On behalf of the Big Red Band Boosters ("BRBB") I invite you to join us in supporting the 2018-2019 Souderton Area High School band program.

The band directors, staff, and students have been working through the summer to put together this year’s program. It should be another great season of inspiring music, new and renewed friendships and camaraderie rarely experienced in groups this size.

The staff and students work hard teaching and learning new skills, perfecting technique and putting together a memorable show. It is the BRBB’s role to support the band and help them achieve their goals in whatever way we can. We hope you will be an active member, volunteering your time and talents to help make this season a success. There are many opportunities for you to get involved, including (but not limited to!) chaperone, car-parker, baker and concession-stand worker. We have fun and the band members really do appreciate what we do. The best way to start is to attend our meetings on the first Monday of each month in the band room. This is where you can meet and get to know the other parents and families who share the same commitment and enthusiasm as you.

Use this Handbook as a useful reference. If you have questions, don’t hesitate to contact any of the Executive, Standing, or Committee members. We’ll be happy to help you. From time to time content may change so always check our website, www.soudertonbigred.org, it is the best source of information. It is kept updated with the most current news, practice and performance times, directions to shows and scores.

I look forward to working with and getting to know you. Many hands make light work and we need many, many hands!

Let’s Go Big Red!
Deanna Wimmenauer
President

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2018 – 2019 BRBB Contact Info

Elected Officers:

President – Deanna Wimmenauer  
president@soudertonbigred.org  
Responsibilities include:  
● Set agendas for and run executive committee and general membership meetings  
● Oversee BRBB interests, functions and activities.

First Vice President – Kelly Taylor  
1vpres@soudertonbigred.org  
Responsibilities include:  
● Liaison between the BRBB and the school district to request use of school facilities and services for all home functions and fundraising events.  
● Chair of Fundraising and Nominating Committees to fill open positions for the elected officers and fundraising positions.  
● Assist the President as needed.

Second Vice President – Denise Nase  
2vpres@soudertonbigred.org  
Responsibilities include:  
● Oversee the running of the BRBB concession stand.  
● Coordinate snacks for home and visiting bands at home football games. Snacks and beverages are provided to the bands after halftime. Volunteers are needed to provide snacks and to help serve them.  
● Coordinate snacks for the indoor drumline and color guard show as well the Jazz Band show  
● Coordinate Concert Sundaes and Friday night meals.

Secretary – Julie Zettlemoyer  
secretary@soudertonbigred.org  
Responsibilities include:  
● Take minutes at Executive Committee and general membership meetings.  
● Chairperson for the By-Laws Committee.  
● Historian - collect news articles, photos and any other information that pertains to the Big Red Marching Band, jazz band, concert and symphonic band, Encore indoor drumline or Forte winter guard. Additional photos are always welcome! All copies of photos may be dropped in the Red Box.

Treasurer – Jen Maldonado  
treasurer@soudertonbigred.org  
Responsibilities include:  
● Track and report all financial activity of the BRBB, including balance sheets and budget reports, presented at each BRBB meeting.  
● Collect receipts and generate disbursements from the BRBB funds.  
● Maintain records for student credit and Scrip accounts.  
● Oversee preparation of the annual operating budget and coordinate facilitating the budget meeting with the BRBB President held in May.
2018 – 2019 Contact Info continued:

**Recording Treasurer** - Georgia Myers
[link](mailto:recordingtreasurer@soudertonbigred.org)
*Responsibilities include:*
- Attend Executive Committee meetings only when a tie-breaking vote is needed.
- Review all financial activity of the BRBB
- Prepare all federal and state tax forms

**Director at Large** – Clarke Goshow
[link](mailto:directoratlarge@soudertonbigred.org)
*Responsibilities include:*
- Coordinate chaperones, truck drivers and middle red drivers for each event. There should be four chaperones for each event and two drivers and two helpers for the truck and middle red. Brief each chaperone on duties and responsibilities as listed on following Parent Handbook pages.
- Maintain the chaperone first aid kits.
- Coordinate with school district Food Service Director for use of the truck
- Other duties as directed by the President

**Standing Committees:**

**Fundraising** – Kelly Taylor
[link](mailto:1vpres@soudertonbigred.org)
*Responsibilities include:*
- Responsible for recommending an annual fundraising plan to the Executive Committee for approval and for coordinating all fundraising activities
- Fill any available positions for this year

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**Uniforms** – Tracey Bean, Jill Coleman and Stephanie Cross
[link](mailto:uniforms@soudertonbigred.org)
*Responsibilities include:*
- Distribute band uniforms and maintain distribution list. Organize and maintain uniform closet. Collect band uniforms at the end of the season. Coordinate with tailor and dry cleaners.

