

Lafayette

8TH GRADE STUDENTS
AND PARENTS

SPECIAL EDITION

APRIL 2010



Lafayette High School 401 Reed Lane Lexington, KY 40503 859.381.3484

www.lafayetteband.org

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from the desk of our director

Welcome to the Lafayette Band, the *Pride of the Bluegrass*®!! The primary purpose of the Lafayette Band is to provide young people with an experience in music that is both enjoyable and educational. The elements of music are taught through the exciting medium of performance. The drama of Russian composers, the elegance of Mozart, and the patriotic fervor of Americans like Sousa, are brought to life in the Marching Band, Concert Bands, and Jazz Band at Lafayette High School. Of course, the friendships and good times are as important as anything else!

We are truly excited about the 2010-2011 Lafayette Band and the talented and enthusiastic incoming freshmen class. YOU — the CLASS OF 2014 — are about to embark on one of the most exciting times of your life! There are dozens of recent studies that indicate that music making is a key component of academic and social success. Lafayette High School provides an opportunity for students to enjoy the benefits that making music can bring through our internationally recognized band program.

A tradition of excellence spanning over 70 years will continue and expand with fresh faces and exceptional talent of young musicians like yourself, coupled with the essential involvement of parents through our booster organization, the Lafayette Band Association.

It was great to have so many of you at the 8th Grade Student and Parent Orientation. We are incredibly excited about the potential for this class and can't wait to start working with you!

Charles M. Smith

Director of Bands

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Newsletter



At Lafayette High School, when we talk of championships, character, quality, integrity, teamwork and community support, we refer to the band.

- Mike McKenzie, former LHS Principal

**Music Students
Score Higher SATs**

dedication + commitment = SUCCESS

Commitment, dedication, tradition, character, excellence, determination these are words that are heard in conversations describing the Lafayette Band. Whether the performance stage is a football field or a concert hall, the 220 members of the Lafayette Band consistently portray the characteristics of a champion, individually and collectively. In the performance venue or the academic arena, our students claim a history of excellence. We are confident that the Class of 2014 will take our organization to even greater heights.

An integral element of the success of the Lafayette Band is the financial commitment by parents to support their student's involvement. The expenses for transportation, housing, and food for the students in the band program are covered by **payments** that are assessed over a period of several months prior to and during the fall marching season. It is always the goal of the Lafayette Band Association to keep the cost for the individual as low as possible. To accomplish this, we have qualified parent volunteers who develop the annual budget and establish the financial guidelines for the band program. **These funds keep Lafayette running at an appropriate level.** We are always willing to take into account student needs. Our students and their participation is of primary importance. If money presents a serious hardship, Mr. Smith will work with band families on an individual basis. **Free and reduced lunch agreements are honored, but can only be arranged with Mr. Smith.** Do not hesitate to contact him with any concerns.

In addition to revenue from **our families**, the Lafayette Band Association raises money to pay for the first-class uniforms, equipment, and sectional instructors. Income to meet the needs of the general budget is generated primarily through fundraising efforts.

Mastering Musicianship Program

Statistics indicate that if your child participates in music, he or she is likely to earn higher grades and score better on standardized tests. Now there is powerful scientific evidence of a cause and effect link between music instruction and intelligence.

The word is out: Researchers have discovered a way to make kids smarter. And savvy parents are signing their children up for private music lessons.

- Joan Schmidt, National School Boards Assoc.

Lafayette's **Mastering Musicianship Program**, known as **M2**, provides for individual music lessons over a 10-week session each semester. The advantages to this program are cost and convenience. The rate for private lessons in Lexington is approximately \$15 per hour, or more. The **M2** Program at Lafayette is only \$150 for the 10-week session, and the private instruction takes place in the practice rooms of the Lafayette Band Department, under the direction of highly qualified music consultants. Watch for information about this program in future band communications.

**GIVE YOUR CHILD THE
MUSICAL ADVANTAGE**

Band Members get better Math, Science & Language Grades**FUNdrai\$ing NEW\$ to U\$E**

The members of the Lafayette Band give 100% effort on the marching field. Parents and band families must give 100% to the fundraising opportunities that are provided throughout the year. As you can imagine, in an organization of this magnitude, fundraising is key to our financial success. Fundraising is one of the primary responsibilities of the Band Association.

The most profitable fundraiser of the year is the Annual Raffle. In a nutshell, each band family is expected to sell a minimum of 25 Raffle tickets for \$10 each. There is ONE GRAND PRIZE OF \$10,000 CASH! Plus, awesome prizes for our students. Come join us at our LBA Parent meeting on April 12 for the kick-off to our Raffle! The meeting is held in the Lafayette Cafeteria.

Other band fundraisers during the year include the sale of Pride Discount Cards, Football Program Ads, Cheese & Sausage, Citrus & Wreaths, Kroger Cards, the Jazz Band Dance & Silent Auction and more! The band also earns income from conducting Bingo one night per week.

PARENTS — we need YOU!!

Parental support and involvement are key to the Lafayette Band Program's success. Literally HUNDREDS of volunteer opportunities are available for adults, particularly during the marching season. Field crew, food committee, chaperones, uniform committee, specialty teams, fundraising helpers.....just to name a FEW! Stay connected by attending parent meetings, reading the newsletter, following us on Twitter, and visiting the band's website (www.lafayetteband.org). Volunteering is a great way to meet other parents and students. And it's **FUN!!**

Join the
Lafayette Band!

Kids who study
MUSIC
DO BETTER in school
and in **LIFE**

important dates for your BAND CALENDAR

**Music is a Vital
Part of a Complete
Education**

Go to www.lafayetteband.org for more **BAND** news & calendar updates!

Monday, April 12

Raffle Kick-Off
LBA Parent Meeting
LHS Cafeteria

Tuesday, April 27
3:30-6 pm

Woodwind Auditions
Lafayette

Wednesday, April 28
3:30-6 pm

Percussion Auditions
Lafayette

Thursday, April 29
3:30-6 pm

Brass Auditions
Lafayette

Tuesday, May 18
7:30 pm

Spring Concert
Raffle Grand Prize Drawing
UK Singleary Center for the Arts

May 25-28
4:30-6:30

First Time Marchers Camp
Lafayette

July 19-23*

Freshmen, Color Guard & Percussion Camp

July 19
7:00 pm

PARENT MEETING
LHS Cafeteria

July 26-30*

Band Camp for All

August 2-6*

Band Camp for All

NOTE: These are auditions for the placement of students into one of the three concert bands. All Lafayette Band students participate in the Lafayette Marching Band! Audition music will be distributed to the middle school directors at a later date.

* Required Attendance
Detailed Camp Schedule Available in June

**Music makes
the brain grow**

www.lafayetteband.org