

January 29, 2018

Dear Tiger Pride Families,

It is that time of the year again when we are looking for those individuals who are willing to serve on the **Gilbert Band Booster Board for the 2018-2019 school year.**

The Gilbert Band Booster organization (GBB) is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. We consist of two boards, the Executive Board and Advisory Board. The Executive Board is made up of 3 officers, the President, Secretary and Treasurer, and the appointed Drumline Chair and Guard Chair. Officers of the organization must have previous GBB board experience. They are appointed by the Advisory Board. The Advisory Board is made up of the Executive Board and Chairpersons. We currently have 9 Chair positions, six which are open. The Band Director appoints the Chairman with recommendations from the Advisory Board.

It is important that all parents become involved in one way or another, but we do need some individuals who can help take charge of different needs of the band and coordinate volunteers within their responsibilities.

We are losing half of the current board this year due to Senior graduation, so we really need help. Please review the openings and consider getting involved in a board position. The boosters are a HUGE support to the Band Program and without them, the Gilbert Tiger Pride would be limited on what they can do. We are one of the most highly recognized Band Booster organizations in Arizona and have had many ask us how we do it. The first response is "We have great supportive parents".

The following is a list of **Gilbert Band Booster Advisory Board positions** needing filled:

Bookkeeper - - helps the Treasurer with finances, hopefully training to be Treasurer someday.

Concert Band - - in charge of Concert Band events and needs - including refreshments at concerts, Holiday Silent Auction, Allstate hosting, chaperones for travel, and concert uniforms.

Public Relations - - helps promote the band, is part of the recruitment committee, advertises events through newspapers, posters, school, social media, etc., over-sees photos of band events and publishes them on Smug Mug, responsible for annual Band DVD, and makes Invitational Programs (Fall and Winter) as needed.

Socials - - oversees the Social activities of the band and boosters, including the Kickoff dinner, Band Camp Senior Pizza Night and Ice-cream Social, Band Lunches, Marching Band Banquet, Rendezvous, and oversees the care of the Booster Tablecloths and runs the concessions at Invitationals (Fall and Winter) as needed.

Uniform - - Oversees the uniforms for Marching Band including fittings, alterations, repairing, and dry cleaning. Available before and after games and performances to open/close the uniform cabinets and assist students as needed. Orders uniform related items (Compression shirts, gloves, shoes, T-shirts) for students, as well as Tiger Tail and Show T-shirts for parents. Forms a Uniform Committee to help with duties.

Volunteers - - Finds and coordinates the volunteers needed for events (Invitationals, games competitions, socials) , oversees and trains chaperones (working closely with the band director to make sure students needs will be met), and works with Trips and Travel Chair on trips.

If you are not able to commit to a board position, please consider volunteering to be a part of the following **committees**:

Pit Crew - - works under the direction of the Equipment Chair to help with loading and unloading the equipment for Football games and competitions. Makes sure the band has water for games and practices. Sets up tables and other needed equipment for Band Events. Helps with equipment repairs and building of props. (Usually our Drumline parents volunteer to help here since it is mostly their equipment being loaded, but anyone can volunteer.)

Fundraising Committee - - works under the direction of the Fundraising Chair. We need volunteers to oversee the Candle Fundraiser, Candy Bar sales, Butterbraid sales, Discount Cards, ASU Concessions, Car Washes, and other fundraisers.

Concert Band Committee - - works with the Concert Band Chair to co-ordinate the Holiday Silent Auction, chaperones the Concert Bands when traveling, helps with uniforms, and helps with All-State.

Photographers - - we need a few parents lined up to photograph our students at their events, then get those photos posted on Smugmug, our band photography website. We need parents to photograph Winter Drumline and Winter Guard as well.

It is expected that all parents of Marching Band students volunteer at our Fall Gilbert Invitational (usually the first weekend of October) and all parents of Indoor Percussion and Guard volunteer at our Gilbert WGAZ Show (usually in March).

Having a student in a Gilbert High Band Program automatically makes you a member of the **TIGER TAILS**. We do whatever we can to support our Gilbert High Bands. We volunteer. We come and watch at games, at competitions, at concerts. We pay the fees. We chaperone events. We encourage our students. We support our staff . . .

One last thing, it has been tradition that those parents who put in the most time working in the program are the one's asked to chaperone Band Camp and trips. Therefore, **it is usually the Gilbert Band Booster Board who has first choice if they would like to chaperone**. It is a well deserved "perk" for putting in the hours needed to run such a beneficial and necessary organization. If there are openings left to chaperone after the board, we look to those who have volunteered and chaperoned Football Games, worked on a committee, ran a fundraiser or two . . . etc. Usually Senior Parents would get preference, except for a Big Trip, as that usually happens only once for a student. The GHS Band traditionally takes a Big Trip every 3 years. We are hoping to get approval to go to London again for the 2020 Big Trip.

Many hands make less work. We need everyone to find something they can do. Perhaps you have younger children and it is hard to volunteer outside of the home . . . you can help make phone calls to businesses, you can help launder the table clothes after a band dinner, or iron the table toppers. Maybe you are good at designing on the computer and would like to make flyers, or help design programs. Maybe you work all week long . . . we have Saturday events, maybe you can take photos, chaperone a competition, volunteer to head up a fundraiser - just one. You can help at the Friday night games. Be a part of the Pit Crew.

The best part of getting involved is that it let's your teenage child know that you care for them and what they do really matters to you. The extra effort will pay off. The Gilbert Tiger Pride Band becomes a family and you get to be a part of it. Being an involved band parent earns you the privilege of being called "Mom" or "Dad" by the students, as part of this band family. There's nothing quite like the feeling of hearing someone yell out "Hi Mom!" and realize it is one of the band kids from ten years ago.. . and I would know.

PLEASE contact me, Karen Ferrin, if you would be willing to become more involved. WE NEED YOU !!! (And don't worry, we will train you.)

Thank-you,
Karen Ferrin
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