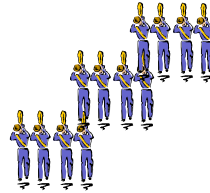
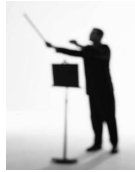


BEECHER MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL
2008-09

MUSIC DEPARTMENT HANDBOOK



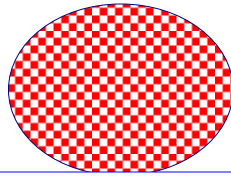
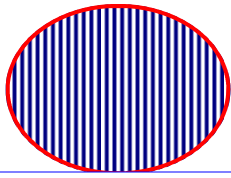
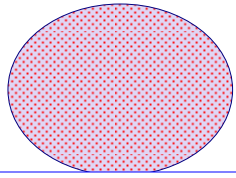
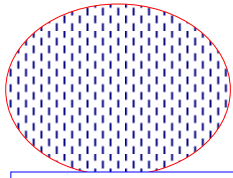
ENSEMBLES

- 7TH GRADE CONCERT BAND
- 8TH GRADE CONCERT BAND
 - MARCHING BAND
- HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ ENSEMBLE
 - MIDDLE SCHOOL JAZZ LAB
 - HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR

STUDENT/PARENT GUIDELINES

Jacquelin B. Witherspoon

DIRECTOR



BUC-TOWN HISTORY

"... IT WAS THROUGH CONVERSATIONS WITH VARIOUS STUDENTS THAT I HEARD SOMEONE USE THE PHRASE "BUC-TOWN". IT WASN 'T LONG AFTERWARD THAT THE MARCHING BAND WAS NAMED THE "BEECHER BUC-TOWN MARCHING BAND"

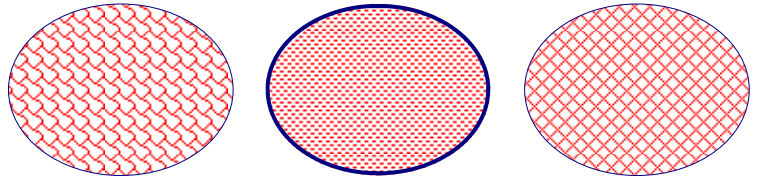
(OMAR SALAAM—PRVIOUS BAND DIRECTOR)

THE BEECHER COMMUNITY HAS BEEN KNOWN FOR HAVING AN OUTSTANDING MUSIC DEPARTMENT, NOT ONLY INSTRUMENTAL BUT VOCALLY AS WELL. AS FAR BACK AS THE 1970'S, BEECHER HAS HAD A STRONG MARCHING BAND, CONCERT BAND, SYMPHONIC BAND, ORCHESTRA, CONCERT CHORUS, AND GLEE CLUB. (LATER THE JAZZ ENSEMBLE WAS ADDED) THE BAND DIRECTORS AT THAT TIME WAS ART McCOMBIE AND GREG LAWSON CONDUCTING THE ENSEMBLES AT THE HIGH SCHOOL; RONALD BROWN AT DOLAN JUNIOR HIGH (NOW BEECHER MIDDLE/HIGH); DAVID WHARTON AT SUMMIT JUNIOR HIGH (NOW TUCKER ELEMENTARY); THEY ALSO DIRECTED THE ELEMENTARY BANDS, WHICH AT THAT TIME CONSISTED OF: MESSER, DAILEY, HARROW, ZINC, RILEY, BUELL, NORTHGATE AND KURTZ ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

THE VOCAL INSTRUCTORS WERE NINA SCOTT AND CAROLINE SHRIGLEY AT DOLAN AND SUMMIT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS RESPECTIVELY, (CAROLINE SHRIGLEY WOULD LATER BECOME THE BAND DIRECTOR AT SUMMIT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL), AND EACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HAD A FULL TIME MUSIC TEACHER.

THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT BELONGED TO THE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS SUCH AS: THE MICHIGAN SCHOOL BAND AND ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION, AND THE MICHIGAN SCHOOL VOCAL ASSOCIATION. THESE ORGANIZATIONS HELD COMPETITIONS THAT INVOLVED JUNIOR AND HIGH SCHOOL BANDS/CHOIRS PERFORMING AND RECEIVING RATINGS AS TO THE SCORING OF THEIR PERFORMANCE OF CONCERT AND MARCHING BAND MUSIC LITERATURE.

THE RETIREMENT OF MR. McCOMBIE, AND MR. LAWSON MOVING ON, HAD AN AFFECT ON THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT. THE GRADUAL DECLINE IN ENROLLMENT, RESULTED IN THE ELIMINATION OF THE ORCHESTRA. RONALD BROWN BECAME THE HIGH SCHOOL DIRECTOR, DAVID WHARTON WAS MOVED TO DOLAN JR. HIGH SCHOOL, AND CAROLINE SHRIGLEY, FORMERLY THE CHORAL DIRECTOR AND GENERAL MUSIC TEACHER AT DOLAN, BECAME THE BAND DIRECTOR AT SUMMIT JR. HIGH SCHOOL. NINA SCOTT REMAINED AS DIRECTOR OF THE VOCAL PROGRAMS AT SUMMIT JR. HIGH AND AT THE HIGH SCHOOL. ALFREDA DUNCAN WAS HIRED AS THE CHORAL/GENERAL MUSIC TEACHER AT DOLAN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL. WITH THE CHANGE OF DIRETORS, THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT TOOK ON A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE AND STYLE. THE HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR WAS VERY WELL KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND MADE SEVERAL RECORDINGS. THE HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND WHEN UNDER THE DIRECTION OF MR. LAWSON, PLAYED POPULAR SONGS OF THE 70'S AND WHICH WAS A FAST PACED, ENERGETIC HIGH STEPPING MARCHING BAND, LATER CHANGED TO CORPS STYLE AND THE JAZZ ENSEMBLE WAS ADDED TO THE CURRICULUM. THE JAZZ ENSEMBLE BECAME VERY ACTIVE IN COMPETITIONS AND FESTIVALS AROUND THE STATE AND WAS RECOGNIZED AS AN OUTSTANDING PROGRAM UNDER THE DIRECTION OF RONALD BROWN.



Mr. Wharton and later Mr. Brown retired. Caroline Shrigley moved to North, Carolina, Salaam was hired in 1995, and Alma Henderson replaced Caroline Shrigley as Band Director at Summit Jr. High. The Marching Band, which had a decline in involvement, was rejuvenated under Mr. Salaam 's direction. Once again the marching band moved in a new direction. The band once again took on the style of the 70 's but in the 90 's style of playing popular music and impact of the energetic high step marching from the historical black colleges and universities. He rejuvenated a desire that was lost and students recommitted themselves to making the "Buc-Town " band into a history of it 's own.

Nina Scott accepted a teaching position at Renaissance High School in Detroit, Michigan, where she presently presides as director of the vocal department. Alfreda Duncan became the choir teacher at Dolan and Summit Jr. High School and also at The High School. Kevin Lyons assisted Mr. Salaam with the Marching Band, served as Percussion Instructor and directed the elementary bands. Mr. Salaam moved on in 2003, and the band has taken on a more intense musical perspective. Not abandoning the "High Stepping " Marching style, but concentrating on the musical development in other musical genres as well. The Marching Band performs at all home football games, as well as away games, at the request of the athletic department. The band has traveled to Atlanta, Georgia, Birmingham, ,Alabama, St. Louis, Cleveland, Ohio, and Washington D.C. to g Band Competition. The Concert Bands perform at various concerts and is growing compete in regional and national competitions. The band has also performed in the "Circle City Classic " Parade, held in Indianapolis, Indiana. The "Buc-Town " band has placed 1st and 2nd places in many competitions, and continues to work toward our goal of placing within the top six bands in the National High Stepping Marchin with the student 's increasing awareness of the importance of developing their musical knowledge and playing ability. The Choir is in a rebuilding phase with only being added to the curriculum for 3 years. The High School Jazz Ensemble has once again been added to the curriculum as well as Jazz Lab for Middle School students, and has grown musically, performing at various local events and "Jazz Festivals ", as well as being invited to perform on the Mott Community College Winter Concert. The Music Department continues to strive to become one of our school district 's strongest assets.

