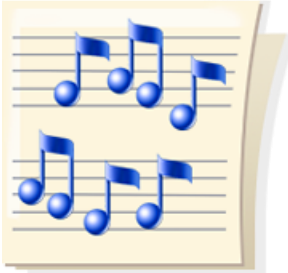




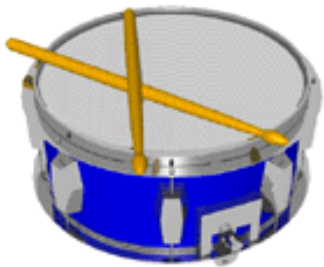
Welcome to Millard North Band!



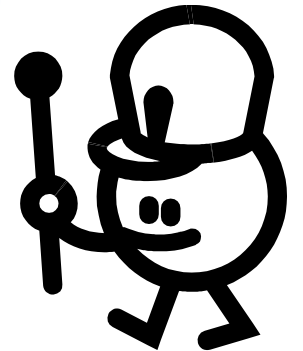
? **Who are the Band Boosters?**



What is Band Camp?



What does it mean to be a "Band Parent"?



This document has been prepared to give you a brief overview of the MNHS band program and all it has to offer. Please note that items are subject to change. Event-specific details will be communicated throughout the school year. Please check our website for the most up-to-date schedules, times and information!

WWW.MNBAND.NET

If You Read No Further..

Here are important dates that may affect your incoming band students! Please add these to your calendar:

Millard North Mustang Bands 2016 Summer Band Schedule

**PLEASE NOTE COLORGUARD AND PERCUSSION HAVE THEIR OWN ADDITIONAL SCHEDULES

JUNE

Mon-6	6-8 pm	Instrument rental night (Grades 9-12) for anyone who still needs a school instrument
Tue-7	6-9 pm	FRESHMAN Band Rehearsal 6-7:30pm VARSAITY Band Rehearsal 6-9pm <i>*This includes Winds - Brass & Woodwinds, Colorguard, Drumline & Pit</i>
Wed-8	10 am-12	Optional Sectionals (Varsity)
Tue-14	6-9 pm	VARSAITY Band Rehearsal
Wed-15	10 am-12	Optional Sectionals (Varsity)
Tue-21	6-9 pm	VARSAITY Band Rehearsal Freshman Drum Line (6-7:30pm)
Wed-22	6-8 pm 10 am-12	<i>Varsity uniform fittings (Seniors and those whose uniform still fits)</i> Optional Sectionals (Varsity)
Tue-28	6-9 pm 6-8 pm	VARSAITY Band Rehearsal Freshman Drum Line (6-7:30pm) <i>Varsity uniform fittings (Soph/Jrs and those whose uniform still fits)</i>
Wed-29	10 am-12	Optional Sectionals (Varsity)

JULY

Tue-5		NO REHEARSAL THIS WEEK! Have a safe and Happy 4th!
Tue-12	6-9 pm	VARSAITY Band Rehearsal
Wed - 13	9-3 pm	LEADERSHIP TRAINING
July 18-22	8 am-4 pm	VARSAITY DRUMLINE & COLORGUARD CAMP (all week)
Wed-20	8 am-5:30pm 1-5:30 pm	FRESHMAN BAND CAMP (Leadership Team reports) VARSAITY BAND MEMBERS REPORT – Workshop
Thur-21	8 am-4 pm	ALL 9-12 BAND MEMBERS BAND CAMP
Fri-22	8 am-4 pm	VARSAITY ONLY BAND CAMP
JULY 25-29	8 a m-4 pm	VARSAITY BAND CAMP 8AM-4PM
Tues - August 2	6-9 pm 6-8 pm	VARSAITY BAND CAMP <i>Freshman uniform fittings</i>

Millard North Mustang Bands

2016 Freshman Band Summer Schedule

(Tentative)

