

West Milford Band Parents Association

Fall 2021



**DIVISION 3A
2ND PLACE
10/2/2021**



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings Band Families!

The season is off to a terrific start, and we are very excited about the way the students are striving for excellence in every rehearsal. It's going to be a great year.

The Band will be going to Florida in April of this year and will be performing at Walt Disney World. Details about the trip are posted on the front page of the band's website: wmhighlanderband.com. You can find information about the cost of the trip and the payment schedule. As our itinerary becomes more solid we will post that information on the website as well. If your student is going, be sure to get your first payment in as soon as possible. All payments MUST be mailed to the PO Box listed on the payment coupons. I hope that all our students can attend such an enjoyable and exciting trip!

Eyes with Pride,
Dr. Mac

21ST ANNUAL MILITARY CONCERT AND TATTOO

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH

WMHS GYMNASIUM
DOORS OPEN AT 5:15 PM

**ALL FAMILIES NEED TO PITCH IN
TO MAKE THIS EVENT
A TRUE SUCCESS!**

**WATCH FOR SIGN UP GENIUSES
COMING SOON!**



TATTOO WMBPA 50/50



Raffle Benefits Band Operations

Tickets: \$2.00 donation per ticket

Drawing: Saturday, November 13th at the

21st Annual Tattoo!

Prize: 50% of Cash Receipts

Winner Need Not Be Present!

Take a Chance!

Previous winners have taken home amounts in
the THOUSANDS of dollars!

Buy now! Sell more!

See Angie McDonald for raffle tickets
angie.mcdonald29@gmail.com

**West Milford
Highlander Band**

Tradition, Community, Excellence

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The 2021 Marching Band Season is ramping up and the first competition is coming up fast! After a rather strange season last year, it feels good to begin resurrecting the many Band Parent activities that support the band, and even better to see the generosity of our members in action!

The WM Band Parents Association exists for the single purpose of enhancing your student's band experience. Among our direct support activities are supplying food before home games, an ice cream social during band camp, being the roadies that set up and break down the show, sewing Baldricks, organizing the end of year band banquet, supplying scholarships, building props, and of course organizing a trip to Disney. The other significant part of the BPA activities revolve around fund raising, two of our biggest fund raisers are running the concession stand at football games, and the Annual Tattoo, but we have numerous other fund raisers, like Shoprite cards, Hoagie day and various other sales. Fund raising helps reduce the cost of the program to the parents. BPA volunteers also perform numerous less visible tasks on an ongoing and ad hoc basis like the management and finance activities of the board, fixing things, designing t-shirts, or making sure that the quad has gas.

Yes, all of us as parents put significant amounts of money into this program for our kids. Many parents who are able to do so supply additional donations of money or goods. I would like to thank everyone who donates, as these contributions are a necessary component to making things happen for our kids.

The most important contributions that can be made are donations of time. Volunteers make everything happen in this organization. COVID has resulted in reduced student involvement in band, with fewer students, we have fewer parents to spread the work out among. With the latest COVID wave spreading through our country and our community, we have been having reductions in available volunteers, as some of our volunteers need to quarantine due to exposures (not related to band!). On a recent prop construction day, I know of several regular volunteers that could not help due to quarantine issues. Had those people been available, it would have increased our work crew by almost 50%. The result was that the people who were available worked much longer than expected to get everything done. I would like to thank the for their perseverance, and I hope they enjoyed the projects despite the long day!

We need all parents to help out! We have a huge shortfall in volunteers for various reasons (almost all are indirect COVID side effects). The board has been mobilizing alumni parents volunteers to try and make up the shortfall. Alumni parents know how much the band program has enhanced their kids lives, and truly believe in the program. The alumni parents are donating their time and experience to YOUR kids. I would hope that every parent in this organization has the same commitment to their own kids.

I hope that I can compel some more of you to volunteer and help out your kids. This program does not run itself. We need all kinds of volunteers, from a new treasurer to burger flippers, as these roles are currently filled by parents of Seniors. If you just want to test the waters, help out with crew or concessions one day, you'll feel good about helping, and probably have some fun in the process! On top of that your kid will appreciate you more—or at least they will by the time they are seniors—freshman parents need to take the long view of things—Hang in there!!

