

Irondale Band Boosters - Overview

Welcome to the Irondale Band Boosters! Parents of Irondale Marching Knights members are automatically members of the Irondale Band Boosters with no additional paperwork or fees. The Irondale Band Boosters was formed as a parent support organization for all band-related activities at Irondale High School. Such support includes time, talents, and fundraising. The Irondale Band Boosters meetings are listed on the band calendar and are open to all Irondale Marching Knights parents/guardians; attendance is strongly encouraged. Irondale Band Boosters has an elected executive committee which serves as the board of directors and coordinates this 501(c)3 nonprofit organization's activities. Board elections are held in late Fall.

Any great organization is measured by its volunteers, and the Irondale Marching Knights has a great tradition of enthusiastic, dedicated, and incredible Boosters!

- Every parent's involvement is so important to the continued success of this organization. All families have busy lives, but when families give time to their students' activities, it makes the experience that much more valuable for the entire family. We are one big team!
- The Irondale Marching Knights are known as leaders on and off the field, which includes the Boosters. A few items of note:
 - Boosters respect our performers and staff and other groups and performers. Lifting morale, cheering them on, and creating a positive culture is part of being a Booster.
 - Boosters are asked to be supportive of all students and staff. Students and staff are respectful and appreciate Booster support. If there are any challenges, please report it to the Director of Bands.
 - The logistics of moving 100+ people and gear requires both patience and assistance from the Boosters, which is appreciated.

Participating in and supporting the Boosters, both in leading fundraising and in volunteering time, helps to keep costs down for the Irondale Marching Knights program.

- Approximately 58% of the programs expenses are covered by Booster-sponsored fundraising. There are ample opportunities for parents to lend a hand or lead these fundraising activities and events. New ideas and leadership are always welcome.
- Additionally, the program avoids many costs because Boosters provide time and talents in volunteering. For example, instead of paying a tailor to fit uniforms, volunteers measure and sew and alter the uniforms to fit each student; instead of ordering food from restaurants to feed students on show days, volunteers shop, cook, and prepare meals for the students.

Active participation in the Boosters contributes to making the program successful. The best way for new parents to become familiar with the marching band program is to become active. While each parent determines his/her level of involvement in the Boosters, it is strongly encouraged that each parent contributes his/her share of volunteering and leadership to the Irondale Marching Knights. Parents who are active as Boosters have just as much fun, meet amazing families, staff, and students, just as their students do, and are connected with the organization.

Volunteers are asked to volunteer a little or a lot based on talents, time, and needs. There are many things to be done, and there is something to fit everyone's schedule, interests, and skills. Such tasks range from behind-the-scenes roles to very visible roles, and from tasks that require interacting with students to administrative, computer-based tasks. As noted in the image below, volunteers choose the amount of time and the types of roles. Examples include:

- Executive Board: Booster-elected members oversee general operation of the non-profit organization which supports curricular and co-curricular band programs, including Irondale Marching Knights
- Program Leads: Provide leadership, direction, and support for key programs in areas such as communication, volunteers, fundraising (e.g., Mega-Raffle Calendar Sales and Scrip), recruitment and retention, and other needs.
- Crew Leads and Helpers: Manage as Lead or provide support as Helper with logistics and performance support during the fall and winter show seasons in areas such as transportation/logistics, prop design/build, equipment, meals, first aid/water, flags, uniforms, parades, out-of-town travel, band camp, and other crew needs.
- Event Leads and Helpers: Manage as Lead or provide support as Helper with the fundraising activities in areas such as Sponsorship Day, Music of the Knight (MOTK) home field show, Winter MOTK home indoor winter guard and drumline show, Yearbook Night, Awards Nights, Band-cake Breakfast, Mattress Sale, Drive 4U, Golf Tournament, bake sales, grocery bagging, and other events.
- Admin Leads and Helpers: Manage as Lead or provide support as Helper with the administrative activities in areas such as website, social media, photography, videography, graphic design, patches/merchandise, concerts, registration, and other needs.
- All Hands: All hands are truly needed to support the bands for the fall and winter show seasons. From helping to drive for events to donating cookies for students on show days, there are a range of ways that families help by pitching in.



Volunteer needs with descriptions, current leadership, and openings will be posted on the website. These roles are open to any interested Booster-- please consider signing up for open roles. Volunteer needs and sign-up links are communicated at Booster meetings and in emails. The Boosters uses an online management tool (Charms Office Assistant, Charms) which tracks parent-student-alumni contact information, instruments, fees, forms, volunteer opportunities, and other band activities. Information is provided regularly on Charms.

2021 Contact Information

Please contact any member of the Executive Committee with questions you might have:

- www.irondalebands.org
- Irondale Band Boosters, P.O. Box 120283, New Brighton, MN 55112
- Irondale Band Booster Executive Committee

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