



Scarlet Brigade

*Fairfield High School
Band Handbook
2009 - 2010*

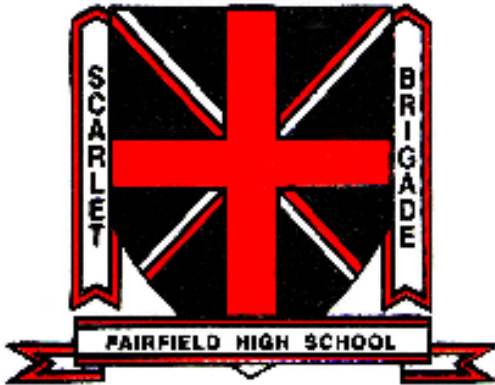




Scarlet Brigade Handbook 2009 - 2010

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Mission Statement

Scarlet Brigade Boosters Club of Fairfield High School

The Scarlet Brigade Boosters Club of Fairfield High School is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation formed in 1968 in the State of California whose primary purposes are to promote and encourage the education and associated activities of the Scarlet Brigade Band students and performing groups of the Fairfield High School Music Department.

Our goals are to provide financial support to the band program through fundraising, to encourage students to strive for excellence in the art of music and develop band spirit, to give optimistic and positive support to the Band Director and all members of the band and to develop community awareness of the efforts of the band students and appreciation for their achievements.



Director's Message

Dear Parents,

Thank you for reading this handbook, for your support of its contents, and especially for the opportunity to work with your sons and daughters. The Scarlet Brigade has been an extra curricular activity of the High School since 1986. As such, the students march entirely on their own time without credit, showing serious dedication to the band program. The current band has over 125 members representing Marching Band, Drum Majors, Bag Pipes, Percussion Unit and Pageantry Unit.

Our organization can only reach its potential if we have your active support. There are several ways in which you can provide support and encouragement for your child:

- ♪ Attending Band Booster Meetings
- ♪ Volunteering for Bingo and Alternative Fund Raising
- ♪ Encouraging home practice
- ♪ Attending band reviews and concerts

Also, assisting your child in meeting responsibilities (i.e. attendance and punctuality) provides incentive for your son or daughter to succeed individually while improving the quality of the band program.

It is no secret that the success of our band program is due in part to the tremendous support of the parents. We hope that you will enjoy being a part of our team.

Sincerely,

Steven S. Taylor
Director of Bands



President's Message

It gives me great honor and pleasure to welcome everyone to the 2009 - 2010 season of the Scarlet Brigade. Our official name is the Scarlet Brigade Boosters Club of Fairfield High School, but we are known as the "Boosters". The one thing we all have in common is fierce dedication to the Scarlet Brigade, the pride and joy of Fairfield High School.

This handbook has been an ongoing development project and a labor of love by very dedicated Boosters to ensure that you have as much information about the program at your fingertips as possible. We hope the handbook's contents will help clarify your role as a Booster, and provide key insights into the program and what is expected of its participants.

The contents of this handbook are the work of past leaders of the Boosters, many whom continue to support the band, although their children have long since graduated. These members are the epitome of support and dedication to the program and are examples for us all. They all have my sincere gratitude and admiration.

Marching band, the central element of the program, is an extracurricular activity of Fairfield High School, which essentially means that students, parents and others who participate in this program are doing so out of devotion to the cause of music and for the benefit of the students. Boosters spend their own time and energy to ensure that the program is well funded to enable students to represent their school with the tools necessary to compete at the highest level. Your enthusiastic participation in Bingo and fundraisers is vital to the continuity of this program. Your help at events is essential and would not be possible without passionate, dedicated, spirited and loyal parent support.

In this day of budget cuts and elimination of programs, the Fairfield High School music program stands out a beacon of achievement and pride. As Boosters it is our responsibility to support this dramatically enriching program to ensure that it continues to provide the students, school and community all of the benefits of an excellent program.

I personally would like to extend my thanks for making this ambitious concept a reality. They work many hours during school, after school and during the summer, and I am sure that you will agree that their effort was well worthwhile. I could not do my job as your President without my great board members, Barbara Martinez, Carol Rummel, Jan Howell, Colleen Caswell-Snuffer and, of course, our very dedicated Band Director.

So I urge you to please take the time to read through this handbook and determine how you can be a part of this wonderful program through your active participation. Show your support by being there for your student(s) and the band at our various events. Our presence, support and applause go right to every student's heart.

Sincerely,

Therese Retherford, President
2007-08
2008-09



Band Background

History:

Fairfield High School was founded in 1965. Since that time the Scarlet Brigade Band has had seven band directors. The current Band Director is Steven S. Taylor. In the beginning the Fairfield High Band was over shadowed by the Armijo High Super Band. Through student dedication, strong booster support and outstanding directors the band has become one of the premier marching bands, in the state of California.

During the decade of the nineties and into the millennium the Scarlet Brigade has been the band to beat in Northern California. The Band has had several undefeated seasons making the Scarlet Brigade Band the goal for every other band to beat. The entire band has won more Music, Showmanship, and Marching Sweepstakes Awards than any other band in Northern California for the last 20 years.