PHILOSOPHY

TO PROVIDE A SAFE AND DISCIPLINED ENVIRONMENT THAT PROMOTES A POSITIVE MUSICAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE TO INCLUDE: RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY AND MUSIC LITERACY. TO ENSURE THAT STUDENTS EXUDE COURTESY, RESPECT AND CONFIDENCE IN THEIR EVERYDAY LIVING.

GOALS

1. INCREASE MORALE, INVOLVEMENT, DEDICATION AND PRIDE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT.
2. CREATE A POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE CONDUCIVE TO LEARNING.
3. IMPROVE STUDENTS' MUSICAL COMPETENCY AND PHYSICAL FITNESS.

objectives

- PERFORM AT HOME FOOTBALL GAMES, PARADES, AND MARCHING BAND COMPETITIONS IN AND OUT OF THE STATE
- STUDY VARIOUS STYLES OF CONTEMPORARY AND MODERN DANCE
- STUDY FLAG TECHNIQUES
- PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO PERFORM CLASSICAL AND CONCERT BAND LITERATURE .
- PERFORM IN A FORMAL ADJUDICATED SETTING, SUCH AS M.S.B.O.A. CONCERT BAND FESTIVALS AS WELL AS SOLO ENSEMBLE FESTIVALS
- EXPOSE CHORAL STUDENTS TO A VARIETY OF VOCAL STYLES AND GENRES.
- ALL ENSEMBLES TO PERFORM IN AT LEAST TWO CONCERTS AND AT ONE SCHOOL FUNCTION
- EXPOSE STUDENTS TO THE BEGINNING BASIC FORMS AND STYLES OF JAZZ
- EXPOSE ADVANCED STUDENTS TO THE ELEMENTS OF VARIOUS STYLES INCORPORATED IN THE JAZZ IDIOM
- PERFORM AT VARIOUS JAZZ FESTIVAL COMPETITIONS
- ASSIST THOSE STUDENTS WHO ARE CONSIDERING CONTINUING THEIR MUSICAL STUDY OR PURSUE FORMAL MUSICAL STUDY, WITH THE INTENTION OF OBTAINING A DEGREE IN THE FIELD OF MUSIC

expectations

- STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN 7TH HOUR MARCHING BAND MUST ATTEND SUMMER BAND CAMP IF POSSIBLE.
- ATTEND SCHEDULED REHEARSALS
- WEAR CLOTHING CONDUCIVE TO PRACTICE (SHORTS (SCHOOL REGULATION LENGTH), TENNIS SHOES, SWEAT PANTS/SHIRTS; NO SANDALS/FLIP FLOPS OR MIDRIFF SHIRTS)
- BRING EQUIPMENT NEEDED TO ALL REHEARSALS SUCH AS: INSTRUMENT, REEDS, VALVE OIL, CORK GREASE, PENCIL, MOUTHPIECE, STICKS/MALLETS/STRAPS, AND MUSIC
- MAINTAIN AT LEAST A 2.5 GPA
- STUDENTS OBTAINING AT LEAST A 2.0 GPA WILL BE ALLOWED TO PERFORM AT HOME FOOTBALL GAMES/PERFORMANCES, BUT MUST MAINTAIN AND/OR RAISE THEIR G.P.A. BY THE NEXT PROGRESS REPORT/REPORT CARD TO CONTINUE PERFORMING OR PARTICIPATE IN COMPETITIONS AND OUT OF THE COUNTY/STATE PERFORMANCES.
- STUDENTS RECEIVING A G.P.A. LOWER THAN 2.0 WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PRACTICE OR PERFORM UNTIL THEIR G.P.A. INCREASES TO A 2.0 GPA

