Many band parents give up a week of their vacation time to help out with band camp each year. We provide water for breaks, help serve lunch each day, take care of minor medical needs, etc. Also, activities are planned each evening after full rehearsal for the students. Band camp, although exhausting, is a lot of fun for everyone involved.

What are band fees so expensive?

This fee is paid at the beginning of each year that your child participates in the band program. It includes marching band camp, the uniform fee, t-shirt, music, drill, instruction, transportation and many other items during the marching season. This fee is \$400.00 per year. This fee does not come close to meeting the budget requirements of the Central band program but with everyone's help with planned fund raisers, we can reach our yearly budget requirement.

What is a "Student Account"?

Since band participation does involve some cost, we developed fundraisers where the money or a certain percentage of the money earned goes into your child's band student account. This money can be used at any time for any band expense. The money is kept in an individual bank account, and a Booster Student Account Treasurer is responsible for deposits and withdrawals.

You will receive regular written statements pertaining to your child's student account throughout the year.

The Students CAN NOT withdraw money from student accounts. The money can be transferred into the Band's Operating Account to cover band expenses only. A signed Student Account Transfer Form must be turned in with each transfer. (A sample of this form is contained in the handbook) If your child ever withdraws, quits, or is dismissed from the band program, the money in his/her student account is transferred into the Band's Operating Account.

What is an Accessory Fee?

This fee varies from year to year. During your rookie year, you are required to purchase black, lace-up marching band shoes. Also certain members are required to purchase white gloves, which are available from the uniform chairman during the year.

What is the Super Bowl of Sound?

This is one of our largest fundraisers each year. For more than 20 years, our band has hosted a marching band festival and contest on campus, which this year will be October 7, 2006. Invitations are sent out to high schools in the Southeastern United States to compete in front of a panel of certified adjudicators. We also host a college or university band as our “Exhibition Band” each year. In the past, our exhibition bands have included the University of Georgia, University of West Georgia, and Jacksonville State University. Our marching band performs at the end of the day, but only for comments from the judges. Planning for this event begins in August each year. Our profits come from entry fees, gate fees, and a concession stand.

Why are Band Parents and Students expected to work so much?

WE as an active booster club can help determine the success or failure of our band program. Our students work hard and devote a tremendous amount of their time to the band program, so they DESERVE the rewards for their dedication. However, it takes money AND parent participation to make those rewards happen. Recent rewards include our state-of-the-art new band facility, our 24-foot and 53-foot custom equipment trailers, 8 beautiful new sousaphones, 9 new mellophones, and great band trips all over the world. Everyone working a little is equal to a few working a lot! Please don't wait to be asked to help out. If you see something that needs to be done or that you would like to help with, just speak with Mr. Ruby or one of the band booster officers. Come be a part of the excitement of the Central Marching Pride!

Student Participation

Students in marching band are expected to attend the full week of Rookie Camp (new members only) and the full week of band camp. Regular rehearsals after school begins are from 3:45-6:00 on Monday and Tuesdays and 6-9 on Thursday evenings. We also perform at three marching contests during the year and several parades and community events. The Central Marching band does not practice on Wednesdays or Sundays.

Parent Participation

We encourage all parents to attend our monthly Band Booster meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. You are also encouraged to get involved with the band program in one of our many committees. We have included a list of committee chairs and contact information. There are a lot of ways to get involved...don't hesitate to ask. You will have the time of your life!!!!