Michael Brigante
President, WMBPA

MARCHING BAND & COLOR GUARD SENIORS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Please join us for

SENIOR NIGHT

*As we honor our Marching Band & Color Guard Seniors
during their Final Season*

Friday, October 22, 2021

5:00 pm

Details to Follow

• EAT
• SLEEP
• BAND
• REPEAT

HIGHLANDER **W** MARCHING BAND
2021



RING OF FIRE

RING OF FIRE TOUR

YAMAHA CUP	10/02
SOMERVILLE	10/09
PEQUANNOCK	10/16
FAIR LAWN	10/23
US BANDS NJ STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS	10/30
US BANDS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	11/06
21 ST ANNUAL TATTOO	11/13

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CONNECTIONS

DR. MAC's REMIND: <https://www.remind.com/join/fd2gb7>

BAND WEBSITE: www.wmhighlanderband.com

FACEBOOK (private group – ask to join!)
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/WMBPA/>

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Various ensemble pages provided to students



HIGHLANDER BAND STAFF

Dr. Brian McLaughlin & Matt Gramata, Directors

Brian.McLaughlin@wmtps.org

Matthew.Gramata@wmtps.org

Matt Leitner & Joe Smolinski, Associate Directors

Matthew.Leitner@wmtps.org Joseph.Smolinski@wmtps.org

Mike Monacelli, Percussion Director

Michael.Monacelli@wmtps.org

Peter Shaver, Color Guard Instructor

Peter.Shaver@wmtps.org

Kristy Smolinski, Bagpipe Instructor

Kristy.Smolinski@wmtps.org

WMBPA EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Mike Brigante

banddad2022@gmail.com

Vice President: Annette O'Mahoney

anneteomahoney@gmail.com

Treasurer: Meredith Hall

hall.meredith12@gmail.com

Recording Secretary: Angie McDonald

angie.mcdonald29@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary: Mary Duffy

MaryDuffy625@GMail.com

FUNDRAISING



SHOPRITE GIFT CARDS

Chaired by Alyssa Hafner, 973-699-2696

Aly7143@gmail.com

PLACING AN ORDER

5% is earned by this fundraiser with 4% going into your child's Band Account.

Email your ShopRite gift card order by scheduled due date to:
Aly7143@gmail.com

Please include:

- **Parent Name:** last/first
- **Student Name:** last/first & (Band or Guard)
- **# of Cards and Denominations:** (denominations are \$5, \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, or \$100)
- **Total \$ of your order:**
- **Parent Email Address:**
- **Parent Cell#:**

Payment is *due at pickup*

Tentative pickup date for this order is next Band Parent meeting 10/19

OCTOBER Orders

Orders Due by: **Oct 8th**
Payment due/Pickup at
Parent Meeting
Tues 10/19 @ 7pm

DECEMBER Orders

Orders Due by: **Nov 26th**
Payment due/Pickup at
December WMBPA Meeting
Tues 12/8 @ 7pm

JANUARY Orders

Orders Due by: **TBA**
Payment due/Pickup at
January WMBPA Meeting
TBD



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FUNDRAISING GIVES OUR STUDENTS THE ABILITY TO ADD \$\$ TO THEIR STUDENT ACCOUNTS AND HELP THE BAND

ACTIVE FUNDRAISERS



***Your Shopping All Year Long Makes a Difference!
Simply Choose West Milford Band Parents
Association as your Charity***



ASHLEY FARMS CHEESECAKE SALE

CHAIRPERSON: MIMI LINDSTROM

PICK UP DATE AND INFORMATION COMING SOON!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

PAINT 'N SIP

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4TH

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE PARISH HALL

**WE NEED YOU!
TO MAKE IT HAPPEN**

CONCESSION STAND

The Concession Stand at the Football Field is owned by the WMBPA and provides a MAJOR source of income for the band! Check out the food – its outstanding! Help is needed for home game days around your availability. Volunteers are needed to from 1:30pm on game days, through pre-game, half-0time and post-game cleanup. Whether you can assist early, late or throughout, the more the merrier and all help is appreciated!



BUTTER BRAIDS

CHAIRPERSON: ANNMARIE POLGLAZE

STARTS 10/8

ORDERS COMPLETED BY 10/29

DELIVERY BY 11/8

CREW

The Equipment Crew handles the props for the marching band show. They design, build and move props and equipment at all of the marching band competitions and performances. Help is needed and gratefully accepted whenever you have time. The best part of all is that you get a field level up close view of the performance and gain free admission to the competitions and performances!



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ENSEMBLE ANNOUNCEMENTS

PIPES & DRUMS

On September 11, 2021, Pipe Major Madison Babcock performed at the West Milford 9/11 Memorial for the 20th anniversary of the attacks.