The Scarlet Brigade represented Northern California three times in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade, in 1980, 1994 and 2000. Other past performances include:

- ♪ Oakland Christmas Parade – Yearly
- ♪ 1995 SF 49ers Half Time Show
- ♪ 1998,2005 Hawaii Invitational, Kamehameha Schools in Honolulu, HI
- ♪ 1999 Hollywood Christmas Parade
- ♪ 1999 Inauguration of the Governor of California
- ♪ 2002 SF Giants National League Championship Celebration
- ♪ 2003 Victoria Days Parade, Victoria, British Columbia
- ♪ 2004 Disneyland Magic Music Days – Anaheim, California
- ♪ 2005 Disney World Magic Music Days – Orlando, Florida
- ♪ 2007 National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade – Washington, DC
- ♪ 2007 Fort McDowell Fiesta Bowl Parade – Phoenix, Arizona
- ♪ 2008 Hollywood Santa Parade – Anaheim, California

Due to our notoriety, we are frequently asked to perform at various prestigious events each year.

Interesting Facts:

The marching band at Fairfield High School is NOT part of the daily curriculum and has not been since 1986. The students do this activity entirely on their own time, without credit. They stay after school three days a week to work on marching skills and to work on their parade presentations. As parents and supporters we are all volunteers at Fairfield High School.

As such, the Scarlet Brigade Band is exclusively a parade band. We are **PARADE SPECIALISTS**. We do not do field shows or any other type of marching activity in the fall. That is why we do what we do so well...**we concentrate on one thing...parade marching**. We are very proud of our traditions at Fairfield High School. The one tradition that we are most proud of is that we put on a quality presentation EVERY time we perform...we never let down!

Band Uniforms:

The Scarlet Brigade band uniform represents tradition, excellence, and is always worn with pride. The band wears uniforms patterned after those of the Coldstream Guards of Great Britain and presents a fanciful display of Fairfield High School colors of Red, White and Black.



The color combination is very striking and can be seen quite clearly at a distance. These uniforms are used in all the traditional British Ceremonial occasions including the changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace. The band motto “in Hoc Signo Vincas” translated “Under this Banner Thou Shalt Conquer.”



Band Sections

Band Staff

The Scarlet Brigade Band is proud of its long heritage of musical and marching excellence and is under the direction of Steven S. Taylor. Band staff consists of Marching Instructor Vincent Pitzulo; Pageantry Instructors Linsey Jackson and Adrianna DeBattista; Percussion Instructors Tyler Mathiesen, Vincent Pitzulo, Marcus Robinson, and Steve Sperber; Bagpipe Instructor Jim McElroy; and Administrative Assistant Carol Rummel.

Student Band Leaders

The band is led by the Drum Major, Assistant Drum Major, Pipe Major, Drum Captain and Pageantry Captains.

Drum Major

The Drum Major is the stabilizing force of the Band. This student shows leadership, gives direction and conducts the Band during parade competitions. When marching in a parade, the Drum Major competes for honors. The Scarlet Brigade Band was the first band in Northern California (1969) to march a Scottish Drum Major in kilts and to use a mace. The tartan is from the Clan "Frazier" and the Drum Major wears the traditional feather bonnet as would be worn in Scotland and England. This particular uniform is considered to be a "full dress" uniform according to the rules and regulations that govern Scottish Drum Majoring.

Bagpipes

The bagpipe band was added to the Scarlet Brigade Band in 1994. Few high school bands in the nation have bagpipes. The pipers are a showstopper on the parade route wearing tartan patterned after the "Dress Stewart Regimental Uniform" and are one of the most popular Scottish designs in America. The feather bonnet worn by this group are customized white ostrich feather bonnet. The Bagpipe squad adds more traditional flavor to the band as they play the opening of "Scotland the Brave" and continue to add to the line of march by providing Scottish melodies between band selections.

Pageantry Unit Member (PUMS)

The Pageantry is the dancing part of the performance. They are without a doubt, the most colorful unit of the Scarlet Brigade Band. This Pageantry Unit is considered to be the most innovative and showy group in Northern California. Pageantry adds to the 'showmanship' of the entire band. During competitions

pageantry unit is judged with the Band for showmanship and judged separately for additional unit trophies.

. The Pageantry units are:

- Letters. - Performs routines with letters spelling the word FAIRFIELD.
- Rifles - Performs precision routines while spinning and tossing wood rifles.
- Flags - Performs waving and twirling the flags to the rhythm of the music.
- Sabers - Performs precision routines while spinning and tossing sabers.

The Pageantry wears traditional “highlander” dress that is common in Scotland. In Scotland these attractive young ladies and gentlemen would be referred to as “Bonnie Lassies and Lads”. At Fairfield High School they are simply known as PUMS (Pageantry Unit Members). This unit really puts the icing on the cake.

Percussion

The Percussion unit of the band performs both during parades and in separate percussion competition. The percussion unit is made up of:

- Snare Drums
- Tenor Drums
- Bass Drums
- Mallets
- Cymbals

The percussion unit performs after the marching band separately in percussion competition. The performance is intense with precise instrument and critical step movements.

Band Block

Last but certainly not least, is the heart of the band, known as the Band Block. Marchers clad in crimson and black, with white accents stride in perfect unison, maintain precision lines and diagonals as they advance down the street as a cohesive unit. Emanating from this massive group is the finest marching music in Northern California, in perfect time with their measured steps. Impeccable in their uniforms, eyes straight-ahead and focused, instruments poised, the marchers of the Band Block demand excellence of themselves and respect from their competitors.



