

# Dowell Band News

## A Note from the Director

As the new year begins I want to share how excited Mrs. Lisko, Mr. Guidry, Mr. Stoughton and myself are to teach your children. All students have been well-mannered and patient while going through the information gathering process, assigning of instruments, etc.



Our Beginner Band has increased considerably in size. They are going to be a terrific sounding band. Both Symphonic I and Symphonic II have been working hard - reviewing previous concepts as well as learning new ones. Please remember that **sectionals** for Symphonic I & II will begin the week of September 7 (except for Monday sectionals as that is a holiday). Jazz Band has also been doing very well and should be in good shape for our first performance at Experience McKinney, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> at Boyd High School.

Please let us know how we can help your child get off to the best possible start this year. We want to assist any way that we can.

Encourage consistent practice habits at home and have them play "mini concerts" for you to demonstrate what they have been learning in class.

We look forward to an awesome year of music making!

Musically yours,  
**Clark Eacker, Director**

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## Private Lessons

All students are encouraged to take private lessons. All the instructors are carefully screened to assure quality skills. Private lessons focus on fundamental skills geared toward each unique individual. Additionally, this one-on-one time greatly enhances solo performance preparation. The list of approved instructors can be found on the Band website [www.DowellBand.org](http://www.DowellBand.org). For more information on Private Lessons, please contact Mr. Eacker, [ceacker@mckinneyisd.net](mailto:ceacker@mckinneyisd.net).

## Mark Your Calendar

Fundraiser Kickoff  
mid September

Sectionals Begin  
September 7

MHS Football game  
September 11

MBHS Football game  
September 18

Dowell Football game  
September 29

"The Zone" band event  
October 9

## Newsletter Submissions

Send any articles concerning band events: student accolades, local music events, etc. to [vfrucci@mckinneyisd.net](mailto:vfrucci@mckinneyisd.net) by the 25th of each month. Photos are welcome.

Thank you.

## Registering on the Band Website & Charms

Please visit [www.dowellband.org](http://www.dowellband.org) and create a free personal account. Be sure to use your full name with proper capitalization for your user ID. You will also want to update your band student's information on the Charms website. Charms is the directors and instructors primary way of communicating with parents and students! Just click on the Charms link, type in the school code (DowellMSBand) and log in with your child's student ID. Then go to Update Profile and proceed.

## Fall Fundraiser

Our Fall fundraiser will kick off mid to late September!

**Fundraiser Packets coming home  
in a backpack near you!**

Band students are asked to sell **\$10 Discount Cards** to as many friends, neighbors and family as possible. These discount cards will provide great deals from local businesses and eating establishments. The proceeds go directly to our BPO to help fund band activities, such as master clinics, field trip expenses, instrument purchases and private lesson scholarship funding. "Sell, sell, sell!"

## The ZONE Band Event - October 9

All band students are invited to come chill out and have some fun with your band friends...and your directors! The fun begins at 3:00pm and ends at 5:30pm. More details to come!



## \$\$\$ Concessions \$\$\$

BPO needs volunteers to work football concessions on Sept 29 and Oct 13! We need 6 people per 2 hour shift (4:45 - 7:00/6:45 - 9:00). At least 2 volunteers need to be food certified! ALL volunteers (including students) must take this class in order to handle food items that require handling and/or cooking. This certification is good for 2 years.

Food Certification classes will be offered Wednesdays, 9/16, 10/21, 11/18, in the Boyd HS Cafeteria 6:00-7:00pm, please arrive 15 minutes early to register. Volunteers who do not complete this course are limited to handling prepackaged items only. Contact person is [cbettin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cbettin@sbcglobal.net).

## Plug In! Use Your Energy to Help our Band Program Shine

Our children and band directors work very hard throughout the year to make our program a success, and it can't happen without the help of our parents. Volunteers are needed throughout the year for many different band events including social functions, field trips, fundraising organization, performances, etc. If you are interested in volunteering, please e-mail your contact information to Donna Loughmiller at [bd11787@att.net](mailto:bd11787@att.net). You will be notified of volunteer opportunities and can "plug in" when it's convenient for you. Thanks for your willingness to help us shine!

All interested in volunteering during the 2009-2010 school year must go online and fill out the MISD Volunteer Application at [www.mckinneyisd.net](http://www.mckinneyisd.net).

**Please Note: Last year's application is no longer valid.**