**Scrip Coordinator** – Marianna Clark
[link](mailto:scrip@soudertonbigred.org)
*Responsibilities include:*
- Managing delivery of gift cards
- Updating new users
2018 – 2019 Contact Info continued:

Quartermaster – George Priller
quartermaster@soudertonbigred.org
Responsibilities include:
● Maintain equipment for Big Red Marching Band and its associated groups.
● Construct any props that may be needed for shows.

Publicity – Open
publicity@soudertonbigred.org
Responsibilities include:
● The committee shall be responsible for distributing pertinent information relating to
the activities of the associated groups to the media and all other appropriate agencies

Website, Email Lists, Social Media
administrator@soudertonbigred.org – Tracey Bean: website content, email lists, and BRBB Parents
Group (Facebook @ https://www.facebook.com/groups/brbbparents/) - Tracey Bean
webmaster@soudertonbigred.org – Steve Basile: technical issues with the website
media@soudertonbigred.org - Marianna Clark: BRBB Facebook page @
https://www.facebook.com/soudertonbigred
Responsibilities include:
● Maintain content on the website (www.soudertonbigred.org)
● Maintain the email lists used to communicate with parents, students, and alumni.
● Cultivate and maintain a social media presence for the BRBB and the various
performing groups.
● Use the BRBB Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/soudertonbigred), for PR purposes:
Publicize events, encourage participation, post results.
● Troubleshoot technical problems, coordinate with the Treasurer to maintain the
hosting contract.

Special Committees:

Celebration of Bands – Christine Brush and Amy McCouch
COB@soudertonbigred.org
Responsibilities include:
● Planning, organizing and operating the fall Celebration of Bands competition.

By-Laws – Julie Zettlemoyer
secretary@soudertonbigred.org
Responsibilities include:
● Annual review of by-laws for potential amendment.

Financial Review – Appointed by the President
Responsibilities include:
● Annual review of financial records.
2018 – 2019 Contact Info continued:

**Band Store** – Jenn Miller
bandstore@soudertonbigred.org
Responsibilities include:
- Purchase and keep inventory of band apparel and other spirit-wear items and coordinate sales of all special order band jackets.

**Banquet** – open
banquet@soudertonbigred.org
Responsibilities include:
- Planning, organizing and operating the spring band banquet.

**Scholarship** – open
scholarship@soudertonbigred.org
Responsibilities include:
- Establish criteria for selection of annual scholarship recipients.

**Indoor Show** – Deanna Wimmenauer
indoor@soudertonbigred.org
Responsibilities include:
- Planning, organizing and operating the spring guard and drumline competition.

**Nominating** – Kelly Taylor
1vpres@soudertonbigred.org
Responsibilities include:
- Recruit nominees for elected office.

**Jazz Show** – Christine Brush
eveningofjazz@soudertonbigred.org
Responsibilities include:
- Planning, organizing and operating the spring jazz competition.

**Uniforms**

For complete uniform information, see the *Marching Band Uniform Guide* on the BRBB website. Some uniform pieces are provided, others you will need to purchase.

*Provided items:* tunics, bibs (aka “pants”), shako (the hat), shako box, plume, color guard show and parade uniforms.

*Items you will purchase:* member t-shirt, gloves, shoes, socks, and any other required undergarment.

*New this year:* member shirts made out of a wicking fabric.

*Hemming:* Some bibs and tunics will need to have hems adjusted.