Symphonic Band

This is the entry-level class for students. This band plays all types of music; marches, classical, popular, etc. The students will perform a variety of musical styles in the fall and spring concerts.

Advanced Symphonic Band

Advanced-level class is a performance-oriented group; entry in the Advanced Symphonic Band is by audition. The students will perform a variety of musical styles in the fall and spring concerts.

Wind Ensemble

Advanced-level class for the serious musician, entry into the Wind Ensemble is by audition. The band is a performance-oriented group playing all types of music including marches, classical, popular, etc. This band competes in many competitions on and off campus through out the year.

Jazz Band

Jazz Band is a performance-based group designed to cover many styles of jazz music. Performance at concerts and jazz festivals are required. Students must have had at least two years of playing experience on the saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drum set, guitar, bass and piano. Auditions are held at the beginning of the school year.

Pep Band

Band members play at the home football games. The band participation adds to the school sprit. This is the time for the band to let their hair down and root on the home team with fight songs and popular tunes.

Honor Bands

Band members have the opportunity to audition and if selected, represent Fairfield High in All-Northern High School Honor Band, All-State High School Honor Band and Solano County High School Honor Band. Being included in these exciting events means the band member is one of a very select group of students.

Band Activities

The Scarlet Brigade Band participates in many activities. In the fall, there are home football games and band reviews. Band reviews are competitions that involve marching, percussion and concert. The band reviews are held on Saturdays throughout Northern California and are usually an all day affair. A Holiday Concert is usually the final event of the fall semester. During the winter the marching band takes a break while the jazz band, pageantry units and percussion units participate in winter competitions. In the spring, all levels of concert bands perform in the Spring Concert. The school year is brought to a close with all concert bands performing at Fairfield High School's graduation ceremony.

Musical Pit Orchestra

Each year the Fairfield High Music Program joins the Drama Program to produce a musical. This occurs each March and is a featured part of our Music Program. Past musicals include Once Upon a Mattress, Wizard of Oz, Something's Afoot, Man of La Mancha and Peter Pan.



The Organization

Booster Executive Board

The positions of the Executive Board are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Bingo Director. The board is elected for a one-year term by majority vote of the Band Boosters membership at the May General Meeting. The Executive Board begins their office on July 1. The committee chair positions are appointed by the President.

President: oversees all Band Boosters operations; works closely with the Band Director; conducts Band Boosters meetings; appoints and meets with committee chairs and members of the Band Boosters.

Vice President: fills the functions of the President in his/her absence; oversees the Fundraising Committee.

Treasurer: maintains checking account; prepares financial statements; pays all general bills; works closely with vendors and the Band Director; oversees the Promotion Committee.

Secretary: takes minutes at both General and Executive Meetings; provides a monthly newsletter and other band communications; works closely with Public Relations Committee.

Bingo Director: Presides over Bingo Board and responsible for the operations of Bingo.

The Scarlet Brigade Band Boosters are governed by corporate bylaws and the Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the meetings of members to insure the orderly conduct of business.

Standing Committees

In addition to the Executive Board, there are many Standing Committees that are actively involved in the successful operation of Band Boosters. Some committees are one-year positions and others are established for events as needed. Committees maybe one person or a team of people. Standing Committees include:

Budget: short term; after reviewing the needs of the Band, establishes the Band Boosters budget; works closely with the Treasurer and Band Director; the committee consists of, but not limited to, President, Vice President, Treasurer, two general members, Bingo Director, Bingo

Treasurer, and Band Director. President appoints committee members at the March Booster meeting.

Chaperones: consists of Head Chaperone and several parent volunteers who chaperone each Band event; work closely with the Band Director; maintain emergency cards for each Band student; before inspections make sure student looks their best; keep an inventory of all necessary emergency and band items needed for a Band event. School District regulations require parent volunteers to be fingerprinted, have current TB test and complete volunteer form. The Head Chaperone provides training. Chaperones are required to chaperone three fall band reviews in order to be considered for a band trip chaperone position.

Crab Feed: planning takes approximately five months; plans, coordinates, and oversees the fun event; it is held once a year the first Saturday in February; see Fundraiser Section for more details.

Band Trip: on-going; responsible for gathering research for band trips; makes hotel and airline reservations; plans trip activities; coordinates with the Band Director.

“Brigade News”: on-going; gathers information, assembles, and sends a monthly newsletter to all Band parents 10 times a year. Committee members include Secretary.

Hospitality: on-going, responsible for all coordination of social activities surrounding the band; under the direction of the Treasurer.

Pageantry on Parade (POP): planning takes approximately five months; plans, coordinates, and oversees this fundraiser; the show is held once a year on the first Saturday in March; see Fundraiser Section for a description.

Promotions: on-going; handles the ordering and selling of Band and Booster’s souvenirs during the year, such as: T-shirts, buttons, pins, bumper stickers, baseball hats, license plate frames; under the direction of the Treasurer.

Public Relations: on going; helps encourage community support of our fundraisers and events; gathers information from the Band Director about upcoming events; attends monthly meetings to gather the latest Band news; submits competition standings after an event; submits press releases to the community, school newspapers and radio stations; under the direction of the Secretary.

Student Ways & Means: on-going; coordinates and implements student fundraisers; provides students and opportunity to earn funds to cover their Band related expenses; relies on parent and student volunteers to individual events; under the direction of the Vice President.