expectations cont'd

- ATTEND PERFORMANCES WHICH IS A PERCENTAGE OF THE GRADING PROCESS (EXCEPT IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY/OR THE DIRECTOR IS GIVEN AT LEAST A 2 WEEK ADVANCE NOTICE
- MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS MAY PARTICIPATE IN 7TH HOUR MARCHING BAND FOR THE 1ST SEMESTER AND JAZZ LAB FOR THE 2ND SEMESTER
- HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS MAY REGISTER FOR 7TH HOUR MARCHING BAND FOR THE 1ST SEMESTER AND 5TH HOUR JAZZ ENSEMBLE FOR 1ST AND 2ND SEMESTERS.
- STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN MARCHING BAND ARE NOT REQUIRED TO BE ON THE CLASS SCHEDULE, HOWEVER IT IS SUGGESTED AND ALL THE EXPECTATIONS ARE TO MET IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE.
- SCHOOL HANDBOOK REGULATIONS WILL BE MAINTAINED WHILE IN REHEARSAL OR PERFORMANCE, REGARDLESS OF THE LOCATION.
- FIGHTING BETWEEN BAND MEMBERS WILL RESULT IN AN AUTOMATIC EXPULSION AND MAY ONLY BE READMITTED THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR. BEING INVOLVED WITH A FIGHT OUTSIDE OF BAND WILL RESULT IN A ONE PERFORMANCE SUSPENSION TO BE SERVED UPON THE STUDENT'S RETURN TO SCHOOL.
- STUDENTS ARE NOT TO BRING VISITORS TO PRACTICE. VISITORS MAY ATTEND PERFORMANCES WITH ADVANCE NOTICE AND PERMISSION FROM THE DIRECTOR AND THEIR PARENT/GUARDIAN.
- STUDENTS ARE TO REPORT ALL INJURIES OR MEDICAL ISSUES TO THE DIRECTOR OR SUPERVISING ADULT IMMEDIATELY.
- ASTHMATIC STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE AN INHALER OR PRESCRIBED MEDICINE WITH THEM AT ALL TIMES
-

- STUDENTS ARE ALLOWED TO ONLY PLAY/HAVE IN THEIR POSSESSION THE INSTRUMENT/EQUIPMENT ASSIGNED TO THEM.
- ONLY BAND STUDENTS ARE ALLOWED TO RIDE ON SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION OR ATTEND BAND PERFORMANCES WITH THE PROPER PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION.
- ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO TRAVEL WITH THE BAND, USING THE ARRANGED TRANSPORTATION AND HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS.
- PARENTS/FAMILY/FRIENDS ARRANGING PERSONAL TRANPORTATION/HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS, MUST OBTAIN A WAIVER FROM THE SUPERINTENDANT AND SCHOOL BOARD AND SUBMIT IT TO THE PRINCIPAL AND BAND DIRECTOR. BEECHER COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY OCCURANCES THAT MAY ARISE DURING OR AS A RESULT OF A TRIP.





grading system

Marching Band
CLASS PARTICIPATION/REHEARSAL = 50%
PERFORMANCE = 50 %



Jazz Ensemble/Jazz Lab
CLASS PARTICIPATION = 50 %
PERFORMANCE = 40 %

Concert Band
Class Participation = 30%
Performance = 40%
Playing Tests = 20%
Music Theory Assignments = 10%

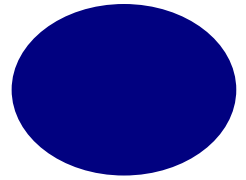
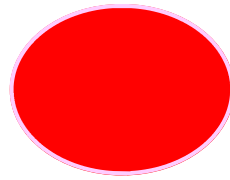
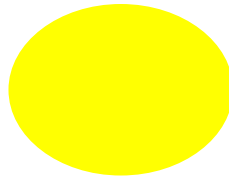


High School Choir
Class Participation = 50%
Performance = 30%
Singing Tests = 10%

PERFORMANCE IS A VITAL PART OF THE MUSIC PROGRAM AND WILL NOT BE EXCUSED WITHOUT PRIOR NOTIFICATION. IN THE OCCURANCE OF AN EMERGENCY CIRCUMSTANCE OR EXCUSED ABSENCE , A MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENT WILL BE SUBSTITUTED.