*New this year:* The BRBB has arranged for a local tailor to measure all students and to put in any needed hem changes.
Garment bags are required. Uniforms do not stay at the school during the outdoor season. Students will bring their uniforms to the Band Room on game days and take them home after games, competitions, and parades. You can use a bag you already have or buy one from the Band Store.

Identify your uniform parts! Everything looks alike. Write your name somewhere on your shoes, member shirts, and gloves. Tunics, bibs, raincoats, and shakos are all numbered. We track who is assigned to what number. To make it easy to find shako boxes, students are allowed to use masking tape and ribbon to decorate the boxes. Nothing permanent and nothing with a strong adhesive that will leave a sticky residue.

Cleaning: Families are responsible for any needed mid-season cleaning.

New this year: At the end of the season, the BRBB will collect and clean the tunics, bibs, and raincoats. The cleaning and collecting of guard uniforms will be determined by the director.

Damaged/lost uniform parts: The SASD views returning the uniforms as a financial obligation that must be fulfilled each school year.

- If a uniform is not returned, the school has the option to withhold grades and to bar graduating seniors from participating in the graduation ceremony.
- If you have lost or damaged beyond repair any school-owned uniform component, you are financially obligated to pay for a replacement.

Uniform check: There will be a uniform check, usually before the Parent Preview (second Thursday of Band Camp). At the check, the directors make sure that uniforms fit properly. The Uniform Committee will take care of any needed adjustments.

Volunteer Opportunities

The BRBB depends on volunteers to provide support to students and staff. There are any number of opportunities for you to volunteer in many different areas. Your first step is to fulfill the SASD Volunteer Requirements.

As of June 2014, in order to comply with PA Act 153, all volunteers within the Souderton Area School District are required to have criminal background and child abuse clearances. The requirements are described on the District’s “Volunteers” page, which is listed on the “Community” menu. The District also requires most volunteers to have a PPD (tuberculosis) skin test.

1. Every volunteer – both casual and program - needs to turn in a Community Volunteer Registration and Disclosure Statement. (There are forms for both guardian and non-guardian).
2. As of the 2015-2016 school year, all Program Volunteers need to turn in the Act 151 child Abuse Clearance and the Act 34 Criminal History Report. Both of these clearances are now free for volunteers and can both be completed online.
3. All Program Volunteers need to have a PPD test on file with the District.
4. Some Program Volunteers also need to submit a Federal Criminal History Record; this clearance requires fingerprinting (done at the district office) and has an approximate cost of $30.

Please visit the BRBB website for detailed information on these requirements.
Volunteer Roles and Responsibilities

Chaperone

What You Need:
- First aid backpacks
- Chaperone ID tags
- Bus lists

What You Do:
- Check your email for the SignUpGenius reminder which will include any new or changed information (change in report time/length of commitment, etc.)
- Obtain first aid backpacks from BRBB cabinet
- Verify that student medical forms are with the band director
- The first aid backpacks should be kept with you at all times during the event
- If medical attention is needed, assist the student to the EMTs or paramedics and ambulance. Notify band director or staff member and call student’s parents if necessary. **CHAPERONES MAY NOT DISPENSE ANY MEDICATION DUE TO PENNSYLVANIA LAW. All medications must be dispensed by an instructor or medical personnel only.**
- Please remember that all information on the medical forms is confidential
- Get chaperone tags from lower front pocket of the first aid backpacks. Wear tag to identify yourself to staff, band members and other groups
- Get water containers from band closet and fill with water from outside spigot. See band director for key to spigot. During hot weather, ice should be added to keep the water cold.
- Announce yourself to the students so they are aware who is chaperoning
- Remain with the group throughout the event
- Make sure the students uphold the behavior standards of the Big Red Marching Band at all times
- Note any first aid items used during the event in the notebook located in the front pocket of the first aid backpacks
- Return chaperone tags to first aid backpacks
- Return first aid kits to BRBB closet
- Return water containers to BRBB closet
- Make sure Big Red Band banner is in first aid backpack for each performance

For Medical Emergencies
- Paramedics are available at every event if you require assistance
- For urgent situations, students should be taken to the hospital and band director and parents notified immediately
- For non-critical situations where you are still concerned, notify the student’s parents and let them decide what to do

