

# THE B STER BEAT

January 2016

**Booster Meeting:** March 1st, 7pm, SPS Music Area

Volume 44 Issue 3

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## From the High School Podium



**Happy New Year!!**

Wow, what a busy fall!

### Guest Clinicians - Fall 2015

Wesley Warnhoff - Clarinet, UW-Madison

Tom Curry - Tuba, UW-Madison

Scott Teeple - UW- Madison

Bob Baca, UW- Eau Claire

Reggie Thomas, Jazz Piano, Northern Illinois University

David Berger, Composer, Jazz at Lincoln Center, New York

Ron Carter, International Jazz Clinician

Saxophones from the Eastman School of Music

UW River Falls wind Ensemble, Kris Tjernejo, director

Jack Stamp, composer

Concerts - Fall 2015

Band concerts

Big Band Dance

Joint concert with UW-Madison Wind Ensemble

Joint concert with UW-Eau Claire

Pep Band

Peter Pan

Jazz Combo out in the community

Chamber Groups in the community

Wind Ensemble filming for NBC-15 Television Special, "Sounds of the Season" - aired December 24 & 25

As you can see, your children have had the opportunity to be busy here at SPS in the Band Department. We are blessed to have the support of our parents, administration and staff as well as music teachers from many universities who all see the value of the hard work that your students and those who came before them have put in.

Coming up in January we will have Guest Jazz Bassist Rodney Whitaker in town for a day to work with our jazz ensembles. Mr. Whitaker was Wynton Marsalis' bass player in both his small groups and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra and is currently the director of the Michigan State Jazz Program. Jazz I and II will also be recording for the "Essentially Ellington" competition. Jazz I will also be a featured ensemble in the Madison Jazz Society's "Stars of the Future" concert on Sunday, January 31 in Madison.

Of course the annual Solo/Ensemble will be coming up on February 13 at Prairie View, so be sure to be listening for that solo over the holiday break as well!

Thank you to our band booster organization for supporting the many activities in the high school and all throughout our band program in Sun Prairie. I was speaking to a band director from Calgary, Alberta, Canada last week and he told me that he does clinics all over the world and will often cite our program as the model of a program that "*gets it right.*" He has seen "Sound" and has heard our Jazz Ensemble and Wind Ensemble. He admires the fact that we can provide a great opportunity in all areas of music education at the high school level. There are not many programs in the country that excel in all three areas or programs that would support all three areas (often two of the three, but rarely all three!).

Further there are not many Band Booster organizations that would support the band outside of the high school - ours supports 6-12. We are unique and should celebrate and be thankful, so....THANK YOU!!!!

Sincerely

Steve Sveum





## Jazz Program



### Big Band Dance

**Thank you** for making the Big Band Dance a success! The event would not have been successful without the help of volunteers who distributed posters, coordinated publicity, decorated, sold tickets and concessions, and cleaned afterwards. **Thanks!**

### Jazz Festival - Saturday February 20

This is a huge, annual event for the jazz program which features high bands from around Wisconsin (usually around 12 bands). This is an all-day event, going from about 7:00 in the morning and ending with an evening concert. This event requires considerable help/time from jazz parents and is a major fund raiser for our organization, in addition to being a great educational event for the kids. The festival is a competition, with judges, but also includes clinics with jazz educators and professionals and ends with a concert and awards. Several scholarships are awarded to students for summer jazz programs.

We typically need 40-60 volunteers to help with this event in various capacities (office work, hallway monitor, running the judges' hospitality suite, organizing, cooking and serving ~320 people lunch). We will start requesting help with this event soon.

### Events and Volunteer Opportunities for Jazz



#### 1) Saturday February 20 - Jazz Festival

#### 2) April 5 Spring Jazz Concert

This is a standard jazz concert, with all of the SPSHS jazz bands performing several songs.

#### 3) Swing Into Spring - March 20

Swing Into Spring includes all of the jazz bands and is held at one of the middle schools.

#### 4) Essentially Ellington Jazz Competition in NYC

For the past several years, Jazz I has submitted an audition CD to the Essentially Ellington Jazz Competition, put on by the Jazz at Lincoln Center for High School Jazz bands all over the country. The top 10 bands are selected to go to NYC and compete at Lincoln Center. SPSHS Jazz I has been selected to compete in NYC several times, most recently in 2014. The recording for the audition CD occurs in January and the band finds out in late February if they are finalists and are invited to NYC. If selected, the jazz program has just a few weeks to raise the funds to send the band. We try to raise enough money that we only have to charge the students a nominal amount.

All jazz students will attend a jazz festival at some time during the school year. Parents may do fundraising through the Band Boosters (working concessions, selling fruit and Bucky Books, etc.) to offset their child's costs for these and other events.