Telephone & Email Alerts: on-going; has phone numbers of all Band students and parents; passes on information about upcoming events, such as; meetings, fundraisers, emergencies, and schedule changes. Committee members are appointed at May Booster meeting. Works closely with band section leaders.

Tournament of Champions (TOC): Planning takes approximately six months; oversees and coordinates all aspects of TOC; works closely with the Band Director; requires approximately 20 coordinators and over 300 volunteers to put on the one-Day event held in November. See Fundraiser Section for a more detailed description.

Transportation: on-going; arranges loading times; drives the trucks full of Band instruments and uniforms to the Band events; coordinates the loading and unloading of equipment.

Uniforms: on-going; responsible for fitting all students in uniforms; maintain uniforms for Band, Drum Major, Pageantry, and Bagpipes; does repairs as needed; coordinates cleanings.

By Laws: on-going committee responsible for the review of current By Laws for appropriateness to current Scarlet Brigade operations.

Yearbook: on-going committee of students and parents responsible for creation of annual band year book.

Student Band Council:

The band council is our student leadership group for the band. It consists of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Section Leaders and Class Representatives. The council helps with organization of the band, approves student body band expenditures, and plans the annual summer band camp. They have additional duties as student leaders and are primarily responsible for the morale and spirit of the band. The council is the backbone of the Scarlet Brigade.



Band Members' Responsibilities

Uniforms

Participation in the program and the use of the uniforms is reserved for those who earn the privilege and are students in good standing with the Scarlet Brigade Marching Band. Uniforms used during the parades are provided by the Band Boosters. If the uniform becomes dirty between cleanings due to the student's negligence or carelessness, the student will be charged for an additional cleaning.

Each student must provide his/her own black band shoes and black socks. For the students that wear white gloves one pair will be provided per year. The student who forgets their socks or gloves will be charged \$5 for another pair.

After each performance uniforms must be hung neatly on hangers with pants creased, the belt through the jacket's shoulder loop, the jacket buttoned and zipped. Place the hanger in the appropriate garment bag and after inspection hang the uniform on assigned racks in numeric order. **Do not allow uniforms to touch the ground or floor**, because this increases cleaning expenses and wear and tear of the uniforms. Please report needed repairs to the Uniform Coordinator. Store only the uniform in the garment bag. Do not put shoes, dirty socks, or other clothes in the garment bag. Things could get smelly in there.

Return shakos in their plastic bags to the assigned box and keep instruments in designated locations only.

Band Camp:

Camp is usually held in August the week before school starts at Fairfield High School. All students enrolled in band are encouraged to attend. Band Camp is mandatory for those in Marching Band. The week is a time for bonding, marching rehearsal, and fun. Through the efforts of an exceptional instructional staff the band performance ability is enhanced. There is no fee for Band Camp.

Practices:

The Band Director is responsible for scheduling practices. Marching band practice starts the second week of school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays until the end of the fall Marching Band season. Additional practices are required for color guard and percussion. Missed practices affect the entire band. Please schedule doctor, dentist and other appointments so there isn't a conflict. An Attendance Policy is distributed at the beginning of the marching season and is strictly enforced.

Trip Rules and Regulations:

1. Be on time. Arrive with your instrument/equipment, wearing your band shirt. **Shoes shined before boarding the bus.**
2. An adult chaperone will be on each bus and no change in buses will be allowed. No standing or changing seats while the bus is moving. You must sit facing forward at all times. Screaming and shouting will not be allowed or tolerated.
3. Buses are to be treated with care. All refuse is to be placed in garbage bags provided. Keep the buses clean at all times.
4. Make sure that YOU have loaded your own equipment and instrument on the truck and that you have all necessary items for your performance.
5. PDA's – Public Displays of Affection. Hold hands is okay. Not acceptable is sharing blankets, laying on each other, arms around each other, kissing. Students violating this rule will be separated by the Head Chaperone or Mr. Taylor and will not be allowed to sit together on the bus.
6. No one is to leave the group formation or area for any reason without the permission of Mr. Taylor.
7. Students are to travel in groups of 3 or more and are not to leave the school campus or general area for any reason.
8. Students are to travel to AND from the band review on the buses. Parents are not able to take students home without PRIOR approval from Mr. Taylor. A Band Student Release Form is available in the band room office and must be signed and returned to Mr. Taylor by 3:00 pm on Friday before the band function. Students leaving early must check out with Mr. Taylor or the Head Chaperone.
9. Students can only be released to their parents on band trips. Students may not ride to and from events with boy or girl friends or siblings, regardless of signed notes from their parents. You must check out with Mr. Taylor or the Head Chaperone.
10. Private cars will not be used for student transportation to band reviews.
11. Only music playback devices with headphones are allowed on band trips. **NO BOOM BOXES** or TV's are allowed. (they will be confiscated and you will have to see the Principal for their return).
12. There will be no footballs, Frisbees, hack 'n sacks or throwing objects allowed on band trips. Absolutely **NO SQUIRT GUNS** allowed ever! (We are in High School)
13. Boyfriends and girlfriends who are not enrolled in band class are not to attend band functions and hang around band students. Please encourage these people to watch and go home or just stay home.
14. There is to be NO changing on the bus without Mr. Taylor's permission.
15. There is only ONE way to wear a Scarlet Brigade uniform. **ALL BUTTONS CLOSED, ALL ZIPPERS ZIPPED AND SHAKOS ON**