***ANYONE IN COLORGUARD IS CONSIDERED PART OF VARSITY BAND!!!**

****PLEASE NOTE COLORGUARD AND PERCUSSION HAVE THEIR OWN ADDITIONAL REHEARSAL SCHEDULES**

JUNE

- | | | |
|--------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mon-6 | 6-8 pm | Instrument rental night (Grades 9-12) for anyone who still needs a school instrument |
| Tue-7 | 6-7:30p m | ALL 9-12 BAND STUDENTS REHEARSAL
<u>**This includes Winds - Brass & Woodwinds, Colorguard, Drumline & Pit</u> |
| Tue-14 | 6-7:30 pm | Freshman Percussion |
| Tue-21 | 6-7:30 pm | Freshman Percussion |
| Tue-28 | 6-7:30 pm | Freshman Percussion |

JULY

- | | | |
|-------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tue-5 | | NO REHEARSAL THIS WEEK! Have a safe and happy 4th! |
| Tue-12 | 6-7:30 pm | ALL 9-12 BAND STUDENTS REHEARSAL |
| Wed-20 | 8 am-5:30 pm | FRESHMAN BAND CAMP & <u>LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP!</u> |
| Thur-21 | 8 am-4 pm | ALL 9-12 BAND MEMBERS BAND CAMP |
| Tue – Aug 9 | 6-8 pm | Freshman uniform fittings |

Welcome! Welcome! Welcome! Welcome!

The Millard North Band program is an award winning Class AA band that includes the participation of over 250 talented and well-rounded students. The band forms a vital and important part of a student's high school life. This group represents a large, colorful, highly-disciplined, and well-regarded segment of the school population.

These students come from a very diverse background as well as holding a wide variety and level of interests. Our program includes varsity athletes (including all fall sports), award winning forensics competitors, National Merit Scholars, IB Diploma students, orchestra members, singers, robotics club, construction and welding students, broadcast club, varsity cheerleaders, AP students, and just about any other end of the spectrum you can imagine! The students take pride in ALL areas in which they participate, and enjoy the successes of each of these programs!

The students and staff of the Mustang band program are very excited to have you join our very successful family! We would like to invite all 8th graders to join our pep band on Friday, January 29, at 5 p.m. and get a taste of the fun of high school band! We look forward to meeting you! For more information, please visit our website at www.mnband.net.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT MUSIC . . .

"Music is a more potent instrument than any other for education..." – Plato

"Whoever has skill in music is of good temperament and fitted for all things." – Martin Luther

"Music education opens doors that help children pass from school into the world around them - a world of work, culture, intellectual activity, and human involvement." – Gerald Ford, former President of the United States

"Music is an essential part of everything we do. Like puppetry, music has an abstract quality which speaks to a worldwide audience in a wonderful way that nourishes the soul." - Jim Henson – television producer and puppeteer

"We must encourage our youngsters in such pursuits as music education. In addition to learning the valuable lesson that it takes hard work to achieve success, no matter what the arena, music education can provide students with a strong sense of determination, improved communication skills, and a host of other qualities essential for successful living." - Edward H. Rensi – President and Chief Operation Officer, U.S.A. McDonald's Corporation

"I have shared my love of music with people throughout this world, while listening to the drums and special instruments of the Far East, Middle East, Africa, the Caribbean, and the Far North, and all of this started with the music appreciation course that I was taught in a third-grade elementary class in Princeton, New Jersey. What a tragedy it would be if we lived in a world where music was not taught to children." - General H. Norman Schwarzkopf — United States Army

"We need people who think with the creative side of their brains—people who have played in a band, who have painted...it enhances symbiotic thinking capabilities, not always thinking in the same paradigm, learning how to kick-start a new idea, or how to get a job done better, less expensively." – Annette Byrd, GlaxoSmithKline

"GE hires a lot of engineers. We want young people who can do more than add up a string of numbers and write a coherent sentence. They must be able to solve problems, communicate ideas and be sensitive to the world around them. Participation in the arts is one of the best ways to develop these abilities." – Clifford V. Smith, President of the General Electric Foundation