#### **Jazz Opportunities from Prairie Music and Arts** **798 Lois Drive, Sun Prairie, WI**

##### 1. Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm

A concert with Jose Encarnacion, Director of Jazz Studies at Lawrence University, with local rhythm section Paul Hastil, Nick Moran, and Devin Drobka.

**\*\*This concert will be preceded by a one hour educational clinic at 6pm and open to students of all ages.**

##### 2. Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 3pm

A concert with Kattie Ernst: Little Words. She is a Chicago Bassist/Vocalist and will be joined by Dustin Laurenzi, Stu Mindeman, and Andrew Green.

**\*\*This concert will be followed by an educational clinic open to students of all ages.**

##### 3. Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm

A solo piano concert with Rob Clearfield, one of Chicago's finest creative musicians.

**\*\*All tickets are \$10. All proceeds from ticket sales go to Prairie Music and Arts Jazz Program. Seating is rather limited, so reserve tickets ahead of time by calling 608-834-9550 or emailing [info@prairiemusic.org](mailto:info@prairiemusic.org)**

Visit [prairiemusic.org](http://prairiemusic.org) for more information.



## FROM Cardinal Heights Band



### **Solo & Ensemble Season is coming! – Saturday February 13, 2016 @ Prairie View**

Students have all selected a solo or duet for this important project. This is a long-term project to help foster individual musicianship and growth.

Students have 2 options for their performance grade:

1. Saturday 2/13/16 – at the official WSMA Solo & Ensemble Festival, Patrick Marsh
  - a. Registration & Fees have already been collected
2. Thursday 2/11/16 – Solo Night @ CHUMS, 3 – 6pm
  - a. No fees involved & registration will take place the week before the event
  - b. This is designed for students who are not able to attend on Saturday or would prefer a different option

### ***Help Needed!***

Email - [knrush@sunprairieschools.org](mailto:knrush@sunprairieschools.org)

Please consider helping out to make this event a success on Saturday February 13, 2016. It takes a couple hundred volunteers to put on this festival between donating food, being a door monitor, helping in the cafeteria, and helping set up and tear down.

### **Course Scheduling for next school year**

Students will soon be registering for classes next year (whether in 10th Grade @ SPHS or 9th Grade here at CHUMS). If you have any questions about how to fit music into your schedule, feel free to contact one of the directors and we'll help you navigate the scheduling options.

### **Sun Prairie Middle School Jazz Festival - Friday, February 19 @ Cardinal Heights**

All Middle School jazz students (Prairie View, Patrick Marsh and Cardinal Heights) will have a great opportunity to work with clinicians to work on swing feel, style, listening, and improvisation. Students will have clinics during the school day at Cardinal Heights and will work after school with our clinicians on improvisation and rhythm section. The day concludes with a free concert featuring all 5 bands and our clinicians!

**Wind Symphony & 9th Grade Band Tour, March 3 – 4**

Thursday, March 3rd the Wind Symphony and 9th grade band will depart for clinics in the Waukesha & New Trier, Illinois area. Bands will have the privilege of working music faculty at Kettle Moraine HS & Carrol College and hear the Youth Wind Orchestra of Wisconsin Thursday night and will share in joint performance and clinics on Friday at New Trier HS in Illinois. Permission slips and itineraries will be coming home with students soon. Cost is expected to be around \$85 – fundraising opportunities still, exist. Visit [spbb.org](http://spbb.org) for more information.

***Remember to join us for our concert March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 when we welcome Dr. Caroline Beatty Director of Bands at Texas State University San Marcos.***

**Upcoming Dates**

- Sunday 1/10 - Sound of Sun Prairie Open Rehearsal, 12:30 - 3:30 @ CHUMS
- Thursday 2/11 - CHUMS Solo Night, 3 - 6pm (see above)
- Saturday 2/13 - Solo & Ensemble @ Prairie View Middle School
- Tuesday 2/16 - Piano Solo Night @ SPHS
- Friday 2/19 - Sun Prairie Middle School Jazz Fest @ CHUMS (all day - concert at 6:30)
- Thursday 3/10 - CHUMS March Concert (7:00pm - 8th Grades, 8:00pm - 9th Gr. & Wind Symphony) w/ guest conductor, Dr. Beatty.

***Thank you!***

Joe Mesner 318-8137, [jrmesne@sunprairieschools.org](mailto:jrmesne@sunprairieschools.org)

Ian Melrose 318-8134, [ipmelro@sunprairieschools.org](mailto:ipmelro@sunprairieschools.org)



# PMMS Band News

It is hard to believe we are almost halfway through the year! So much has happened already, but there is much yet to come. Read on to find out more!