On September 18, Pipes & Drums participated in the 2021 Rockland County Fire Department Parade. The band escorted the West Haverstraw Volunteer FD among the 10 other music ensembles present. We are proud to announce that the Pipes & Drums were awarded first place in the marching music ensembles category.

Rehearsal every Sunday 3 - 5 pm *unless announced otherwise*
Bagpipe Club at Macopin every Wednesday 2-3:30 pm

Instructors: [Joseph Smolinski](#) & [Kristy Smolinski](#)
[@wmhpb](#)

COLOR GUARD

The Color Guard, under the leadership of captains **Ashley Seclen** and **Rachael Cawley**, is busy preparing for their first marching band competition of the season. The young team can't wait to sport their new fire costumes and flags at MetLife Stadium next week. The team is made up of one junior, one sophomore, 5 freshmen, 2 eighth graders, and 3 seventh graders. This young team is enthusiastic and has a great promise in growing the color guard program.

Mark your calendar for the Color Guard Preview Show at the high school on Saturday, January 15th. The guard will be hosting numerous school and independent color guard teams as they present their 2022 shows for the first time to an audience. Just can't wait!!!

Peter Shaver, Instructor
Peter.Shaver@wmtps.org



INDOOR PERCUSSION

INDOOR PERCUSSION INTEREST MEETING

Tuesday, October 5

4:30PM - 5:00PM

HS Auditorium



Instructors: [Michael Monacelli](#) & [Matt Leitner](#)
[@wmpercussionnj](#)



JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Watch for Audition
Music in November!

[Matthew Gramata](#)

Instructor
[@wmjazznj](#)

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DATES TO REMEMBER

The band calendar is constantly being updated!

The easiest way to stay up to the minute is to add the band calendar to your Google calendar. Visit wmhighlanderband.com/calendar-1. And click on link at bottom of calendar. Viola!

Highlander Band

Today ◀ ▶ October 2021 Print Week Month Agenda

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 5pm Percussion	27 2pm Winds/Guard 6:30pm Prop Constru	28 5pm Prop Painting	29 6pm Full Ensemble 6:30pm Parent Tattor	30 2pm Rehearsal 4:30pm Eat at conce 5pm Dress +2 more	Oct 1 9am Full Ensemble (2 1:30pm Load & Dres 2:30pm Depart +2 more
3 5pm Percussion	4 2pm Winds/Guard	5 6pm Full Ensemble	6	7	8 Butter Braids Sale 2pm Rehearsal 4:30pm Eat at conce +3 more	9 Somerville - Somerv
10 12:20pm Early Dismiss 5pm Percussion	11 2pm Winds/Guard 6:30pm Executive Bo	12 6pm Full Ensemble	13	14	15 2pm Full Ensemble 4pm Load, Eat, Dres 5pm Depart 7pm Game vs Westv	16 Pequannock - Pequa
17 5pm Percussion	18 2pm Winds/Guard 7pm Band Parent Me	19 6pm Full Ensemble	20 Orlando Payment	21 2:20pm Band Photos	22 2pm Full Ensemble 4:30pm Eat at conce 5pm Dress +2 more	23 Fair Lawn - Fair Law
24 Butter Braids Sale 5pm Percussion	25 2pm Winds/Guard	26 6pm Full Ensemble	27	28	29 2pm Full Ensemble 4pm Load, Eat, Dres 5pm Depart 6:30pm Game vs Rar	30 State Championsh
31 5pm Percussion	Nov 1 2pm Winds/Guard 6:30pm Executive Bo	2 6pm Full Ensemble	3 Schools Closed	4	5 Full Ensemble - Ser	6 National Champion Raffle Tickets Due

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time - New York [+ Google Calendar](#)

Click here to add to your personal Google Calendar.

Highlander Band

Today ◀ ▶ November 2021 Print Week Month Agenda

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 5pm Percussion	Nov 1 2pm Winds/Guard 6:30pm Executive Bo	2 6pm Full Ensemble	3 Schools Closed	4 Full Ensemble - Ser	5 National Champion Raffle Tickets Due	6
7 5pm Percussion	8 2pm Winds/Guard 7pm Band Parent Me	9 6pm Full Ensemble	10	11 Full Ensemble - Ser	12 Tattoo - West Milford	13
14	15	16	17 Orlando Payment	18	19	20
21 12:30pm Early Dismiss 1pm P/T Conference 6pm P/T Conference	22 12:20pm Early Dismiss	23 12:20pm Early Dismiss	24 Schools Closed	25	26	27
28	29	30	Dec 1	2	3 Tag Day 7pm Paint & Sip	4