The Directors

The MNHS Band is directed by Mr. Ryan Placek and Mr. Craig Mathis

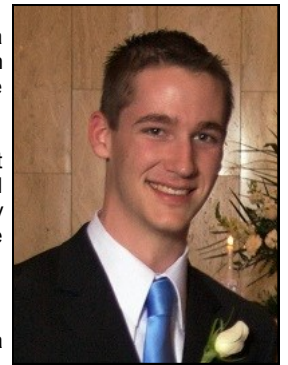
Mr. Ryan Placek is entering his 23rd year in education and his third year on staff as the new Instrumental Music Director at Millard North High School. He has previously held positions with Bellevue East High School, Bellevue University, Plattsmouth Community Schools, and with Johnson-Brock Public Schools.



Mr. Placek earned his Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1991. He completed his Masters degree in Educational Administration with an emphasis in Music Curriculum and Supervision from the University of Nebraska at Kearney. In 2004, he was awarded the Nebraska Music Educators Association "Music Educator of the Year" Award for the state of Nebraska. He was recently elected to a three year term as Band Affairs Chair for the Nebraska Music Educators Association. He has been a member of Who's Who of America's Teachers in 1995, 2005, and 2006.

Mr. Placek continues to clinic groups throughout the state and has adjudicated several area music contests and festivals including District Music Contest. Mr. Placek is an active member of the National Association for Music Education, Nebraska Music Educators Association, Nebraska State Bandmasters Association, and the National Education Association. In his spare time, he enjoys working out, traveling, following drum corps, performing with area ensembles, attending sporting events, and spending time with family and friends

Mr. Craig Mathis is in his third year as the Assistant Band Director at Millard North High School. In addition to his responsibilities at Millard North, Craig is the Band Director at Montclair Elementary and Cody Elementary. Mr. Mathis is a graduate of Millard North High School and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. While at UNL, Mr. Mathis was the drum major of the Cornhusker Marching Band, principal chair in the UNL Wind Ensemble & Orchestra, and played lead trombone on the UNL Jazz Ensemble CD "Beyond the Plains."



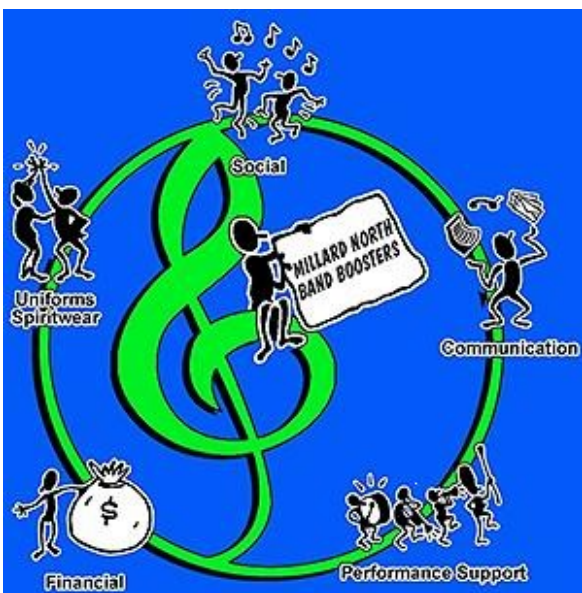
Before coming to Millard North, Mr. Mathis taught at Beatrice High School as the High School Band Director. While at Beatrice High School, Mr. Mathis directed a successful band program that received superior ratings in both Marching and Concert Bands. Band enrollment increased nearly 10% during his tenure and All-State participation tripled. He successfully led a push for new band uniforms, his marching band performed at the Disney Magic Music Days in Disneyland, and he helped to design a brand new trailer for the marching band.

Mr. Mathis is a member of the National Association for Music Education, Nebraska Music Educator's Association, Nebraska State Education Association, National Education Association, and is the Public Relations Chair of the Nebraska State Bandmasters Association. In his spare time, Craig enjoys spending time with his family & his wife, and is an avid college football fan.