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## EARLY SPRING CONCERT INFO

On December 3, the PMMS 6th and 7th Grade Bands shared their hard work with family and friends at the PMMS Winter Band Concert. Congratulations to all for a wonderful evening of performances!



As we look ahead, mark your calendars for the *next* concert:

When...**Tuesday, February 23**

6th Grade - 6:10 PM warm-up, 6:30 PM performance

7th Grade - 7:10 PM warm-up, 7:30 PM performance

Where...**PMMS Cafetorium**

What...Attendance requirements, concert dress, and expectations for concert etiquette remain the same as for previous concerts.

Relatives can't make it?...**Livestream** the performance online at

Livestream.com! (<http://new.livestream.com>)

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## SOLO & ENSEMBLE



**This year's WSMA District Solo & Ensemble Festival will take place at PVMS from 8am-4pm on Saturday, February 13.**

Registration for the festival has closed. Students have already been working hard on solos, duets, trios, and various small ensembles. PMMS students who have chosen to participate in the festival will perform for WSMA certified adjudicators. These professional teachers/musicians will give both written and verbal comments. The performances are not competitive (i.e. student vs. student); rather, the adjudicator is providing the student with feedback on how well he/she performed the music. SE events can receive a rating from the adjudicator between 1-5 (1 meaning excellent to 5 poor). The PMMS music department has opted NOT to receive the ratings for any student performance. Rather, the students will receive "comments only". In our opinion, the "rating" tends to distract students from the real purpose of the festival -- the music. If you would prefer to have your child receive the rating, let us know. Class A entries will be rated so they have the opportunity to go to State (only affects approx. 2-3 students per year). Please contact us with any questions.

## On a related note... **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Prairie View is hosting the WSMA District Solo & Ensemble Festival this year. This means that band, choir, and orchestra musicians from SPSHS, CHUMS, PVMS, PMMS and the private schools will be at PVMS on Saturday, Feb. 13th. **We cannot run this festival without you!** If you can donate food items or volunteer for a portion of the day we would be so grateful. Here is the link to the sign-up: <http://goo.gl/VNkWNB>



## EPOCH Sound Pep Band

EPOCH Sound Pep Band sign-up is still continuing! Epoch Sound, the high energy high school pep band that performs at the HS football and basketball games, has invited interested middle school 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th grade band students to join them for a performance at the HS Basketball game on Friday, Feb 5th. We have created parts so that all middle school band students, regardless of their performance level or the instrument they play, can participate. Note- the pep band will only play pre-game.



### Friday, Feb 5th

- 2:50 pm – Interested 6th and 7th students meet in the band room
- 3:00 pm – Rehearsal
- 4:00 pm - Watch Drum Corps International, Sound of Sun Prairie, and Badger Band.
- 4:45 PM – Pizza in the band room (bring own drink ).
- 5:30 PM – Load Bus going to the HS (one way...must find a ride home after performance).
- 6:00 PM - MS musicians meet in the band room of SPSHS to rehearse w/ Epoch Sound.
- 6:45 PM - Set-up in Fieldhouse of SPSHS
- 7:00 PM – Pregame music will begin.
- 7:30 PM – Game Begins - students file out, put instruments away and are excused.

Students can stay for the remainder of the game; however they will not be supervised by Mr. Gleason. Again, transportation home from the HS is the responsibility of the student's family. Students will need to take their instruments home from the HS as well and return them on Monday.

How do you participate??

- 1) Sign-up on the Epoch Sound Sign-up Sheet in Band Room or online: <https://goo.gl/KRH8Vg>
- 2) Return \$5.00 for pizza & bus (cash please)
- 3) Music to be handed out in January.



# Registration Is Coming!



Believe it or not, registration for next year's classes is quickly approaching for all students! 7th Grade students will get an opportunity to meet the CHUMS Band Directors - Mr. Mesner and Mr. Melrose. There are also other upcoming opportunities such as Jazzfest, Band-O-Rama, Epoch Sound Pep Band, and marching band that will allow the students to see and hear the current CHUMS and SPSHS bands. We would like to encourage all of our band students to continue in band next year. Scheduling can sometimes be confusing - please contact us so we can help!

## 7th Grade Solo Night

**Tuesday, January 19th from 4:00-6:00 pm at PMMS**

Each year the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Members have the opportunity to work on a solo for our second quarter solo project. The solo is a great vehicle to help students achieve new levels of technique and musicianship on their instrument. Students choose a solo, practice it, research the title and various components of the piece (such as form, harmony, contour, etc.), create a verbal introduction and perform it.

