



ANDOVER CENTRAL JAGUAR BAND BOOSTERS

September 2011 • VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

603 East Central ◀ Andover ◀ Kansas ◀ 67002 ◀ 316-218-4419 ◀ grayc@usd385.org

WELCOME TO THE ANDOVER CENTRAL JAGUAR BANDS

While the temperature may not feel like back-to-school weather, your Andover Central Band directors have been busy preparing for the 2011-12 school year for weeks! That means your Andover Central Jaguar Band Boosters are hard at work as well! We hope you'll find a way to get involved this year and offer the following for your consideration:

Why get involved:

- ♪ Student benefits academically and socially from band instruction. A 10 year study involving 25,000 students shows that music-making improves test scores in standardized tests, as well as in reading proficiency exams.*
- ♪ Band boosters *directly support all band students* (grades 5th thru 12th)!
- ♪ IT'S FUN and REWARDING!

How to get involved:

- ♪ Volunteer to work at an event (or better yet, chair an activity)! IMAGINE how much we could accomplish if everyone would take a turn in the concession stand or monitor a door for a festival!
- ♪ Provide food donations when requested. Your donations allow the total sales to get reinvested right back into the band boosters in support of our band kids!
- ♪ Consider if you have unique circumstances that can benefit the band program...what are your talents... where do you work...who do you know that might wish to support our bands?

We are looking forward to a successful year for our band programs, and welcome your ideas and comments at jagbandboosters@gmail.com.

*http://www.bicanow.com/Research-Msic_Benefits_JYB.php



ACMS students enjoyed a week long summer band camp and an afternoon of bowling this summer

Almost 150 high school musicians, drum majors and color guard spent August 8 – 12 preparing for the 2011-2012 field show, *Phantom of the Opera*. **THANK YOU** to the many parents who donated bottled water, the parents who donated their time to help fit the marching band uniforms and provide alterations, the band boosters for providing popsicles, and to the students who spent many hours over the summer helping Mr. Gray prepare for band camp and the upcoming band year.



*Music is the literature of the heart,
it commences where speech ends.
~Alphonse de Lamartine*



L to R: Kevin Brightup, Craig Gray, Ashten Anderson, Joe Emery

MEET THE BAND STAFF

Craig Gray is the Andover USD #385 District Music Curriculum Chair and Director of Bands for the Andover Central Schools. He began his career in 1981 teaching general music, choir and band at the Progressive School, Fairview Oklahoma; served as the Director of Bands for the Canton Public Schools from 1983 to 1991; and was the Band Director at Waller Junior High School in Enid Oklahoma from 1992 to 1997. Mr. Gray came to Andover in 1997 as the Director of Bands at Andover High School. When Andover Central High opened in 2001, he became the Director of Bands. Currently over 30% of the student population at ACHS is involved in the band program.

Under his direction for the past 10 years, the bands of ACHS have earned consecutive superior ratings in the State Large Group Concert Band Competition, and his performance groups have earned over 100 superior ratings in concert, marching and jazz during his 29 year career.

Mr. Gray is involved in many professional organizations and has held many leadership within these organizations.

Mr. Gray was selected as the Teacher of the Year for the Andover School District in 2004, awarded the Golden Apple Award in 2003 and was a 2009 Andover School District Spark Award Winner.

Mr. Gray has one son, David, and has been a foster parent to 37 children.

Kevin Brightup grew up in Wichita and graduated from Friends University. He is currently working on his Masters Degree at the American Band College of Sam Houston University. He is married to Jenni and dad to an adorable son and daughter. Mr. Brightup has spent all 14 years of his teaching career in Andover Schools. His main area is percussion, and his main responsibilities lie with the middle school bands. Mr. Brightup loves his job, and that is evident by watching him interact with his students.

Joe Emery is in his 6th year at Andover Central and the feeder schools. This is his 30th year of teaching in and around Wichita. Mr. Emery is a brass specialist, playing trombone, baritone, trumpet, horn, and tuba, and he also plays piano and guitar. Mr. Emery stays busy with his family and church when not at school, and is the Choir Director at University United Methodist Church, where he and his wife, Ricki, were married 32 years ago last May. Mr. Emery enjoys hunting all types of game and spending time with his two labs, Duke and Tut!

Ashten Anderson is assisting the Andover Central Bands during the fall semester as a student teacher. Ms. Anderson graduated from Garden City High School and will graduate from Wichita State University in December with her Bachelor's Degree in Music Education specializing in instrumental music. Ms. Anderson's primary instrument is the clarinet, although she also plays the piano and saxophone. WSU's concert band, symphonic wind ensemble, orchestra and chamber ensembles, music theater, and the WSU opera, an orchestral tour of Spain, playing with the WSU symphonic wind ensemble at Carnegie Hall in May of 2011, and playing with the Lindsborg Symphony have kept Ms. Anderson busy. She is enjoying the opportunity to learn from Mr. Gray and the entire Andover Central staff.

The Band Boosters need your help! The vice president(s) position remains vacant. We are also seeking a chairperson(s) for Southern Plains Honor Band, a February event for 5th thru 8th graders (yes, that's right, we're adding 8th graders to this event)! Volunteering for these positions is a great way to support our fabulous band program!



Don't forget to purchase your Dillons reloadable gift card for only \$5 (there's a \$5 balance on the card)! If you participate in this fundraiser, the band will earn 5% of your grocery, prescription, jewelry store and gas purchases. WOW! For more information on this great fundraiser or to print an order form, please access the band's webpage at:

<http://www.usd385.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/Andover%20Central%20High%7CBand>.

SHOW YOUR PRIDE for the Andover Central Bands by purchasing a Band Mom, Band Dad or Band t-shirt for only \$8 (additional charge for extended sizes). These black t-shirts with gold metallic print are perfect to wear to sporting events, when chaperoning band activities or when volunteering at band functions. Order forms are located on the band's website (see above for web address).



**KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY
BAND DAY 2011**

On Saturday, September 17, the Andover Central High School Marching Band will participate in the Kansas State University Band Day. This is our first appearance at Band Day. After parading through Aggieville, the band will attend the Wildcats versus Kent State football game where they will perform during halftime. *Stay tuned for more details...*



JOIN US on Tuesday, September 27, at 7:00 p.m. in the Andover Central High School Band Room for our first Jaguar Band Booster meeting of the 2011-12 school year! We'll be discussing all of the exciting upcoming band events! All parents and supporters of our band programs (grades 5th thru 12th) are invited and encouraged to attend!



September 9 - Football game (dinner served to high school band students prior to game)

September 14 - Kansas State Fair Band Day, Hutchinson (ACHS)

September 17 - KSU Band Day, Manhattan (ACHS)

September 23 - Football game - homecoming (meal provided)

September 27 - Jaguar Band Booster Meeting, 7:00, ACHS

September 29 - ACHS Jazz bands perform at Greater Andover Days

October 1 - Greater Andover Days Parade (ACHS only)

October 14 - Football game (meal provided)

October 21 - Football game - senior night (meal provided)

October 26 - Southern Plains Marching Festival, District Stadium (ACHS)