For Home Football Games Only
- Mark off area of bleachers where the band will sit with bleacher reservation tags stored in BRBB cabinet
- Remain in the stands and watch the band’s belongings during the third quarter when the band has a break
- Remove bleacher reservation tags from stands after game and return to cabinet
For Away Events Only

- There should be two chaperones and one backpack per bus.
- Chaperones will take attendance on your assigned bus before leaving
- Ask students to take a moment to think and make sure they have everything they need
- Assist getting equipment loaded and unloaded from the truck and on and off the field for the performance
- One person should stay in the stands and watch the band’s belongings during their performance
- Help with any problems that arise (i.e. headaches, buttons falling off, etc.)
- Chaperones will take attendance on your assigned bus before departing
- Remind students to pick up trash when getting off the bus

Middle Red

What You Need:
- Keys to stadium padlock, field house door and Middle Red
- Vehicle with appropriate trailer hitch and lights connection (2 inch ball and flat four or round 7 plug needed)
- Truck driver ID tag

What You Do:
- Check your email for the SignUpGenius reminder which will include any new or changed information (change in report time/length of commitment, etc.)
- Obtain keys and driver ID tag from Director-at-Large
- Pick up Middle Red from field house in the stadium. Fill with gas if necessary
- Wear tag to identify yourself to staff, band members and other groups
- Tow/Drive Middle Red to event
- Position Middle Red for pit to load equipment from truck
- Drive Middle Red onto field
- Move Middle Red off field during performance
- After performance, position Middle Red for pit to load equipment
- Drive Middle Red back to equipment truck for unloading by pit
- Tow/Drive Middle Red back to high school
- Return Middle Red to field house, secure door and gate to stadium
- Return keys and ID tag to Director-at-Large

Truck Driver

What You Need:
- Keys to truck
- Gas card
- Truck driver identification tags

What You Do:
- Check your email for the SignUpGenius reminder which will include any new or changed information (change in report time/length of commitment, etc.)
- Obtain keys from Director-at-Large
- Pickup truck at Indian Crest
- Fill with diesel fuel at Moyer Indoor Outdoor Fueling Center if necessary
• Back truck up to loading dock for loading at least one-half hour before scheduled bus departure time
• Driver and helper are primarily responsible for loading the truck
• Get magnetic Big Red Marching Band signs and milk crate from BRBB Cabinet and place on doors of truck
• Get truck driver ID tag from truck keys pouch. Wear tag to identify yourself to staff, band members and other groups
• Drive truck to event
• Park truck at designated location for unloading.
• Move truck to a designated parking space if required.
• Return truck to loading location for equipment loading by driver and helper
• Return truck to school for unloading. Bars and straps used to secure equipment are returned to the loading dock hallway. Truck should be swept out, with broom, if necessary.
• Remove Big Red Marching Band signs from doors and milk crate and return to BRBB cabinet
• Fill with diesel fuel if necessary at Moyer Indoor Outdoor Fueling Center. Truck is to be returned with the same amount of fuel as when it was picked up
• Return truck to Indian Crest in the same location and condition as you picked it up
• Return keys, ID tag, gas receipt and gas card to Director-at-Large

**Tips for New Members / Parents**

Please plan on attending football games and competitions to offer support and a rousing cheer when our kids come onto the field. There’s always a bunch of “band groupies” sitting near the band at home football games and near the 40-yard line nearest the scoreboard at competitions. Just look for the RED!

**BRBB Facebook Group Pages -**

Big Red Band Boosters group - [https://www.facebook.com/soudertonduckderbyrace](https://www.facebook.com/soudertonduckderbyrace) This is a public group for general band information.

Souderton BRBB Parents group - [https://www.facebook.com/groups/brbbparents](https://www.facebook.com/groups/brbbparents) This is a closed group. Request to join and an administrator will accept the request.

Souderton Big Red Marching Band group- [https://www.facebook.com/groups/380886655434135](https://www.facebook.com/groups/380886655434135) This is also a closed group but it is run by the student band president. It contains the season’s schedule and other vital information for students. This is the group for students to join.