7th Grade Solo Night is primarily for those 7th graders NOT participating in the WSMA Solo & Ensemble Festival, however students can do both. It is a required performance as it serves as the culminating activity and summative assessment for this unit. Students selecting this option will be assigned a performance time between 4:00-6:00 pm. Performances times will be approximately 6 minutes long. Students will perform in classrooms near the band room for guest adjudicators. Students will receive written and verbal feedback about their performance. Performances are private and will take place either on stage, 119, or 103 by the band room. However, parents/guardians of the child are encouraged to attend and listen to their child's performance. There is no fee for this event.



# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Solo Night

**Thursday, January 14 between 5-7:15 PM.**

Each year the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Members have the opportunity to work on a solo for our second quarter solo project. The solo is a great vehicle to help students achieve new levels of technique and musicianship on their instrument. Students choose a solo, practice it, research the title and various components of the piece, create a verbal introduction and perform it at the 6th Grade Solo Night at PMMS on Thursday, January 14 between 5-7:15 PM.

The students will perform in classrooms located in the music wing of Patrick Marsh at a specific time. The performances are 5 minutes long, free and open to the public. We would love to have family and friends there to support the students. Adjudicators will listen to the students and provide compassionate, helpful feedback about the performance.

Students have been informed of their performance times. A schedule is available at: <https://goo.gl/gxxiak> If you need to change your child's performance time, please contact Mrs. Haraldson via email to make the change – [smharal@sunprairieschools.org](mailto:smharal@sunprairieschools.org) or 834-7627.



## PARENT BAND

As a part of our learning process in band, the students of the 6th and 7<sup>th</sup> grade level bands will be teaching a parent or guardian to play their instrument. They will explain how to begin on their instrument, they will teach you the first 5-7 notes on their instrument, and they will coach you through a piece of beginning band music. The "final exam" will be a performance at our Early Spring Band Concert, Tuesday, February 23! We are planning to have one short rehearsal on Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-7:30 PM in the Patrick Marsh Band Room. Please consider this enriching opportunity to help your child learn and learn for yourself some of the same things your son or daughter does every day.

**How do you sign-up?** Email or call Mrs. Haraldson and let her know. You will need to pick up the Parent Band Music to practice. Ask your child to get it from school.

Mrs. Haraldson      834-7627      [smharal@spasd.k12.wi.us](mailto:smharal@spasd.k12.wi.us)



## FRIDAY MORNING ENSEMBLES

Bright and early on December 11, the Friday Morning Ensembles put their hard work on display. As in years past, the groups filled the halls of Patrick Marsh with holiday tunes and cheer while staff and students came into the building. Musicians and listeners alike enjoyed the performance! Coming up next for Friday Ensembles is solo ensemble music. Each group will begin preparing a small ensemble piece for the Solo/Ensemble festival (Feb 13) in which they will receive verbal and written feedback. Each group's performance time will be different and scheduled in the next few weeks. The groups will conclude the "season" by performing at the Early Spring Concert on Feb. 23. We will celebrate with some donuts on Wednesday, Feb. 24th.

### Wisconsin School Music Association (WSMA)

#### **Middle Level Honors Band** - *Applications Due before Feb. 1*

(Current 6th or 7th Eligible - BUT, they must be working on a Class B or A solo)



The WSMA Middle Level Honors Band performs a concert at the State Music Conference in Madison in October of each year. Students currently in grades 6, 7 or 8 can audition for this honors band. Students need to perform four designated scales, sight read and perform either a class B or A solo at the audition. Auditions will be held at Patrick Marsh this year on Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-9 pm. The applications need to be filled out and given to Mr. G with a check for \$22.50 (payable to the WSMA) before Feb. 1. The application can be found here: <http://goo.gl/g7WpjD>

The 2015 Middle Level Honor Band Conductor will be master music educator Joseph Hermann from Tennessee Tech. **Start working on your audition material now!!**

# BE ON THE LOOKOUT!



## Things coming up...

January 14 - 6th Solo Night (5-7:15 PM)

January 19 - 7th Solo Night (4-6 PM)

February 5 - EPOCH Sound Pep Band Night (3-8 PM)

February 13 - WSMA Solo/Ensemble Festival (8 AM-4 PM)

February 16- WSMA Piano Solo Festival (4 PM - ?)