- unless otherwise directed. **NO FOOD** or **DRINK** (other than water) is allowed while in uniform.
16. **NO SUNGLASSES OR HATS OTHER THAN SHAKOS** while in uniform and most importantly
 17. **NO GUM WHILE IN UNIFORM EVER!**
 18. **No earrings, visible piercings, or rings** are to be worn while in uniform.
 19. Hair for boys and girls must be off the collar, facial hair on boys must be NEATLY trimmed.
 20. School rules regarding alcohol, smoking and drugs will be strictly enforced.
 21. Band members are expected to dress in a reasonable manner following band performances. This includes the wearing of shoes, an official Scarlet Brigade **BAND T-SHIRT**, and pants or shorts. This is a school function and the school dress code is applicable. T-shirts are to be worn properly at **all times**, head and arms in proper holes, no stomachs showing, the shirt must be completely on. No homemade T-shirts. Pageantry and percussion jackets do not replace band T-shirts, everyone **MUST** wear **THE CURRENT OFFICIAL SCARLET BRIGADE BAND T-SHIRT**.
 22. After the parade is over, students need to change and return their uniform **immediately** for inspection before hanging it up on the uniform rack. All instruments need to be returned to the rack or proper location to be packed for departure.
 23. No student will be allowed to go to the buses early or leave the group area without permission from Mr. Taylor or the head chaperone prior to the end of the awards ceremony.
 24. During awards ceremony, all students and all chaperones are to sit **TOGETHER** as a group to show our unity.
 25. The Scarlet Brigade cheers for all awards and all competitors no matter what the award is.
 26. The Scarlet Brigade will be the leader in Northern California for setting an example of good sportsmanship.
 27. No disrespect or back talk to any adult will be tolerated at a Scarlet Brigade Band function.
 28. Parents should arrange to meet the students at Fairfield High School when the band review is over.
 29. Be sure to thank your bus driver at the end of the trip. Our traditional "Hip, Hip, Hooray" would be appropriate.

Helpful Tips on How to Survive Band Reviews

Band Reviews are an all day event. Here are some helpful hints to make the day the best!

Have your student take warm clothing (sweatshirt, coat, gloves,

etc.) Bring **sunscreen**.

Have your student eat a good breakfast so he/she has enough energy to walk and perform during the parade. Most parades are about one mile long; some are up to three miles long, it may be several hours before he/she can eat again. An empty stomach makes for very wobbly legs!

Send a good lunch, plenty of **water** and snacks, or send money (between \$10 & \$15) for your student to buy food. **Not all Band Reviews sell food**

Families are encouraged to attend all Band Reviews. Maps to the reviews will be available in the band room on Thursdays before the Saturday reviews.

Parade Inspection

Before the Band steps off for parade competition, there is an inspection by a judge. The judge looks for uniform neatness, cleanliness, uniformity of pant/shirt length, and general condition of the equipment and instruments. Points are deducted if the judge notes anything out of order. **Awards are won or lost by parade inspection.** Therefore, it is essential that students have all pieces of their uniforms, black socks, shoes and other accessories.

No parents are allowed in the band block once inspection begins.

Inspection includes:

Hair inside the hat and not below the collar applies to both **boys and girls. Hair below the collar will be trimmed.**

No jewelry – no rings, **no earrings (even those just pierced)**, no watches, no bracelets, etc.

No nail polish or artificial fingernails. **Remove nail polish before arriving at school.**

No lipstick or make up. (Girls wait until after competition to apply makeup.)

Boys must be clean shaven with trimmed sideburns.

 **Costs**

Each student is responsible for band related expenses. The transportation fees are determined by the Band Director at the beginning of each year and payable to Fairfield High School – SBA. **Travel expenses incurred by the Band are not covered by the School District!** Some other costs, such as shoes and Band Trips may be incurred by Band students. Jazz Band, Percussion and Winter Guard students incur additional expenses to cover travel associated with their competition season. Participating in fundraising opportunities will help reduce your out of pocket expenses.

Student Accounts

Each student in the Scarlet Brigade Band has a Student Account. Students are able to create credits in their individual student account through either fundraising activities or by direct cash deposits. Money can be deposited into an account at any time. Some parents and students make monthly deposits, so money is there when needed. Whatever way or combination of ways you decide to use is acceptable. If you have any questions about your student's account, please contact the Treasurer or Mrs. Rummel in the band room.

Supplemental Costs

Annual Contribution (includes band shirt)	\$300.00
Marching Season Transportation	Varies - approx \$100
Winter Activities Transportation	Varies - approx \$100 - \$270
Shoes required for Band Student	\$25 per pair
Guard and Percussion Competition Costumes	Varies - approx \$30 - \$150
Honor Band Student Application Fees	Varies - approx \$30 - \$50
Pageantry Warm up suit	Optional

The credit in Student Accounts, after the annual contribution has been satisfied, may only be used for Band trip package cost and reimbursement for transportation fees paid to Fairfield High School. Due to IRS regulations regarding non-profit organizations, NO cash for personal spending may be distributed from the Student Account to individual students. No refund of fundraising profits is authorized. Credits in Student Accounts are eligible for roll over from one year to the next. Credit balances are returned to the Band Boosters General Fund when the student graduates or is separated from the band.