MUSIC DEPARTMENT OFFICE: (810) 591-9272



MUSIC DEPARTMENT SCHEDULED CLASSES

7TH GRADE CONCERT BAND
9:46 A.M.—10:42 A.M.

8TH GRADE CONCERT BAND
10:46 A.M.—11:42 P.M.

LUNCH
11:46 A.M.—12:16 P.M.

HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ ENSEMBLE
12:20 P.M.—1:16 P.M.

HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR
1:20 P.M.—2:16 P.M.

CONFERENCE PERIOD
2:20 P.M.—3:16 P.M.

1ST SEMESTER—7TH HOUR MARCHING BAND

MONDAY & WEDNESDAY
3:30 P.M.—6:00 P.M.

TUESDAY & THURSDAY
6:00 P.M.—8:00 P.M.

FRIDAY
3:30 P.M.—5:00 P.M.
EXCEPT ON SCHEDULED PERFORMANCES

SATURDAY
THE WEEK BEFORE PERFORMANCES
WHEN SCHEDULED



2ND SEMESTER—7TH HOUR MIDDLE SCHOOL JAZZ LAB
3:20 P.M.—4:16 P.M.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

2008-09

AUGUST

8/04/08 **10:00 A.M. BAND CAMP BEGINS**
23 RD **6:00 A.M. CRIM ROAD RACE**
5:45 A.M. ATTENDANCE
6:00 A.M. LOAD BUS/DEPARTURE
10:30 A.M. APPROXIMATE RETURN

28TH **7:00 P.M. 1ST HOME GAME**
SAG. BUENA VISTA
5:30 P.M. ATTENDANCE/WARM-UP
5:50 P.M. LOAD BUS
6:00 P.M. DEPART FROM BAND ROOM
9:00 P.M. APPROXIMATE RETURN

SEPTEMBER

9/05/08 (FRI.) **7:00 P.M. 2ND HOME GAME**
FLUSHING
5:30 P.M. ATTENDANCE/WARM
5:50 P.M. LOAD BUS
6:00 P.M. DEPART FROM BAND
9:00 P.M. APPROXIMATE

9/12/08 **7:00 P.M. 3RD HOME GAME**
(CABRINI)
5:30 P.M. ATTENDANCE/WARM-UP
5:50 P.M. LOAD BUS
6:00 P.M. DEPART FROM BAND ROOM
9:00 P.M. APPROXIMATE RETURN

9/13/08 **11:00 a.m. Southfield high school**
marching band competition

9/20/08 **4:00 P.M. Shaw high school**
Marching Band Competition Extravaganza
5:30 a.m. Attendance/warm-up
6:30 a.m. load bus/depart

9/21/08 **5:00 a.m. approximate**

9/27/08 **Southfield Lathrup HS. 3rd**
Annual Marching Band Competition

OCTOBER

10/03/08 **HOMECOMING**
4:30 P.M. PARADE LINE-UP
7:00 P.M. GAME
9:00 P.M. APPROXIMATE RETURN

10/10/08 **7:00 P.M. LAST HOME GAME**
5:30 P.M. ATTENDANCE/WARM-UP
5:50 P.M. LOAD BUS
6:00 P.M. DEPART FROM BAND ROOM

10/24/08 **7:00 P.M. AWAY GAME**
5:00 P.M. WARM-UP/ATTENDANCE
5:30 P.M. LOAD/BUS
6:00 P.M. DEPART FROM BAND ROOM
9:30 P.M. APPROXIMATE RETURN TO H.S. BAND ROOM