February 19 - Middle School Jazz Festival (3:00-8:00 PM)

February 23 - Early Spring Band Concert (6:30 PM & 7.30 PM)

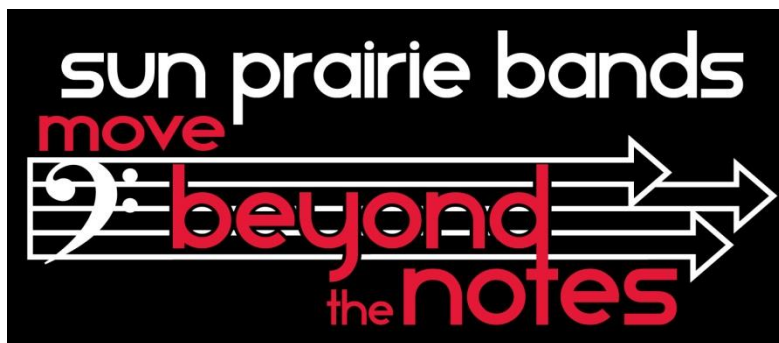
February 25 - UW Whitewater 7th Grade Field Trip (All Day)



**Looking for info? Want to hear our new music?**

**Check Out Our Website!!!**

**<http://www.spbb.org/>**



*"Move beyond the notes to cultivate a life long **passion** and drive for **creativity, curiosity, and community** through a vision of students as accomplished **learners** and evolving **musicians** in pursuit of **artistry**"*



## Prairie View Band Room Banter!



Lots of practicing in the band room lately! This is our favorite time of year...when there is lots of musical growth for our students! For your student struggling to practice at home, remember that the band room is open at 7 am every day and we are here until at least 4 pm most days so students can practice here. They can also come in during study hall and lunch recess.

Our jazz bands are up and running! The 6<sup>th</sup> grade groups meet after school on Friday. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade group plays its first note at 6:55am on Tuesdays and Thursday. Thanks to parents who get these musicians to rehearsal on time in the morning and home after school.

There is a lot going on in the next several months!

-6<sup>th</sup> grade solo night will be January 14<sup>th</sup> from 5-8. Your child will be scheduled for a 10 minute time slot with a teacher that can help them move forward on their instrument!

-**Solo/Ensemble festival** is Saturday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>. We do have the ability to schedule around conflicts that may be on your calendar that day as long as we know in advanced. We are in need of parent volunteers. Follow this link to the form <http://goo.gl/VNkWNB>. The growth that each student experiences while preparing for the festival is wonderful!

As always, call with questions!

Taking Note...Mrs. Sederquist and Mr. Quaglieri



Many thanks to Kris Tazelaar (Memory Book) & Mark Davison (DVD) for sharing our memories from 2015. If you haven't received either and would like please contact me.

Rick Kirby & Ben Pyles are well on their way to writing our original show this year inspired by the ideas of *Sound Waves*. We are hoping to create a completely integrated visual and musical design that takes listeners through all the literal and metaphorical highs and lows of a sound.

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### **SOSP Open Rehearsal 2016**

#### **Sunday 1/10, 12:30 – 3:30pm, Open Rehearsal for all sections of Sound of Sun Prairie**

Any students interested in being a member of SOSP 2016 should attend this rehearsal. We will work on fundamentals, start learning show music, and give new students a chance to learn what being a part of SOSP is all about!!!

We will also have a short parent meeting for new parents to learn about SOSP is, its values, goals, and schedule. Exact times and locations will be set closer to the date.

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### **SOSP 2016 Kick-Off Dates:**

#### **SOSP 2016 Open Rehearsal - see below**

- Sunday January 10th, 12:30 - 3:30pm, @ CHUMS

#### **SOSP 2016 Kick-Off Meeting (for all returning & interested SOSP members & parents)**

- Tuesday March 1st, 7pm @ SPHS (Enter Door #3)

- *Band Booster meeting at 6:30pm*

#### **SOSP 2016, Rehearsal #1!!!!**

- Saturday March 12th, 9:00am - 5:00pm @ SPHS (will lunch break from 12:00 - 1:30)

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**SOSP Percussion Rehearsals begin in January!**

Winter rehearsal dates for students interested in the Sound of Sun Prairie marching band percussion section will begin in January 2016. These rehearsals are open to anyone interested in SOSP Percussion. Students and staff will begin work on building the skills and fundamentals to jump into learning our marching band show in the spring.

- January 10, 12:30 – 3:30pm, SPHS (also SOSP Open House Date)
  - January 31, 12:30 – 3:30pm, SPHS
  - February 21, 12:30 – 3:30pm, SPHS
  - March 6, 12:30 – 3:30pm, SPHS
- 

**SOSP Color Guard Updates:**

We are excited to get started with our color guard instructors for this year - Tracy Scott, Felipe Mendoza, & returning instructor Serena Hanson. Below are dates for all returning and prospective color guard members - people are welcome to come to a rehearsal and try it out!

- January 10, 12:30 – 3:30pm, SPHS (also SOSP Open House Date)
- January 31, 12:30 – 3:30pm, SPHS
- February 21, 12:30 – 3:30pm, SPHS
- \*\* NEW\*\* - February 28, 12:30 - 3:30pm, CHUMS
- March 6, 12:30 – 3:30pm, SPHS
- *March 13 - possible and optional attendance at Winter Guard Show in Batavia, IL*

**SOSP 2016 Calendar:**

This season's schedule will be similar to last season's schedule - beginning the third week of June and ending third weekend of July.