Who are the Boosters???

The Band Booster Organization is made up of parents and anyone wishing to support the band program. We are all about support—support of our kids, the band directors and the music program. It is a rewarding experience that provides the unique opportunity to be involved in some of your child's school activities. There are plenty of ways to show your support: some of you may want to volunteer to serve on one of the committees; some may bake cookies; some may help move equipment; some may just want to stand in the crowd and cheer. The Band Boosters organization is the network you can use to make sure you are at the right place at the right time, to show your support no matter how you choose to participate.

You will have many opportunities to get involved in the Booster organization. There are a couple of events held early in the marching season, one of which is Premiere Night when the band performs for the first time. On this night, the role of the Boosters and various volunteer opportunities will be explained in detail. Volunteer sign-up sheets and information will be available. You may also volunteer anytime online. Check out the many ways you can make a difference.





Band Fees (subject to change)

One-time fees include:

- ☞ Marching Shoes (Drillmasters) - \$30
- ☞ Pep Band Shirts - \$20-\$25
- * Shoes & shirts are purchased during uniform fittings and can be used each year if they are in good shape & continue to fit!

Yearly fees include:

- ☞ School instrument Rental (if needed) - \$90
- ☞ Percussion Fee (if participating) - \$30
- ☞ Band Booster Fee (voluntary) - \$85 / family
- ☞ Uniform Alteration Fee - \$25
- ☞ Parade shorts—\$15
- ☞ Socks—\$2
- ☞ Gloves—\$3



Dates to watch for include:

- ☞ School instrument checkout (for those needing a school rental)
- ☞ Evening rehearsals
- ☞ Freshman Band Camp (Mandatory Attendance for Grade 9)
- ☞ Varsity Band Camp (Mandatory Attendance for Grades 10-12)
- ☞ Early Morning Band Rehearsals (Mandatory Attendance)

Other Important Information

- ☞ Uniform fittings will begin during the summer months. Information concerning dates and times are on the 2016 Summer Band Schedule (see page 2). Parents, please come with your child so that we can explain some details about the uniform and answer any questions you may have. Students should avoid taking Driver's Ed at times that conflict with band activities such as Band Camp and the Marching season.
- ☞ Private music instruction is encouraged. There are many qualified instructors in our area. Contact one of the Band Directors if you need help finding an instructor.
- ☞ Students can and do participate in band and sports, the IB program, etc. If you are concerned about scheduling conflicts or workload issues, please talk to one of the directors.



BAND CAMP!!!



Band camp is **required** for all students. Freshmen band camp is Wednesday and Thursday, July 20 and 21. Freshmen have a few days to themselves where they can learn the ropes, meet other band students and have a LOT of fun!!! **All** band students begin band camp on Thursday, July 21. Band camps are mandatory and very important; please plan family vacations and activities accordingly.

The dates for Freshmen Band Camp are also shown on page 3. Always remember the website is your best source for up-to-date information: WWW.MNBAND.NET

!!!The Bands Are All Here at Millard North!!!



Concert Bands All students participate in one of three concert ensembles. Concert band begins after marching season has concluded at the end of first quarter. The concert groups at North are the foundation of all other instrumental performing groups. These ensembles are where students learn to grow through study of the fundamentals of good musicianship. The three ensembles at North include:

Concert Band (freshmen) - This ensemble provides freshmen with a balanced comprehensive study of music through performance, which develops skills in the psychomotor, cognitive, and emotional domains. Instruction is designed to enable students to connect, examine, imagine, define, try, extend, refine and integrate music study into other subject areas.

Symphonic Band (students in 10th -12th grades) - Students perform, with expression and technical accuracy, a large and varied repertoire of concert band literature that is developmentally appropriate. Evaluation of music and music performances is included.