General Fundraisers and Social Events

Band Camp Pot Luck

This very entertaining and social evening kicks off the season with a get to know the Band Family. The event will include informational booths and documentation regarding the Scarlet Brigade. This event is hosted by the Band Boosters and the Executive Board. Entertainment is provided by the band students. The event is held on the last day of Band Camp. Bring a dish to share and a lawn chair for a front row seat for the show.

Tournament of Champions (TOC)

The annual Tournament of Champions is usually held on the third Saturday in November. We host dozens of bands that compete in a parade competition down Dover Street. After the parade, concert, and jazz competitions, an awards ceremony held at Schaefer Stadium. In the evening a field show competition takes place at the Stadium, concluding with an awards ceremony. As part of this fundraising event, we:

- Solicit donations for the trophies that are given at the awards ceremonies
- Sell refreshments all day at Fairfield High School
- Sell souvenirs and programs
- Provide Hospitality Rooms for visiting Directors and Judges

TOC is one of our largest annual fundraisers. Many companies provide donations and advertising support to help sponsor the Review. It is a great day! We receive many compliments regarding our hospitality from other band organizations: we raise a significant amount of money: and the community and the Band receive much public recognition. It takes **Every Parent and Every Student** in the Band to make this a success, especially two weeks prior to the event and the day of TOC. Please plan on helping some time during the “Big Day”, which begins at 7:00 a.m. and continues until 11:00 p.m. Bingo will also have to be staffed that Saturday night. It would be very helpful if every parent could do more than one job. The day is a great reward well worth all our efforts! All profits go directly into the Boosters general fund.

Crab Feed

The Scarlet Brigade Band Boosters Crab Feed is the most enjoyable and largest spring fundraiser. We host approximately 300 people for an evening of crab, food, raffles, door prizes, silent auction, fun, dancing and entertainment provided by our own Jazz Band and Bagpipers. The event is usually held on a Friday in late January or early February. Each family or student is asked to buy or sell two

tickets. Profits go directly into the Boosters General Fund and Trip Fund. Many parents and students are needed to help on this event. Donations are also needed for the silent auction and raffle.

Pageantry on Parade

The Scarlet Brigade's Pageantry on Parade is usually held the first Saturday in March. We host approximately 70 Guard and Percussion units, who compete for various awards. This is one of the largest Guard and Percussion competitions in Northern California and requires the help of ALL Band parents even if your student isn't in the Pageantry or Percussion. This event is mandatory for all Pageantry and Percussion students to volunteer to help. This is an opportunity for families and friends to see Pageantry and Percussion units perform their winter competition routines they will be performing at the World Championships. Proceeds from this fundraiser go into the Boosters general operating account and help carry us through the end of the summer.

Football Barbeques

The Band Boosters host a barbeque at Fairfield High School home football games in the fall, selling our famous "Falcon Burger", polish dogs, hot links and hot dogs. Booster volunteers are needed to barbeque, wrap burgers and sell our specialties. Check our calendar for the schedule. Come on out and have some fun. Proceeds benefit the Scarlet Brigade Trip Fund to help feed hungry students on band trips.

Band Awards Night

Awards and scholarships are presented at the annual Band Awards Night. The new band council members and Drum Major are announced. In addition, students and booster members who demonstrate exceptional effort are also recognized. This event takes place at the end of the school year.

Student Fundraisers

Along with the great experience and fun of being a member of the Scarlet Brigade Band, every student has his or her own financial responsibilities. **Please Note: Travel expenses are not funded by the School District.** See the monthly calendar to help you determine which fundraisers fit your schedule and which ones sound the best for you.

By planning the fundraising year in advance, you have an opportunity to do the fundraisers that fits you best. Also, it gives you an opportunity to budget how much additional money will be needed to cover the rest of the Band expenses. We encourage you to participate in as many fundraisers as possible. They are a great way to lower your out-of-pocket expenses. If a student or family does not

participate in fundraisers, it is strongly suggested that you make regular deposits to your Student Account.

Student fundraisers include:

Sponsor Letters

Form letters are available in the band room office. Send these letters to family, friends, doctors and dentists. Donations made by sponsors in your student's name are credited to your Student Account. You may send out as many letters as you would like.

SCRIP

The SCRIP program is an easy way to add money to your student's Band account because there is no additional cost associated to buying SCRIP. SCRIP is gift certificates by participating companies. The SCRIP is discounted and the profit is donated by the participating companies to the program for credited to the band student's account. SCRIP certificates are available for local grocery stores, national and regional department stores, gas stations, many restaurants, hardware stores and specialty shops. SCRIP can be spent exactly like cash and is often sold to family, friends, and neighbors.

We participate in the Great Lakes Scrip Program. Visit www.glscrip.com to see a complete listing of participating merchants and their guidelines. See the monthly calendar for scrip order turn in dates.

So start now! With a little bit of planning and regular purchase of SCRIP you can cover many of your Band expenses and fees. Everyone buys groceries, gas and clothes, so why not take advantage of this wonderful program. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Rummel at the Band room.

eScrip

Go to www.escrip.com and register your grocery, debit and credit cards. Each time you use your registered cards at participating merchants a percentage of your purchase is contributed to our organization in your name. Credits go to your Student Account. It's that simple! Our organization name is Scarlet Brigade Band Boosters and the ID# is 4502898. IMPORTANT – if you sign up family and friends you must send a note to the band room office with names to be credited to your Student Account.