**Cold Weather** – Band members learn quickly how to wear layers under their uniforms. Be prepared for cold weather – wear thermal undies, leggings, extra socks, etc., however, no turtlenecks are allowed. Nothing may stick above the color on the tunic. Crew neck under armor is acceptable and many students wear under armor under their band t-shirt. During the cold season, you may want to stock up on hand warmers (available at local sporting goods stores). Students may also want to bring a blanket or sleeping bag for those long, cold nights.

**Chaperoning** – Being a chaperone is a wonderful experience! Everything will be provided for you. You do not have to pay admission for the event. Remember, when chaperoning, you are there as an extra set of eyes, a helping hand and a support. Just do what you do best – be a parent! As always, remember that we are examples and should act accordingly.
Competitions

- Competitions are usually Saturday afternoons or evenings.
- Routines and procedures for competitions are generally the same as for football games.
- You will be given a “report time” and a “return time” each week. The report time is the time the students need to be in the band room ready to go. The return time is the approximate time they anticipate getting back to school. Please understand the return time can vary for a variety of reasons.
- Students wear “practice” clothes to school and bring their uniforms in a garment bag.
- The students are given a short dinner break before changing into their uniform and heading off to the competition, and a bag lunch is appropriate.
- After the band arrives at the host school they will practice until it is their turn to perform.
- The time for our performance at competitions can change, even on that day, so make sure to get there early to ensure you don’t miss our kids.
- Remember our competitions run into November and you will be sitting on bleachers in football stadiums. Dress warmly and bring a blanket!
- The band director will announce if he has tickets for sale for competitions ahead of time. Otherwise, they are available at the gate. Sometimes there is a price break for buying early.
- Prices for high school competitions are generally $10 per person. Championship competitions at the end of the season usually run $20 - $25 per person.
- At competitions, the host band does a variety of things to raise money for their organization. Please support them. Purchase candy, flower, and air grams prior to our group performing because they receive a bag with the candy and flowers directly following their performance. This is a great way to give a pat on the back to the students. They love getting “presents” after the performance.
  - **Ways to support the host band and our group:**
    - **Candy Grams** – These generally sell for $1 and you write a message to send with candy to your child or to anyone you wish who is associated with the group (instructors, other kids, etc.). Girls and guys love these because it’s something to eat!
    - **Flower Grams** – Same idea as Candy Grams but they are fresh or silk flowers sold at a variety of prices. Girls like this more than guys!
    - **Air Grams** – Not available at all competitions. This works differently than the candy or flower grams because there is nothing tangible with this. Just prior to your group performing, they announce the air grams over the public address system. An example might be: “Good luck, Susie. Love, Mom and Dad”. Sometimes they are funny or inside jokes to people. Generally $1 to $3 per message.
    - **Food** – You can find an assortment of food to buy at competitions from hot dogs and pizza to drinks and snacks. Great idea instead of cooking!
    - **Program Books** – Gives a listing of competing groups with their time of performance along with other information. Generally $5 to $10.

- After performing the students may change back into “street clothes” – jeans, sweatshirts, etc. – after they perform, so be sure they bring a warm change of clothes (it gets cold even in September in the evening) including shoes (sneakers suggested). Remember, they sit in the stands for the entire night. Many kids bring blankets to help keep warm too. NOTE: the students wear their Big Red Marching band rain coat as their top coat. They are allowed to wear sweaters or lighter coats underneath on those cold nights.
After the kids perform, they are allowed to visit the concession stand if time allows. They will then sit in the stands as a band and watch the remaining bands. NOTE: it is customary for the visiting bands to stand at attention while the home band performs.

If you go to the competition plan on going directly to the high school to pick up your students. The band usually arrives within 5-10 minutes. Typically the band director holds the students for a short wrap up meeting before dismissing them.

If you do not go to the competition please make sure your student has arranged for a ride or give them a cell phone so they can contact you. NOTE: students are not allowed access to their cell phones while in uniform except during the bus ride back to the school.

