

Good evening, my name is Erica Richards, I am the president of the Grafton High School Band Parents Association

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GHBPA – and actually, GHBPA is you.

First thank you for coming out tonight. We have a very brief presentation to present the committees that support the Grafton Band program.

GHBPA operates with 5 elected positions and 21 committees and hundreds of volunteers.

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The Grafton Band is made up of 140 marching band members and 145 students that play in concert bands. Throughout the year, they participate in football games, competitions, Yorktown Day Parade, marching band and concert band assessments, several Concerts, all-district band, all-state band, Spring Trip and graduation. It takes a lot of volunteers to support these events. Last year there were a little over 144 volunteers with over 6,200 volunteer hours.

Even though the season has already started, we still have some gaps in a few committees and we also need some Freshman & Sophomore parents to shadow these committees so they can take a leadership role next year.

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First, I will start with the Visual Ensemble or Color Guard – Committee Chair is Mary Burcher and Carrie-Anne Wilhelm (please stand) As you will see during the Parent Show, these 19 young ladies have worked extremely hard over the last three weeks – marching, dancing, spinning flags and rifles, enhancing the visual effects for the marching program.

The historians are chaired by Joe Richards (please stand)

Joe along with a few dedicated parents are at all events throughout the year. The pictures are uploaded to the Grafton Band website. I believe there were over 3,500 pictures taken just during band camp. We also take video.

Director's Note: Please do not post any video recordings of the show to social media at this time. We want the show to be polished and perfected before distribution. At the appropriate time, the Historians will release footage which may be shared. Thanks for your cooperation.

Tri-M is a Music Honor Society and is chaired by Mark Guynn (please stand)

Tri-M is for junior and senior students that are in music classes, participate in additional musical ensembles and demonstrate high academic achievement. These members have several performances to serve the community including elementary schools and nursing homes. We currently have about 30 members in Tri-M.

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The support committees are led by Tara Leverett, 1st Vice President of Support (please stand)

The first support committee is our Band Camp committee we are currently without chair. (please stand)

I would like to thank Kyle Boyd and Jackie Fitzgibbons to helped me coordinate this year's band camp. This duo along with parent volunteers and nurses have done an amazing job these past few weeks ensuring our

kids were hydrated during these hot, hot days (water, Gatorade, pop-sickles), and medical support. We would also like to thank you parents for donating band camp supplies. If this sounds like something that might interest you for next August, please let me know.

The next support committee is Uniforms chaired by Shirley Emerson for Marching Band and Becky Guynn for Concert Band (please stand) – with a lot of other parent and student assistance. This committee does everything with uniforms including fitting kids with marching bibbers and jackets and concert dresses, pants, shirts, coats, shoes – everything. This includes uniform alterations, last minute repairs.

Next, we have the Pit or Equipment crew – chaired by Shane Moore and Guy Hagen (please stand) This team is also amazing - every game, every competition – the instruments and equipment are always there when the busses get there. This is the group that puts the instruments, props and sound equipment on the trailers and then unloads. They set up at halftime and during competitions. They are always looking for more people to help them out. I will also note – they eat very well.

Our next support committee is the Chaperones committee chaired by Lennora Watkins and Beth Plyler (stand) They too go everywhere the band goes. All events are required to have parent chaperones first to ensure safety, take care of all medical needs, and assist in a little bit of everything including getting the students dressed for games and competitions. With the size of our band, it takes a lot of chaperones for each event – so please sign-up and assist throughout the year.

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The next support committee is Feed the Band which is chaired by Marda French (stand).

This group took care of our evening meals this past week of Band Camp and will taking care of feeding the students at our football games. Once again, we thank all of you for your donations of drinks, plates, cups, chips. There is always a need for more donations of drinks and chips throughout the season.

Our Hospitality committee is chaired by Jana Sabin. (please stand)

The hospitality committee provides cookies for the marching band at games and competitions. They also take care of dinner for Senior Night and the Spring Concert Reception in May.

The Decorations committee is chaired by Brie Morris.

The Decorations committee coordinates decorations for the Senior Dinner and the Spring Concert for the end of year Awards Reception.

The last support committee is Student Volunteer Hours chaired by Ebru Sorenson (please stand).

Ebru keeps track of all student volunteers and their volunteer hours throughout the year. Students can send their hours via a QR code posted in the band room.

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Our second major team is Fundraising. The Vice President of fundraising is Dottie Garrison (stand)
It takes a lot of funds to support this large band throughout the season.

Our largest fundraising event of the year is TAG Day – which is chaired by Christine Moore and Jackie Fitzgibbons. (please stand)

Mr. Kirsch explained to us the other night that the band has over the years tried to sell everything (cookies, wrapping paper, wreaths, on and on)
However, the kids were tired of constantly selling stuff that people really didn't want. So they came up with the concept of TAG Day – that has two components.

The first is the Tag-a-thon – in which the students took one hour last Friday to call friends and family outside of the Grafton zone to ask for donations – and we were thrilled to receive pledges for over **10K** dollars.