Wind Ensemble (students in 10th -12th grades) This highly selective ensemble performs band repertoire of the highest caliber. Mastery of advanced wind band technique must be evident. Areas of refinement consist of advanced techniques including, but not limited to: (1) intonation, (2) balance and blend, (3) breathing, (4) tone production, (5) tone quality, (6) technique, (7) rhythm, (8) sight-reading, and (9) critical listening skills. Evaluation of music and music performances is included.



Marching Band All students participate in marching band in the fall. Freshmen participate in parades, select pre-game performances and pep band at home football games. Freshmen learn fundamentals of marching as well as performing their own half time show.



Color Guard The Millard North High School Color Guard is a program of excellence. Being involved in this rewarding activity provides students with the benefits of work ethic, time management, self-esteem, performance, friendship, and fun. Our high school guard program has grown in recent years and we look forward to continue this trend as our band continues to experience growth. The color guard has become established as a competitive, vital aspect of the marching program, and our members are committed to excellence. We would like to continue to grow our program by building community awareness and participation. Auditions for this highly visible group are usually held in the late spring. No experience is necessary!

Winter Guard The Millard North Winter Guard program is an opportunity for students to learn or continue to build on skills during the winter and spring season. This group participates and competes in the Heartland Winter Arts Association circuit in Eastern Nebraska against other competing schools. Areas of learning include body movement, dance, and equipment which are all put together into a competitive show. Auditions are held after the marching season but NO previous experience necessary.



Pep Band All students are required to participate in Pep Band as part of their performance grade. Students attend a specific number of performances and receive points toward lettering for attending extra performances beyond the minimum requirements. This is a fun activity that allows the students to perform, watch the game, and socialize with friends all at the same time!

Jazz Band Millard North High School offers two jazz ensembles including Jazz I, a competitive group that meets before school two or three mornings a week. This group boasts many accomplishments including currently having three members selected to the All-State Jazz Band as well as members of the metro area's Metropolitan Area Youth Jazz Orchestra. Jazz II (Stage Band) is a secondary group that works on the fundamentals of jazz and explores many styles through a less competitive atmosphere. Both ensembles participate in local jazz festivals.



Orchestra Many band instruments are needed for Orchestra and students may audition if interested. Auditions will be held in the fall with the Orchestra director. Band students will typically attend Orchestra rehearsals once a week during first or second hours.

Solo/Chamber Ensemble Students are highly encouraged to enhance their performance experience through optional solo and ensemble groups. Various opportunities are announced during class and interested students may sign up to perform. Some opportunities include the Elkhorn Band Olympics (9th and 10th grades only), various honor bands including All-State ensembles (mostly 10th through 12th grades), and District Music Contest.

Why Participate in Music?

Lewis Thomas, physician and biologist, found that music majors comprise the highest percentage of accepted medical students at 66%. (*"The Case for Music in the Schools," Phi Delta Kappan*)

The College Entrance Examination Board found that students involved in public school music programs scored 107 points higher on the SAT's than students with no participation. (Profiles of SAT and Achievement Test Takers, The College Board, 2002)

Studying Music Strengthens Students' Academic Performance. Rhode Island studies have indicated that sequential, skill-building instruction in art and music integrated with the rest of the curriculum can greatly improve children's performance in reading and math. (*"Learning Improved by Arts Training" by Martin Gardiner, Alan Fox, Faith Knowles, and Donna Jeffrey, Nature magazine*)

Music involvement teaches young people many skills necessary to succeed in life including: teamwork, responsibility, organizational skills, persistence, multi-tasking skills, memorization skills, leadership, performance, physical fitness, mental toughness, problem solving, self-confidence, imagination, character, informed perception, self-discipline, and pushing one's self to a higher level of achievement (Various research documents and reports)

In music, a mistake is a mistake; the instrument is in tune or not, the notes are well played or not, the entrance is made or not. It is only by much hard work that a successful performance is possible. Through music study, students learn the value of sustained effort to achieve excellence and the concrete rewards of hard work.

Admissions officers at 70 percent of the nation's major universities have stated that high school credit and achievement in the arts are significant considerations for admission to their institutions.