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time - New York [+ Google Calendar](#)

Highlander Band

Today ◀ ▶ December 2021 Print Week Month Agenda

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	Dec 1	2	3 Tag Day 7pm Paint & Sip	4
5	6	7	8 6:30pm Executive Bo	9 7pm Band Parent Me	10	11
12	13	14 7pm Winter Concert	15	16 Orlando Payment	17	18
19	20	21	22 12:20pm Early Dismiss	23 Schools Closed	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	Jan 1

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time - New York [+ Google Calendar](#)



RING OF FIRE

21st Annual Military Concert and Tattoo

Marching Mustangs among featured performers

The West Milford Highlanders' Tattoo returns for the 21st annual celebration of music and movement by bands guaranteed to have you high stepping.

After a hiatus in 2020, this indoor musical showcase of West Milford High School's bag piping bands, drum corps and Clifton's high-stepping Marching Mustangs, among others, is on Saturday, Nov. 13, 6:30 pm at West Milford High School, 67 Highlander Drive, West Milford.

Get there early for best seats as doors open at 5:15 pm. Advance tickets range from \$10 to \$20 while kids under age 4 enter free. At the door, tickets are \$20 for seniors and \$25 for adults. To purchase tickets, visit wmhighlanderband.com or mail checks to WMBPA, PO Box 603, West Milford, NJ 07480.

But what's a Tattoo? The word dates to the 17th century British Army. Drummers marched through town to inform soldiers to return to their barracks.



Top of page: Meet the West Milford Highlander Drum Majors Maxine Kurtz and Shane Duffy, who lead the Highlander Marching Banda and the Color Guard. The Pipes and Drums leaders are Madison Babcock, Ava Murphy and Julia Dan.

Their beats were *doe den tap toe* (old Dutch for "turn off the tap") instructing innkeepers to stop serving beer and send soldiers back to barracks. While the Highlanders will not be serving beer, the beats of seven bands will get you moving and keep you entertained.

The Highlander Band theme this year is entitled *Ring of Fire*. Expect music from *Cirque du Soleil*, *The Po-*

West Milford Band Parents Association

and composer John Mackey. Led by Drum Majors Maxine Kunz and Shane Duffy, Ring of Fire opens with a bit of Bruce Springsteen's *Dancing in the Dark*, followed by *Distorted* from Cirque duSoleil. The middle section is a tango based on *Roxanne* by The Police.

After a bagpipe and percussion feature the Highlander's show closes with a hot interpretation of John Mackey's *Asphalt Cocktail*.

In addition to the Highlanders, other performers include the Claddagh Pipe Band, Clan Na Vale Pipes, Mag 7, Rory O'Moore, the Colonial Musketeers Junior Fife and Drum Corps, and the Marching Mustangs. Funds raised help support the Highlander Marching Band and their April trip to Disney in Florida.

For two decades, the Highlander Tattoo has become a must-see moving musical showcase of band precision, bagpipe glory and drum excellence.

The Tattoo has also become a way for the Mustangs and Highlanders to see and hear different genres of music and movement and to connect with high school musicians from the region.



The Marching Mustangs perform their 2021 music and movement score on the gym floor, and will join the Highlanders and other bands for a grand finale with a salute to the officers of the West Milford Police Department.



The 83rd edition of the Mustang Marching Band will perform at the Tattoo led by Drum Major Angelina Pacosa. Photo by Steven Cohen.

THANK YOU **Volunteers!** We couldn't do it without you



WE'RE NOTHING WITHOUT OUR VOLUNTEERS

From donating desperately needed items to precious personal time, the Highlander Band celebrates the most generous volunteer base on the planet! Volunteering creates incredible friendships while being part of something your high schooler is passionate about. So many areas can use a hand. The beauty of volunteering for the band is that you can give as much or as little time as you like. Not sure where to reach out? [Email the EBoard](#) and we'll hook you up.

WMBPA COMMITTEES

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Show Props & Sewing | Band Camp BBQ |
| Band Banquet | Cheesecake Sale |
| Concession Stand | Equipment Crew |
| Hoagie Sale | Hospitality Committee |
| Macopin Band Day | Merchandise |
| General Volunteer | Military Tattoo |
| Poinsettia Sale | Publicity Committee |
| Senior Night | Shop Rite Gift Cards |
| Tag Day | Uniform Committee |
| Webmaster | |