**Football Games**

- Band members are encouraged (not required) to dress up the day of the game. Male students typically wear dress slacks, shirt and shoes. Some wear ties and jackets. Female students typically wear skirts, dresses and heels. NOTE: If your student has any questions have them talk with their section leader.
- Band members stay after school on game days to practice prior to that night’s game. They need to bring their entire uniform including rain coat and weather appropriate practice clothes to school with them. They store their uniform and extra clothes in the band room.
- After practicing they have dinner and then get into their uniforms.
- At home football games, our band performs before the game . . . so get there early!
- At away football games, our band performs at half time.
- During the game the band sits in a roped off section in the stands and plays stand tunes.
- The band gets the third quarter off to visit with the visiting band and the concession stand. It is recommended that you send $5- $10 with your child for the concession stand.
- If you go to the football games plan on going directly to the high school to pick up your students. The band usually arrives within 5-10 minutes. Typically the band director holds the students for a short wrap up meeting before dismissing them.
- If you do not go to the football game please make sure your student has arranged for a ride or give them a cell phone so they can contact you. NOTE: students are not allowed access to their cell phones while in uniform except during the bus ride back to the school.

**Funding**

Some funding for marching band and indoor group costs comes from the school district’s budget. However, a significant portion of the costs related to these activities are funded by the BRBB. The BRBB must raise approximately $30,000 annually to cover budgeted expenses. This is done via concession sales, three home shows, and fundraising events. Parent participation is crucial in raising these funds, as well as in supporting the various groups at all their events. The BRBB runs on about 1,300 volunteer hours every year, which very roughly breaks down to about 17 hours per family. In order for the band’s events to run smoothly and successfully, we need all of our band parents to volunteer on at least four occasions throughout the year. We also need and welcome behind-the-scene volunteers that are not related to events, such as set building, help with uniforms, IT tasks and communications.
Meals –
- Band Camp - Each student is responsible for bringing their own dinner and beverages. It is recommended you bring a bagged lunch that does not require being heated or refrigerated. Microwaves and refrigerators are not available. The BRBB may provide dinner on selected nights during band camp.
- Football Games - The BRBB provides a meal before each football game. See parent mailing for details.
- Competitions - Each student is responsible for bringing their own dinner and beverages. It is recommended you bring a bagged lunch that does not require being heated or refrigerated. Microwaves and refrigerators are not available.

Participation Fee – The BRBB charges a $50-per-student fee to help defray the operating costs of the organization. This fee is collected at the Parent Information Meeting on August 13 and can be paid by check, student credit, or Scrip.

Payments – Please make every attempt to pay via check or money order, cash is discouraged. Checks should be made payable to “BRBB” or “Big Red Band Boosters”.

Pick-up and Drop-off – Pick-up and drop-off of the kids is in front of the school via the main entrance. Under no circumstances are you to use the side entrance near the band room for pick-up and drop-off, by order of the fire chief. In addition, parking in the loading dock area is strictly prohibited. This space is required for the Big Red Band truck and the Middle Red tow vehicle and trailer.

Red Box – In the band room outside the band director’s office there is a large red metal box. Any money or order forms to be submitted to the BRBB may be placed in that box. Please keep in mind that we prefer that payment take the form of checks or money orders, rather than cash. Also, students, please do not put paperwork due to your instructors in the Red Box. They do not have access to it.

Scrip – A Scrip account is similar to student credit but is funded via your rebates from Scrip purchases, is your money, and is not limited as to use. Scrip allocations are maintained by the BRBB Treasurer and posted monthly on the filing cabinet outside of the band director’s office, above the Red Box. Scrip forms are available there and on the website. For questions about the Scrip program – scrip@soudertonbigred.org

Student Credit – Student credit is accumulated through specific fundraising opportunities held during the year. When a student participates in the fundraiser, they are allocated a certain portion of the profit from the fundraiser. These funds are simply an allocation of internal BRBB funds and will not be paid out to you under any circumstances. That allocation can only be used to pay for trips, the BRBB participation fee, and director-mandated uniform components. Student credit allocations are maintained by the BRBB Treasurer and posted monthly on the filing cabinet outside of the band director’s office, above the Red Box. Student credit forms are available there and on the website.