**Spring Season:**

- Saturday Rehearsals begin March 12th, 2016 and continue through school year
- There will be a break the second weekend of spring break (no rehearsal 26)
- Overnight Camp #1 will be Friday evening May 6 (no school) to Saturday evening May 7 and we can be at home for Mother's day!!
- There will be some other adjustments for drill learning weekend, camp weekends in May, etc.

**Summer Season:**

- "Everydays" begin Sunday June 14th and continue through June 23rd
- Performances will begin around June 23rd
- Flags of Freedom will be Saturday July 2nd
- Traverse City trip will be July 5th to July 9th
- MACBDA Finals Weekend, July 14 - 16th w/ Finals @ UW-Whitewater

**Fall Football Game:**

- Rehearsal Thursday 8/19, Performance Friday 8/20

Love that Sound!

Ian Melrose, Director, Sound of Sun Prairie

[ipmelro@spasd.k12.wi.us](mailto:ipmelro@spasd.k12.wi.us)

(608)318-8134

## **From The Concession Stand**

### **Remaining UW Basketball Concessions Opportunities:**



Saturday, January 9  
Sunday, January 17  
Tuesday, January 26  
Thursday, February 4  
Wednesday, February 10  
Sunday, February 21  
Sunday, February 28

Sign up online at [spbb.org](http://spbb.org)!



## **The Fall Fruit and Cookie Dough Sale**

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the Fall Fruit and Cookie Dough Sale!

Thanks to a great group effort, our sales were comparable to past years, pick-up and delivery went smoothly and most of our proceeds went directly into student accounts. A portion of our sales also benefits the band program as a whole and is used for things such as composers in residence, and expert clinicians working directly with our students. We will be having a second sale this spring and families should be receiving information in late February or early March.

**We are also looking for one or two people to take over this fundraiser** since Bill and I will be graduating out of the band program at the end of next school year. Ideally, we would like someone who has at least 3 more years left in the program so we can train the new Fruit Sale Chairs next year to facilitate a smooth transition. We will also give you our customer list which is usually good for at least \$500 in fruit sales. So, if you have a young student in band and are interested in contributing your time to this great organization, please contact Bill or I at [FruitSale@spbb.org](mailto:FruitSale@spbb.org).





## A Note from the Treasurer

When working or fundraising for your student(s), please note the **student's legal name**, not their nickname. Charms, our accounting system, lists the student's legal name (the name the school has on file). When the Treasurer enters a name it is importing from the school district. It does not recognize shortened names or nicknames.

Example: Kat Jones, is that Kathy Jones, Katherine Jones or Kathryn Jones. The Treasurer wants to ensure the correct student gets the credit.

## A Fireside Chat from the President



As many of you do during the holiday season and looking into the next year, I reflect on all the blessings in my life. I am thankful for my family and friends. Our band family is no different. I thank each and every band director in the Sun Prairie school district for the education and passion they instill in our children. I am thankful for our Sun Prairie Band Booster leadership and all that they do to make my job easier than it is. To the countless volunteers that help in various committees, concessions, events and all the little things that help the band teachers. THANK YOU!

In our daily lives filled with too much hustle and bustle, please take time for what is important in life. Giving! Reach out to those in the community. Reach out to those that may have lost a friend or family member. Give back to those in need. Help at a food pantry or shelter. Take a plate of cookies to a nursing home and meet a new friend. Tell someone thank you with a smile. Hold that door for the one who has their arms filled. Be the music to someone's ear!

This morning I read an interesting quote, "The world is changed by your example, not your opinion." May you and your family be that example, make some music and have a blessed holiday season.

Stephen DeWitt  
SPBB president



## **Our truck has seen better days!**



### **Truck Campaign Update**

There is good news to report on the Truck Campaign!

**Background:** For years, the Sun Prairie Band Booster Chuckwagon Truck has done so much more than pull the Chuckwagon trailer used by the Sound of Sun Prairie to feed its members when they travel. Outside of marching band season it regularly hauls band equipment to and from 6th-12th grade band performances throughout southern Wisconsin. In fact, the Chuckwagon truck & trailer are used just as much outside marching band season as it is inside the season!

All that use on this 1997 Chevy truck has taken its toll. The wear and tear of multiple trips to Canada, Michigan, and throughout Wisconsin have made it more costly to maintain and repair than its worth. So, it's time for a new truck!

**Campaign:** A letter was sent out to all Band Boosters and Alumni at the beginning of the school year to solicit for donations with the Band Boosters matching dollar for dollar up to \$25,000. Then, at the Winter Concerts in December, Kevin Mengelt announced, that the Maureen Mengelt Foundation will match any and all donations from the concert's date through the end of the year, up to \$6500.

