

PARENT GUIDE TO THE REBEL BAND
Presented by Hays Band Boosters, 2019-2020

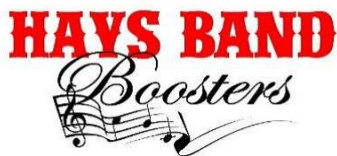
*Because we were all new parents at one time,
but sometimes forget that "common knowledge" isn't all that common!*

Mission Statement: The Hays Band Boosters organization is dedicated to support the students, directors, and the mission of the band program as they strive towards the highest level of curricular and artistic goals in music education and performance.

- Lesley Allen, President: HaysBandBoostersPresident@gmail.com
- Kim Lalande, Vice President Events: HaysBandBoostersVPEvents@gmail.com
- Virginia Messler, Vice President Sponsors: HaysBandBoostersVPSponsors@gmail.com
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Welcome to the fun and fast-paced world of the Rebel Band! The Hays Band Booster Organization provides the following explanations so that you can be in-the-know and keep up with life in the Rebel Band. Some of the duties of the Boosters include the following:

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| *Financial support through fundraising | *Organizing and hosting band activities and events |
| *Assisting band directors as requested | *Communicating Booster activities and events |
| *Chaperoning trips | *Spirit activities and events |
| *Spirit items for sale | *Meal plans for summer and marching season |
| *Uniform assistance | *Marching prop construction and/or assembly |
| *Helping with loading/unloading of equipment | |



BOOSTER MEETINGS

Booster meetings will be held at 6:30 PM on the first Tuesday of each month from September-May (except December). Meetings are generally held in the HHS band hall, and are approximately one hour, except the September meeting, which runs closer to two hours. We are all band parents, so everyone is invited and encouraged to attend meetings- no membership is required to attend meetings give input, suggestions, ideas, or to volunteer. Attending Booster meetings is the best way to stay informed and contribute to band activities. Membership is required to be allowed to vote. There is no requirement placed upon members to volunteer.

At the September meeting, you will:

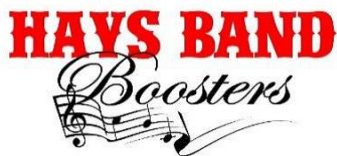
- Be introduced to and hear reports from band directors and Booster officers
- Sign up for volunteer opportunities
- Sign up to become a (voting) member of the Boosters
- Receive answers to your questions
- Meet other band parents and start to form new friendships

BAND YEAR AT A GLANCE

Late Spring and Summer begins marching band season. Mid-July, the students report for registration, then marching band camp begins in July. The Boosters provide some special treats and activities over the next few weeks before school starts. Some parents (Pit Crew) are hard at work building show props or working on our trailer. Other parents are busy organizing and fitting uniforms. Boosters also offers a summer meal plan for the students to purchase, if desired.

Fall sees the band in full swing marching mode! Fridays (and occasional Thursdays), are football game days! The Boosters organize and serve game day and competition day meals for the band students that have purchased the meal plans, assist as needed with equipment, help with uniform management, and chaperone on bus trips. Several weekends in the fall, the Rebel Band will be attending marching competitions. The Boosters organize spirit send-offs and cheer for our kids on the competition field. And, for the first time this year, there will be a HCISD Band Festival featuring all three high school bands and all middle school bands!

Late Fall, Winter, and early Spring, we shift gears to concert season. The Boosters support the band program at TMEA All-Region and All-Area Band, Winter Follies, UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest, UIL Concert & Sight Reading Contest, Percussion Concert, the Spring Concerts, and Winter Guard events and contests. Finally, in May, the Boosters host the Band Banquet.