Raley's Quality of Life Card

Obtain a card(s) from the band room office. Once a card is registered at www.raleys.com, have it scanned each time you shop at Raley's and a

percentage of your purchase will be contributed to our organization in your name. Credit goes directly to your Student Account.

Dine & Donate Nights

During the year the Scarlet Brigade will host dinner nights at local restaurants. The restaurant will donate a percentage of their receipts on a designated evening to our organization. Participating restaurants include Applebee's, Mary's Pizza, Red Robin, Chevy's and Kinder's. Proceeds from this fundraiser go to a specific Booster fund determined by the Fundraising Committee.

Outback Steakhouse "Dine with the Band"

The Scarlet Brigade in conjunction with Outback Steakhouse hosts one or more Dine with the Band evenings at Fairfield High School in the band room. Students sell dinner tickets. Everyone enjoys a delicious meal. Proceeds benefit Student Accounts and the Scarlet Brigade Trip Fund.

Other Student Fundraisers

The Fundraising Committee arranges several other fundraisers during the school year such as:

- Car Washes
- Cookie Dough Sales
- Christmas Wreaths Sales
- Macy's Shop for a Cause
- Holiday Gift Wrapping

Students who participate in these fundraisers earn fundraising dollars for their account or a specific group activity. Allocation is determined by the Fundraising Committee. To obtain information about these fundraisers, to offer other fundraising ideas, or to volunteer to help on one or more student fundraisers, please contact the Fundraising Chairperson.

Besides student fundraisers, band students are expected to support their Band program by working at Band Booster fundraisers, such as TOC, Crab Feed and POP. The profits from these fundraisers are for the good of the whole Band and are used to buy Band equipment, music, and supplies.



Scarlet Brigade Band Boosters

The Band Boosters is a parent organization dedicated to providing volunteers and raising funds to support and maintain a quality Band program at Fairfield High School. The boosters are governed by an Executive Board (eBoard) who meets monthly to discuss, plan, and manage the business affairs of the non-profit organization.

A general membership meeting, open to all Band parents, alumni parents, and interested individuals, is usually held the fourth Monday of most months. Along with monthly newsletter “Brigade News” and website www.scarletbrigade.com these meetings offer the latest news about the Band and its activities. The meeting is also an opportunity to socialize with other Band parents and alumni parents and ask questions of the Band Director.

In 1968, when the Scarlet Brigade Band Boosters were established, it operated on a much smaller scale and financially supported itself with car washes, bake sales and other fundraisers. Currently the majority of the support is provided by our dynamic Bingo Program, which began in 1983. The school district only provides the Band Directors salary, cost of uniform cleaning and essential instrument repairs.

The band has grown significantly, and the Band Boosters Fundraising and the band families now pay most of the program costs. The boosters provide funding for sheet music, new instruments, additional uniforms, vehicles, special clinicians, consultants, auxiliary unit instructors, band camp, color guard and percussion equipment, and entry fees.

The Band Boosters are proud to step forward and keep this magnificent band program alive to represent our community in a forum of unprecedented success. With ongoing parental support Band Boosters will continue to provide an opportunity for our students to participate in a premier band program.



Scarlet Brigade Bingo

Introduction to our Bingo Program

Welcome to the Fairfield High School (FHS) Scarlet Brigade! This handbook introduces new and existing members to the Band Booster Bingo program.

Why do the Band Boosters support bingo? Bingo represents the most lucrative activity of the Band Boosters. It is responsible for funding the many costly travel venues in which the Scarlet Brigade participates. Expenses include fees for event registration, travel, uniform and instrument maintenance, instrumental music copies and staffing. Without bingo, the band could not travel and enjoy the various competitions that introduce the many wonderful aspects of the Scarlet Brigade to Northern California, and open us to participation in statewide, national and global music exhibitions and competitions.

This handbook provides a general introduction to the Scarlet Brigade bingo program. Bingo is a year-long program.

This program would not be a success without the continued participation and support by our boosters. If our talented kids are the heart of the FHS Scarlet Brigade, then bingo (and the boosters) is the blood that sustains them. Please consider the contribution of your time as an investment in our children, providing support, encouragement, and allowing them to develop confidence and grow into the wonderful people we know them to be.

We appreciate your participation in the Band Boosters bingo program. It goes without saying that sacrificing four or more hours of your weekend time on a regular basis over the course of a year is no picnic. But as parents, we all want to see our kids succeed – we want to see them come together as a team, and discover the pride of doing something very well, with the best leadership possible. The Scarlet Brigade is an excellent example of how direction, motivation and desire combine to produce the absolute best in music. Support the band and our kids' future; be a Band Booster!

The Need For A Handbook

Prior to the 2003 FHS school year, Band Boosters were introduced to bingo and it's various jobs via 'word of mouth' and by shadowing existing Booster and USARC/PACE members on the bingo floor. This could be a frightening task, essentially giving a new volunteer an abrupt entry into the daunting bingo world, and presenting a 'trial by fire' experience. Bingo has it's own language, and requires some time to learn. Those less stout of heart could easily be frightened away. Bingo is a very orderly, structured world – once you understand how it operates, it can become a very enjoyable, if not predictable experience. Please take the time to read and understand the contents of this guide. Refer to it as often as necessary to understand how bingo operates. Realize that every single volunteer role in bingo is important, whether it is operating the cash register, selling pull-tabs, verifying a bingo or calling numbers.

Why Do We Ask For Volunteers?