**Update:** As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, the grand total raised was \$26,635! That includes a Mengelt Match of \$6,230.

There were 116 different donors that spanned a wide range of demographics of families grades 6 - 12 as well as alumni parents and students. That is amazing support!

**Thank you to each and every one of you who donated!!**

The Band Boosters will keep you updated as to the next steps in replacing the current truck!!!



*Sun Prairie Band Boosters****Student Ledger Usage Guidelines:***

1. *Ledger balances can be found on CHARMS - [charmsoffice.com](http://charmsoffice.com)*
2. *Ledgers are to be used within the fiscal year they are earned, no later than August 1st of the preceding school year.*
3. *All Student Ledger funds not used within the fiscal year, are transferred to SPBB General Fund on August 1 of following fiscal year.*
4. *Requests for use of Student Ledgers for below items require a 2 week notice to the treasurer ([treasurer@spbb.org](mailto:treasurer@spbb.org)) in order to properly process the information and write a check, unless otherwise noted.*
5. *All **field trip requests** must have a printed statement from CHARMS showing the student's balance and the amount you would like to use from the ledger. Please staple this statement to the permission slip.*

***Approved Sun Prairie Band Boosters Uses & Estimates***

*\*Please note - any trips may not include some meals expenses*

**1. Band field trips/clinics**

- a. HS Wind Ensemble Spring-\$100+ approx
- b. HS Symphonic Band Spring-\$100 approx.
- c. HS Concert Band-\$TBD
- d. CHUM Wind Symphony/9th Grade-\$90 approx.
- e. CHUM 8th Grade-Kalahari-\$40 approx.

**2. HS Jazz Groups Festivals/Clinics**

- a. Generally \$30-40 per day plus meals approx.
- b. \$100 overnight plus meals approx.
- c. New York- fundraising and TBD approx.

**3. Other trips TBD****4. Sound of Sun Prairie**

- a. Fee-\$700-\$800 approx.
- b. Uniform Parts and Accessories
  - i. shoes
  - ii. gloves
  - iii. extra parade shirts beyond the one included with their fees
  - iv. other uniform parts as determined by director.

**5. Summer Music Camps, approved by band director.**

- a. providing proof of registration
- b. submit bill to boosters for payment directly to camp.
- c. If you do not attend the camp, you need to reimburse boosters the cost of the camp.

6. **Honors Ensembles tuition**, if accepted; including Wisconsin State Honors Ensembles, WYSO, Winds of Wisconsin.
  - a. providing proof of registration
  - b. submit bill to boosters for payment directly to WSMA.
  - c. If you do not attend the Honors camp, you need to reimburse boosters the cost of the camp.
7. **Private Lessons**
  - a. Lesson teachers must be SPASD Band Director approved
  - b. Maximum of \$1,000 use per school year (October 1 and paid out by August 1)
  - c. 2 weeks before payment is needed, log into CHARMS, and confirm your ledger balance covers the cost of lessons and then email [treasurer@spbb.org](mailto:treasurer@spbb.org) with your request to use the student ledger to pay the private teacher.
  - d. Check is made out to private lesson teacher and can be picked up from CHUMS band director, Ian Melrose ([ipmelro@sunprairieschools.org](mailto:ipmelro@sunprairieschools.org))
8. **Band Lesson Academy**
  - a. Lesson teachers are SPASD Band Director approved.
  - b. Maximum of \$1,000 use per fiscal year (October 1 and paid out by August 1)
  - c. 2 weeks before payment is needed, log into CHARMS, and confirm your balance covers the lessons and then email [lessonacademy@spbb.org](mailto:lessonacademy@spbb.org) with your request to use the student ledger to pay for Band Lesson Academy lessons.

### **Band Field Trips & How to use SPBB Fund Raisers:**

Fundraising helps you earn funds for band boosters and also your student ledger. This ledger can be used to pay for field trips, private lessons, Sound and Jazz fees and many other band related expenses. For families wishing to use their student's ledger to pay for this field trip, please go to [charmsoffice.com](http://charmsoffice.com). Log in as a parent. Our school code is **SunPrairieASBand**. Use your student's school ID number as the temporary password if this is your first time in Charms. Click the "financials" icon and view your student's statement.