COMMUNICATION

The website for the band is www.haysbands.org. Information on the site is updated regularly. Please make sure that you book mark the site and look there for answers to questions. Information on the site includes:

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| *Information for students and parents | *Link and instructions to receive Charms email |
| *Activities information | *Sign-up for weekly newsletter |
| *Charms calendar | *Director/Staff contact list |
| *Booster information | *Booster Officers contact list |
| *Fundraising information | *Booster store
(meal plans, memberships, merchandise, etc.) |
| * Links to social media: @HaysRebelBand | |

Our kids are now in high school and the band directors will share information with the students daily during class or practices; they don't often send written information home. There are several ways parents can confirm or follow-up on the information given to your student:

- Check the website www.haysbands.org.
- Sign up for Charms – Directors and Boosters email parents directly from Charms, also you can sync the band calendar to your phone.
- Sign up for Remind – Text the message @HRB1920 to the number 81010 to receive messages from the directors.
- Like Hays Rebel Band on facebook.
- Follow @HaysRebelBand on Instagram.
- Follow @HaysRebelBand on Twitter.
- Discuss with your student the importance of keeping you informed.

To register for CHARMS:

1. Visit www.charmsoffice.com. Click LOGIN in the top right corner.
2. Enter the school code (JCHaysHSBand) in the PARENT/STUDENT/MEMBERS field.
3. Enter your student's school ID number. Create a new password.
4. In the group of icons, click on UPDATE INFO and make sure everything is completed.
5. Important: Be sure you add adult information with your email. All emails entered will receive information. Explore the site!



MARCHING SEASON

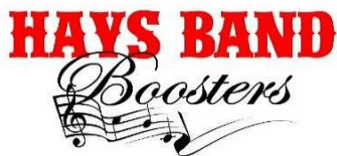
Spring Band Camp is when new, incoming freshmen join the current high schoolers after school and begin learning marching fundamentals. Students should bring instruments, water, a snack, and other items as directed by band staff. This is a fun but demanding activity that gives the newbies a good introduction as to what to expect during marching season. Boosters host a “Parent Orientation” in conjunction with Spring Camp.

Summer Band is mandatory and begins three to four weeks prior to the start of school. Practice times may vary, depending upon teacher in-service schedules. Practice times may also be a bit different for drum-line, color guard, etc. so check with your student regularly. Summer Band is to review marching fundamentals and really get to work on the marching show. Be sure that your student has eaten well before practice. It’s a great idea for them to bring a substantial snack, as well. Boosters will offer a fast-food type lunch for pre-order purchase (see below). Otherwise, students are responsible for their own lunch. Students are not allowed to leave campus during lunch break. Students will also need to make sure that they always have their water jugs filled with ice and water! They should wear sunscreen and dress in comfortable attire that meets the school dress code. Hats and sunglasses are a great idea, and comfortable shoes are a must! The directors do their best to have outside marching practice at the coolest parts of the day and indoor music rehearsal when it’s the hottest. The band and Boosters host a few fun events during summer band. ***Volunteers are needed for these events!***

Summer Meal Plan is offered by the Boosters to provide lunches during Summer Band. Cost per meal is \$8 and can be paid for as a package at registration or at haysbands.org. Students also have the option to bring \$8 every morning before summer band starts to order a meal for that particular day. These meals are fast food.

Spirit Items are created, ordered, sold, and distributed by the Boosters. Items include car decals, yard signs, duffle bags, t-shirts, and more. Please support the program and show your Rebel Band spirit by ordering from these fundraisers. All orders will be taken on the band web site haysbands.org with online payment.

Before- and After-School Marching Rehearsals are held daily during marching season. Times will vary but your student will receive specific report times from the directors. Sectionals may be called last minute by section leaders or directors. These rehearsals ARE REQUIRED! It is extremely important that all band members attend each rehearsal. Every single person counts! Make sure that your student has comfortable clothing and their water jug.

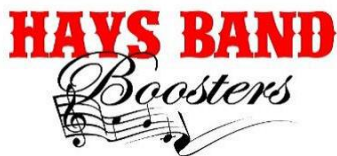


Football Game Day Meal Plan is offered by the Boosters for all band students. The meal plan is a fundraiser but was specifically created to help keep game-day craziness to a minimum. Traffic, parking, and timing can all be rough on game days. The meal plan takes care of all football game day meals. The football game day meals are fast-food meals. On football game days, meals are delivered to the HHS cafeteria. Parent volunteers will supervise and assist as needed. Students will receive their meals and have time to eat before going to the band hall to change into uniforms. Students are not allowed to purchase food at the game concession stands. They are not allowed to bring food into the game or receive food from someone while at the game. Game days can be hectic, which is why we strongly encourage you to participate in the meal plan! **Volunteers are needed to assist with meal plan service.**