As stated earlier, without the bingo program, band funding would essentially disappear. If the band wished to compete and needed cash, this expense would come entirely out of the band parents' pockets! These trips are expensive, incurring many thousands of dollars of debt for each outing. In fact, the typical budget for a band year runs between \$250,000 to \$300,000.

Volunteering for bingo allows the parent to earn credits that go directly into the Student Account for their son(s) and/or daughter(s). Currently, this is based at \$10.00 per hour. Credits in your Student Account reduce your out of pocket expenses, so less money is required directly from the band family. Expenses are also incurred by the band for uniform cleaning and replacement, band instrument repair and replacement, miscellaneous supplies purchase, registration fees for events, maintenance of the Scarlet Brigade web site, etc. All these expenses are funded by bingo volunteers.

Bingo Times and Location

The Scarlet Brigade supports bingo in Vacaville, at the Vaca Valley Bingo Center, 190 Bella Vista Rd off the Davis Road exit. Our 'bingo day' is every Saturday, from 2 p.m. to approximately 1:30 a.m. the following morning. Please note that volunteers only pledge as much time as they are comfortable with. Generally, we ask that the volunteer try to establish a minimum volunteer time block of 4 hours. Volunteers are welcome to work as long as they like.

The Bingo Manager arrives for setup at 2:00p.m. The evening bingo game staffing occurs from 4 p.m. to approximately 10 p.m., with the Getaway transition occurring from 10:00 to 10:30. The late night session occurs from about 11 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

The Bingo hall opens for evening session at 4 p.m., with warm-up games starting at 6:00 p.m. Late night bingo opens at 10:30 p.m.

To volunteer contact our Bingo Manpower Coordinator at 707-430-8098.

The phone number for the Bingo Hall is 707-449-4646. Ask for the Hall Manager. Employees of Sierra Gaming run the Bingo Hall, a company based in Sacramento.

Senior College Scholarship Awards Program

Purpose: The Scarlet Brigade College Scholarship Policy has been put in place by the Scarlet Brigade Boosters Club of Fairfield High School to financially acknowledge students who are graduating from the Scarlet Brigade Marching Band by providing college scholarships. Scholarship funds are donated by patrons of our weekly Bingo program.

Scope: This applies to all Fairfield High School graduating senior band members who have participated in the Scarlet Brigade Marching Band and are interested in applying for a Scarlet Brigade College Scholarship.

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Be a graduating Fairfield High School Senior.
2. Be judged to have been a positive influence on the music program by the Band Director.
3. Have participated in the Scarlet Brigade Marching band for 4 years, unless documented evidence of extenuating circumstances preventing participation is presented and accepted by Band Director.
4. Attend one of the following types of institutions (proof of enrollment will be required)
 - a. Accredited 4 year college or university.
 - b. Accredited 2 year community college or trade school.
5. Have a cumulative weighted Grade Point Average of at least 2.0

Application Process

1. Students must complete the Scarlet Brigade College Scholarship Application.
2. Students must submit with the application a one page essay, double spaced in size 12 font, illustrating the *influence* that the Scarlet Brigade music experience has had on them.
3. All applicants must turn required documents into the band room by the announced due date.

Distribution of Funds

1. Awarded honorees are announced at the Scarlet Brigade Annual Band Awards Night.
2. Scholarship awards will be paid to qualified students upon presentation of proof of enrollment in any of the institutions identified and all eligibility requirements have been met. Disbursement of funds will occur only after the student has thanked Bingo patrons in person.
3. All awards must be claimed within one academic year of the award presentation. Funds from any unclaimed award will be returned to the Scholarship Fund account.

Scarlet Brigade Band Vocabulary

Term	Description
Shako	Majestic tall black band hat patterned after those worn by the Coldstream Guard of Great Britain.
Feather Bonnet	A shako in full bloom.
Attention	Instructing members of the band and guard to assume a posture wherein ones feet are together, when shoulders are back, ones chin is slightly up, and where one generally looks like Her Majesty's Coldstream Guard.
Colorguard/Pageantry/ PUM (P ageantry U nit M ember)	Refers to students who perform as members of the colorguard. The responsibility is to add dance, color, expression, and movement to the show.
Woodwinds	Piccolos, flutes, clarinets and all saxophones.
Drumline	Refers to all percussion instruments that march on the street. Snare Drum, Quads (4 drums linked together) base drums, cymbals, and other specialty equipment.
Brass	Trumpets, trombones, baritones, tubas, sousaphones, and French horn.
Winterguard Performances	Colorguard performances in a competition circuit during January – April.
Drum Major	Student leader of the marching band and pageantry
Mace	Not a spray – it's what the drum major spins.
Band Council	Student leaders in the band and pageantry
Band Boosters	Band backers. Parents who support and value an award winning band program.
Marshmallow Bus	Uniform bus, named for its color and shape. Currently retired and used by Boosters in local parades.
BINGO	Not a dog. Major source of fundraising used in supporting the band program.
Band Uniform	Band wears uniforms patterned after those worn by the Coldstream Guard of Great Britain.
TOC	T ournament O f C hampions, the Scarlet Brigade premiere Fall Band Review.
POP	P ageantry o n P arade
CMEA	C alifornia M usic E ducators A ssociation
CBDA	C alifornia B and D irectors A ssociation
NCBA	N orthern C alifornia B and A ssociation
WGI	W inter G uard I nternational