

Saturday, August 09, 2008

Dear Parents and Students,

For 2008-2009, potential chaperones must complete two required forms which may be obtained from the Volunteer Coordinator or Band Director and be fingerprinted at the police department. The forms with fingerprint records will be returned in a sealed envelope to the Volunteer Coordinator who will forward the envelope to Craven County School's Central Services. A state level background check will be run for each potential chaperone and subsequently a report will be sent to the school with the list of approved chaperones.

I have asked the Havelock CERT team, Michael Sides, to come to our Parents Preview on Friday Aug. 22 to fingerprint any band boosters that want to become chaperones. The band boosters will pick up the \$5.00 cost for each Band Booster fingerprinted on this day. To qualify, make sure that you fill out the band booster membership and pay the \$10 family membership. The form is located on our website at <http://havelockband.com/JoinBandBoosters.pdf>

Chaperone requirements stated in by-laws:

Part 1. Definition: A chaperone must be a booster member, 21 years of age or older, in good standing, whose responsibilities shall be to help the band director in providing a safe and comfortable environment and who attends for the purpose of supervising and helping to maintain control of students. (Additional chaperones that are needed, but are not band booster members, may be utilized at the band director's option). It is mandated by the state that each chaperone is required to submit to a background check.

Chaperones assume many roles during the course of the marching season as well as at competitions throughout the school year. A chaperones' responsibility is to help the band director in providing a safe and comfortable environment by supervising and helping to maintain control of students. Our first priority is to ensure the safety and well being of all band students. It is important to get everybody where they need to be; with everything they need, in a timely and SAFE manner. It is virtually impossible to anticipate all situations that might endanger the students; however, chaperones are encouraged to be watchful and to quickly address any situations that might be hazardous. Should a crisis arise, the band directors are the final authority and we will act under their direction and on their behalf - reacting appropriately, quickly, and fairly. The band directors rely heavily on chaperones to keep things moving in a positive direction.

Please come to our next Band Booster meeting on Tue. Aug. 19th at 7:30pm and turn your form in.

Thanks,

Jorge A. Benitez
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