If you would like to use all or a portion of your student's ledger balance towards the cost of the trip:

1. Print the statement
2. Indicate how much you would like to use and staple it to your student's permission slip along with a note requesting the use of the ledger to pay for the field trip.
3. Return both to your director prior to the trip. \*

*\*\*\*Statements/requests returned after the trip cannot be honored\*\*\**

## Varsity Awards—How do I earn awards by participating in Band?



- 1 point per semester in Band
- 1 point per semester in Jazz (one point given for Essentially Ellington in NYC)
- 2 points for participation in Epoch Sound (1 football and 1 basketball)
- 3 points per season in Sound of Sun Prairie (entered in July)
- 2 points for participation in SPSHS “Pit” Orchestra
- 1 point for participation in Solo & Ensemble (no points for “Solo Night”)
- 1 additional point for participation in State Solo & Ensemble
- 1 point for WYSO
- 1 point for High School Honors Band
- 1 point for Winds of Wisconsin
- 1 point for Full Orchestra
- 1 point for Winter Guard
- 1 point for Chamber groups (.5 point per semester)

Varsity Letter	12 points or greater
Instrument Pin	24 points or greater
Ribbon	36 points or greater
Medallion	48 points or greater

**Varsity letters and pins will be awarded at the  
Spring Band Concert and at the end-of-season Sound picnic.**

## Band Director Contact Information

### Sun Prairie High School

Steve Sveum  
834-6780  
[sjsveum@sunpraireschools.org](mailto:sjsveum@sunpraireschools.org)

Dave Rush  
834-6781  
[dgrush@sunpraireschools.org](mailto:dgrush@sunpraireschools.org)

### Cardinal Heights Upper Middle School

Joe Mesner  
318-8137  
[jmesne@sunpraireschools.org](mailto:jmesne@sunpraireschools.org)

Ian Melrose  
318-8134  
[ipmelro@sunpraireschools.org](mailto:ipmelro@sunpraireschools.org)

### Patrick Marsh Middle School

Chris Gleason  
834-7625  
[cpgleas@sunpraireschools.org](mailto:cpgleas@sunpraireschools.org)

Sharon Haraldson  
834-7627  
[smharal@sunpraireschools.org](mailto:smharal@sunpraireschools.org)

### Prairie View Middle School

Ann Sederquist  
834-7825  
[aeseder@sunpraireschools.org](mailto:aeseder@sunpraireschools.org)

Matt Quaglieri  
834-7839  
[mequagl@sunpraireschools.org](mailto:mequagl@sunpraireschools.org)

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## SPBB Executive Committee 2015-2016

President	Steve DeWitt	<a href="mailto:president@spbb.org">president@spbb.org</a>
Vice President	Cathy Brock	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@spbb.org">vicepresident@spbb.org</a>
Treasurer	LeAnn Monson	<a href="mailto:treasurer@spbb.org">treasurer@spbb.org</a>
Secretary	Tracie Ruether	<a href="mailto:secretary@spbb.org">secretary@spbb.org</a>
SPHS Band Director	Steve Sveum	<a href="mailto:sjsveum@sunpraireschools.org">sjsveum@sunpraireschools.org</a>
CHUMS Band Director	Ian Melrose	<a href="mailto:ipmelro@sunpraireschools.org">ipmelro@sunpraireschools.org</a>
	287-6618	
	834-6780	
	318-8139	

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## SPBB's General Committee Information 2014-2015

### **GENERAL and/or BAND SPECIFIC SUPPORT**

Jazz	Tim and Julie Keal		<a href="mailto:JazzChairs@spbb.org">JazzChairs@spbb.org</a>
Newsletter	Tracie Ruether	287-6618	<a href="mailto:Newsletter@spbb.org">Newsletter@spbb.org</a>
Publicity	Julie Backenkeller		<a href="mailto:Publicity@spbb.org">Publicity@spbb.org</a>
Varsity Awards	Lisa DeWitt		<a href="mailto:VarsityAwards@spbb.org">VarsityAwards@spbb.org</a>

### **FUNDRAISING SUPPORT**

Concert Host	Father Mike and Heidi Tess		<a href="mailto:ConcertHost@spbb.org">ConcertHost@spbb.org</a>
Concessions	Trish and Kris Tazelaar		<a href="mailto:ConcessionsChairs@spbb.org">ConcessionsChairs@spbb.org</a>
Bucky Books	Shana Geidl		<a href="mailto:CouponBooks@spbb.org">CouponBooks@spbb.org</a>
Fruit Sale	Ann & Bill Nelson	825-6771	<a href="mailto:FruitSale@spbb.org">FruitSale@spbb.org</a>

For a full list of Committee Chairs, go to <http://www.spbb.org/committees--board.html>

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The Booster Beat is published monthly during the school year, except for the month of December. This newsletter will be delivered electronically. If you prefer to receive this newsletter via US Mail, please send an email to the editor at [Newsletter@spbb.org](mailto:Newsletter@spbb.org). In your email, please list your name, your child's name, and which band they are in. If email is not an option, please contact your child's band director.