The Marching Uniform consists of dark grey pants (bibbers), a jacket, gauntlets, gloves, dark socks, black shoes, and a shako hat with plume and decorative piece. Students will need to wear an underlayer, typically consisting of their band shirt and black compression shorts. Uniforms are stored at the band hall and **SHOULD NOT** be taken home! Students will be given detailed instructions explaining how to check-out and check-in their uniform. Students will also be taught how to properly hang up the uniform. Please be patient after late games or competitions; sometimes it takes a while to get uniforms put away properly. **It should be noted that uniforms are checked every time that they are turned in. If your student tries to turn in a poorly hung uniform or one with missing parts, they will have to go back to the end of the line and fix the problem.**

Football Games are usually on Friday night, and occasionally on Thursday. During football season, the band attends all games to play stand tunes and perform their show at halftime. The games are a fantastic experience and the directors try to make it as fun for the kids as possible. Rebel Band students learn dances and cheers that go with the drum-line cadences, create their own traditions, and have a fun time getting to know each other and cheering on the football team. Home games are hosted at Bob Shelton Stadium. Parents must purchase tickets to attend the home or away games. You don't have to attend the games, you can pick up your student afterward. For home games this pickup time is generally between 10:30-11:00 PM. Away game pick up times depend on where the game was played and how long it takes the bus to return to school. Students should bring their water jugs with them into the stands and they can refill as needed. Football games are mandatory performances.

Students are expected to remain at all football games for the entire game! In the case of away games, students are expected to ride the bus to and from the game. Parents must email Mrs. Gray (carol.gray@hayscisd.net) the day prior to the game if they need to pick their student up from the game.



Competition Day Meal Plan is offered by the Boosters for all band students. The meal plan is a fundraiser but was specifically created to help keep competition-day craziness to a minimum. On competition days, we will provide one or two fast food meals, depending on the competition times. Competition days can be hectic, which is why we strongly encourage you to participate in the meal plan! You are welcome to provide meals during mealtimes on your own at competitions, but they run on a tight and variable schedule, so it can be difficult! Chaperones will help with meal service on competition days.

Marching Competitions are held from late-September to early-November on Saturdays. The Rebel Band will usually attend 4-5 marching competitions during the season. After a late football game on Friday, Saturdays come early... Hang in there!!! Parents, family, and friends are welcomed and encouraged to attend the competitions and cheer on the Rebel Band. The bands are judged on music and marching skills and are given artistic and accuracy points. The drum-line and color guard are awarded points as well. We'd LOVE to see our Rebel Band Parents sit together in the stands so that we can cheer for our kids with one LOUD voice!

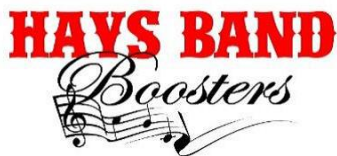
Color Guard is an integral part of the Rebel Band marching show. This talented group of performers add to the over-all show and help to tell the story of the marching show. The guard utilizes costuming, flags, rifles, sabers, and other props while they perform a choreographed routine.

Pit Crew is comprised of hard working, amazing parents who help at EVERY football game and competition to get equipment on and off the field. Traditionally, the stationary percussion equipment on the side lines, in front of the band, has been called the pit, but it can also be known as the front ensemble. **Volunteers are always needed to help with the pit crew.**

Spirit Send-Off happens in front of the PAC on competition days. We get together to cheer and wave signs and pompoms as the kids pass by on the buses. Feel free to get creative with your sign making. The kids LOVE this show of support on competition days!

Socials, Parties, and Traditions are part of The Pride of Rebel Country's rich history, as you will soon find out. Each instrumental section has different things that they do, and each class tends to add a little bit of something to the program!

Big Brother/Big Sister Program is a band-run program that partners incoming freshmen with an upperclassman in the band program. The older student offers encouragement and advice on how to best navigate membership in the Rebel Band. Usually, on game days or other special occasions, the "bigs" and "littles" exchange some type of small gift like an ice-cold drink, favorite candy, or other goody. Students will need to sign up for this program to be able to participate.