Students with band and orchestra experience attend college at a rate twice the national average.

Parent Communication

You will receive newsletters via e-mail periodically throughout the year to keep you informed about our organization, students, and upcoming events. Up-to-date information is always available on the band website: www.mnband.net. **Be sure to bookmark the site and sign up for e-mail notification about last minute changes and breaking information you need to know.** The e-mail signup is on the website, so please sign up now! Our goal is to help keep you informed about Millard North Mustang Bands!

Stay Informed!
Visit our Website
To find out important dates, times
and locations
for upcoming band events
now & through the summer!



www.mnband.net

One of our goals is to provide up-to-date information so that everyone is well-informed of events. It helps to bring all of us together as a group. Go to our website now and sign up for e-mail notifications! Below is a list of band information sources that are available to you throughout the year:

- ☞ Handouts and information sheets provided by Directors prior to events
- ☞ MNHS Band Handbook (contains curriculum information)
- ☞ Band Booster's newsletters e-mailed to you
- ☞ Band Booster's "Parent Survival Guide"
- ☞ Band Booster's "Band Buddies"
- ☞ Mustang Band Roster
- ☞ Mustang Band website: www.mnband.net
- ☞ MN Band President: [Ann Leever: 402-491-0009](#)
- ☞ MN Band President-Elect: [Lynn Cardey 402-689-6600](#)
- ☞ Directors: rlplacek@mpsomaha.org
cdmathis@mpsomaha.org
Band Office Phone: 715-1513



**Millard North Band Boosters
Parent Resources
Interest and Talent Survey**

HELLO! As one of us lucky parents whose children have chosen band, we want to let you know how glad we are to have you join us. WELCOME! Because as you will quickly see, band doesn't involve just the kids. Parents, guardians, friends, alumni – we are all here to support the students as they strive to excel. As they are learning essential skills on the field and in the classroom, we, the Band Boosters, provide the volunteer support necessary to allow the band directors and our kids to focus on the program, the competition or the halftime show. We are all behind the scenes having a blast, making new friends, and keeping everything running smoothly. Now, since you are one of us, we need to know a little about you!

STUDENT(1): _____
 GRADE _____ SECTION: _____
 STUDENT(2): _____
 GRADE _____ SECTION: _____
 PARENT NAME: _____

 ADDRESS: _____

 EMAIL: _____
 PHONE/TEXT: _____

 EMPLOYER: _____
 JOB TITLE: _____

We know everyone has something they can contribute, whether it's time, talent or treasure. You can sign up for current volunteer opportunities at our website www.mnband.net, but meantime, please fill out the form to the right and mail it to Ann Leever, 923 North 148th Street, Omaha, NE 68154:



Were you a band student yourself? _____

I have:

- ___ A Workshop
- ___ Trailer Equipment/Truck Rentals
- ___ Welding Tools
- ___ Painting Supplies
- ___ Access to Textiles
- ___ Access to Venues (including storage)
- Other: _____

I have these skills:

- ___ Driving large trucks (no special license)
- ___ Sewing
- ___ First Aid
- ___ Desktop Publishing
- ___ Welding
- ___ Cooking for large groups
- ___ Painting
- ___ Database/Website Management
- ___ Financial/Accounting
- ___ Photography
- ___ Electrical
- ___ Event Planning
- Other: _____

I would like to help with (not a complete list):

- ___ Fundraising/Planning Fundraisers
- ___ Garage Sales
- ___ Uniform Fittings
- ___ Food Prep/Serving
- ___ Pit Crew/Roadies
- ___ Prop Building
- ___ Event Planning
- ___ Band Camp
- ___ Concessions
- ___ Apparel Sales
- ___ Sponsorships (I know a business owner who might want to be a band sponsor)
- Other: _____ \

The Band Boosters meet the SECOND Monday of every month in the band room, 7pm. We hope you will join us and let us get to know you! And we promise--band is one of the BEST things your kid has ever done! Go BAND!