The second part will take place on September 7th when we ask for EVERYONE's support. Parents will drive students to neighborhoods within the Grafton School zone – and then accompany the students who are in their uniforms simply asking for a one-time donation. The response throughout the community has been nothing but amazing these past few years – I think last year we raised a little over **23 K**.

Our next fundraising committee is Spirit Sales chaired by Tosha Revere (stand)

They are responsible for the designing, ordering and selling spirit wear throughout the year. Tosha has a table set up outside and is accepting orders. Tonight, is the deadline and you can pay by check or credit card. This year we also did an online storefront. If you go to graftonband.com and there is a link that will take you to the online store front. The online orders will close on Saturday at noon. They will have spiritwear available at Football games but order tonight to guarantee the item is available in your desired size! Tonight is the only night you can order extra show shirts. If you would like to purchase one for yourself or an extra one for your student, please see Tosha at the spirit wear table before leaving tonight.

Our Concessions committee is in need of a chair person who provides concessions for the Spring Musical. Please see me after the meeting if this a position you can help with!

We also have two car washes planned for this year – the first is on September 7th at One Stop Auto and another one in the April/May timeframe. We made over \$2,500 in previous years in the two car washes.

However, we do not have a Car Wash Lead – could really use a volunteer – it is only two days for the whole year and a little prep time.

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Our Secretary and Communications Chair is Kelley Dausman (stand)

Kelley makes sure all of the discussions and decisions are documented and maintained on the web site. She is also in charge of the Communications Committees which makes sure everyone gets all the info they need.

The first communications committee is Data Entry - chair is Kyle Boyd (stand).

Kyle is the one who gets input from all the other committees and ensures they are included in the weekly message. If you are not getting the weekly message that tells you everything that is going on, please see Kyle. Kyle is also in charge of keeping an up-to-date roster of the band and visual ensemble.

Our Publicity committee takes care of ALL Social Media – Facebook, X – formally known as Twitter and Instagram.

Christine Moore has taken on publicity for us again this year. She ensures that all the great work being done by our band directors and students is highlighted on social media.

The next Communication committee is the Webmaster – Kyle Boyd who makes sure our web site is maintained.

Remembrance is chaired by Rachel Workman (stand)

Rachel coordinates individual and full band photos and takes care of end-of-year awards.

- Individual Photo Day – August 23rd
- Seniors – 12:30 PM, Juniors – 1:30 PM
- Sophomores – 2:30 PM, Freshman – 3:30 PM
- DO not send money – Orders will be online
- Ordering instructions will come out in September
- Allow time to change into uniforms/band shoes
- If taking pictures with siblings – arrive together
- Make-up date and Group Picture date TBD
- Questions? Contact remembrance@graftonband.com

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Our final position is the Band Treasurer, Jill Marlowe (stand).

Jill handles all of the monies in accordance with the approved budget. Jill has put in a ton of hours these past few weeks collecting band fees, uniform fees, shoe fees, and Tag-a-thon money.

We have one short item of business to conduct in this area and that is the approval of our 2024-2025 budget. Jill will you please come forward and talk about the proposed budget. We have copies of the budget if anyone would like to view it

(Once Jill presents the budget...) Do I have a motion to accept the budget for 2024-2025 as it is presented? Second? All those in favor say AYE...All those opposed? The budget has been accepted. Thank you all.

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We also are associated with Kroger and Mega Auto Spa.

For Kroger – you have to associate your Kroger Loyalty card with Grafton Band (NPO #82597) and we get percentage of the sale – you don't pay extra. Note, this is an ANNUAL renewal – only takes a few seconds and the Grafton Band earns a good deal of money.

The Mega Auto Spa also gives back to the band. Enter code 9038 when you purchase a car wash we will get a portion of the proceeds.

Note – all of this information is on the Grafton Band website under fundraising.

We also have sponsorships for local businesses who would like to sponsor the band. We have 3 levels. Let us know if you know a business who would like to sponsor us. More information can be found at graftonband.com.

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Photos are taken of every Marching band member and Guard. These will take place on August 22nd in the Band Room. Every student will receive a button and a 5 X 7 photo as a part of their band fees. The photos will be posted on the Media section of the website in September. If you would like a High Resolution download of that your student, they can be purchased at that time. Watch the weekly message for more information once the photos are posted. If you are interested in purchasing an additional photo button, please contact the Historian at Historian@graftonband.com before August 26th.

There will be a date in September for individual picture make ups, section photos, and a full band picture.

If you have any questions, contact Rachel at rememberance@graftonband.com

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- All info can be found @ graftonband.com
- If you aren't receiving the weekly email, check your promotions or spam folder. If you still are receiving it, contact Kyle at dataentry@graftonband.com
- Remind App – it is @ghsband and the graduation year

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- No buses 1st week of school – plan pick-ups accordingly
- Pool Party Tonight @ Edgehill Pool @ 7:30 – 9:30
- Sweet Frog Night – Next Thursday Night, August 22th ... Please mention you are with Grafton Band
- Monthly Executive Committee Meetings
1st Monday of each month – open to all
- Committee Members @ tables in cafeteria

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Any Questions?

Enjoy the Show!!! Start Time 6:30

Spring Trip Sign up will be in the cafeteria immediately following the Parent Show.