2019 HAYS REBEL BAND MARCHING SEASON

Friday, August 30- home vs San Marcos

Friday, September 6- away vs Dripping Springs

Thursday, September 19- away vs Anderson (Nelson Field)

Friday, September 27- home vs Bowie

*Saturday, September 28- Austin BOA (Kelly Reeves Athletic Complex)

Thursday, October 3- away vs Akins (Burger Stadium)

*Saturday, October 5- Vista Ridge Marching Festival (Gupton Stadium)

**Tuesday, October 8- HCISD Band Festival (Shelton Stadium)

Friday, October 11- home vs Austin High (homecoming)

*Saturday, October 12- Texas Marching Classic (Kelly Reeves Athletic Complex)

Friday, October 18- away vs Lehman (Shelton Stadium)

*Saturday, October 19- Waco BOA (McLane Stadium)

*Tuesday, October 22- UIL (Burger Stadium)

Friday, October 25- home vs Westlake (band senior night)

November 1- away vs Lake Travis

November 8- home vs Del Valle

*Specific information regarding marching competitions will be distributed prior to each contest date.

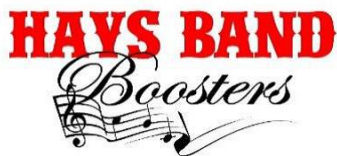
**More information on this inaugural event will be distributed as the date draws closer.

FOOTBALL TICKETS

Tickets are available at the box office and online at ticketracker.com each week for home games. For season ticket purchases, refer to the schedule below and visit www.ticketracker.com. Season tickets are only available for home games.

- Season Ticket Renewal: May 20 – June 20 @ 3:30 PM
- Season Ticket Trade-Up Days: June 24 – June 27 (field house only) *Tickets must be renewed first.
- First-time Season Ticket purchases: begins July 2

For further information regarding Hays Rebel Football tickets visit gohaysrebels.com or contact the Athletic Secretary, Erica Castillo- Erica.castillo@hayscisd.net



BEYOND MARCHING SEASON

Hays High School Concert Season Bands include Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony, Symphonic Winds, Symphonic Band, and Concert Winds. Additionally, smaller ensembles such as Jazz Band and Trombone Choir are active. Each band and ensemble will have different out of school rehearsal hours as scheduled by the director.

Winter Guard members actively rehearse their competition routine and attend multiple competitions during the late fall and winter. Guard is now a year-long class and we are excited to support them during their many competitions.

Winter Concerts occur in December. All high school bands perform a festive holiday concert at the PAC.

Solo & Ensemble Contest and Concession Sales are held at Hays High School. Students from several high schools around our region play their solos and/or ensembles for a judge who scores their performance. The Boosters host a concession stand as a major fundraiser and provide lunch for the judges. **Volunteers needed!**

Pre-UIL Concerts give the bands the opportunity to perform their UIL program for a panel and receive feedback. This concert helps prepare the bands for their UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest. Families are invited to attend these concerts.

UIL Concert and Sight Reading is usually held in April. Bands perform their UIL program for three judges who will give them a ranking. They will also attend a sight-reading session and perform a song they have never played, again for three judges who will rank their performance. This is a very significant competition!

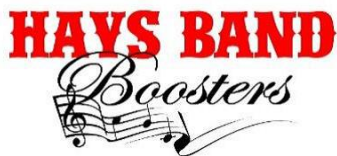
Band Banquet is in May, at the end of the school year. The Boosters and student leadership team plan and host a big party! Senior students' meals are paid for by Boosters. All others must purchase a ticket to cover the cost of their meal. Seniors are recognized, and the annual senior slide show is presented. This is not a fundraising event. **Volunteers are needed for this event!**

Graduation music is performed by the Wind Symphony and/or Wind Ensemble at the HHS Graduation Ceremonies.

Concert Attire is required for all concerts. All students will be assigned tuxedos (pants, shirt, coat, cummerbund and bow tie) and dresses. Boys are required to wear solid black socks with solid black shoes. Girls are required to wear black hosiery (no bare ankles). Shoes and socks/hosiery are NOT assigned; students are required to supply these on their own.

Additional activities and fundraisers occur frequently.

Please stay informed by checking the website, facebook, Twitter, and by receiving Charms emails.



ETIQUETTE REMINDERS

Online Presence:

- Our online communications are NOT a place for complaints, gripes, or negativity. If you have an issue, please privately talk to the person your issue is with or bring the issue to a board member.
- Please make sure that any photos or videos you post showcases our band members in the most professional and positive light- we don't want anything posted to be perceived incorrectly.

Marching Competition Behavior:

- Be humble and kind! It's a simple phrase but very important. We are honored every year to compete alongside some of the best bands in Texas. The difference between the contest scores of the top bands can often be less than a one-point difference. If we win, be excited & humble. If we don't, be congratulatory to the winners and proud of our students and their hard work. Band kids across the region work incredibly hard themselves and are proud of their bands just as we are of ours.
- Be complementary, encouraging, and cheer for ALL bands - especially those bands from other Hays CISD High Schools. We are a family!
- During performances please do not do anything that obstructs the view of those around or behind you (ie: signs, umbrellas, camera/phones/ipads when held up high)
- Do not stand up, walk to and from your seat, or talk during performances.
- Keep your conversations positive and control your responses to negative chatter that you may hear around you.

Ambassador:

- Be aware of when you or your child are wearing Rebel Band attire around town, while on vacation, at a contest, or even at HEB. People recognize the Rebel band name and it's important to remember that we are ambassadors for our program wherever we go.

Guiding your child:

- Band is an incredible opportunity to help your child grow in responsibility and ownership.
- Encourage your child to ask the questions of their friends, section leaders, drum majors, or band directors. If they haven't had success with that route, then you can step-in to help.
- Encourage your child to take personal responsibility for where they need to be and what they need to bring. They will definitely forget something at some point during their time in band. Don't rush in to rescue them every time. Give them the opportunities to grow and learn, they will figure it out.

Concert Season:

- The behavior at an indoor concert is very similar to marching competitions. Please do not stand up or move to and from your seat during the actual performance (unless you need to remove a fussy child).
- Please do not talk, check your phones, or do anything to disturb others around you trying to enjoy their child's hard work.



SAFETY NOTICE – STUDENT LOADING AND UNLOADING:

Student drop off/pick up zone is the senior parking lot between the football stadium and the classroom buildings, **NOT at the band hall or back lot.** In addition, it is encouraged that you park in a marked parking spot and wait for your student instead of forming a line of cars that extends into the main street. Please drive carefully and watch for students in the parking lot!

FUNDRAISING AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

A very important aspect of the Hays Band Booster Organization is to fundraise for the band programs.

- Membership drive – \$25 individual membership / \$40 family membership (Memberships fund our scholarships, and families must be members for students to receive a scholarship.)
- Summer Band Meal Plan
- Football Game Meal Plan
- Competition Day Meal Plan
- Spirit item sales – available online
- Concession sales – at four events

We are always exploring more opportunities... feel free to give us new fundraising ideas!

In order to support and continue the Hays Rebel Band's history of excellence, the Boosters need as many people to participate as possible. If you can only volunteer one time – Great! If you can volunteer regularly – Great! If you can share event information with friends and family via word of mouth or social media – Fantastic! Support the kids! Support the program! Please don't hesitate to contact any Booster officer for more information, to share ideas or suggestions, or anything else that you can think of!

Please visit haysbands.org/booster-committees to see where you can volunteer!

The Band Booster organization is run entirely by volunteers that give their time and energy for ALL of our kids. We exist to support the band program and try very hard to always do what is best for the students, directors, and future of this amazing organization!

As parents, we are equally fortunate as the kids to be a part of the program. We always want to maintain a culture of humility and professionalism, and we are all role models for this. We wanted to share these things for new families who join, and as a reminder for our veteran families in order to help make the upcoming year smooth and successful.

WE LOVE YOU REBEL BAND and REBEL BAND FAMILIES!!!