



Braymer Bobcat Brigade Newsletter

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# August/September 2019

Welcome Back Bobcats!



by [Donald Heaton](#) on September 11, 2019

Welcome back to the 2019-2020 school year. My name is Donald Heaton and I am the current Instrumental Music Director here at Braymer C-4. I teach band (6th, JH, & HS), guitar, ukulele, and music theory. We are working diligently to improve ourselves this year. Every student has given me goals that they personally want to achieve and that they would like for the band to achieve. Several mentioned that they would like for the band to do better at competitions. I am all for that! I am amazed by the work ethic that these students have!

I am fortunate to have Mrs. Carie Sanders working with our Color Guard again this year. Having Carie help us with color guard has been an immense help to me. It has also been helpful for our students to have someone who knows the ins-and-outs of Color Guard. I am very appreciative of her hard work. If you get a chance, thank her as well for helping us!

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## THIS MONTH'S PERFORMANCES



## Football Games

**September 13 & 27**

We have two football games in September (13th and 27th). Call times on game nights is always 6:30 PM. That is the **latest** that students should be in the band room. This way we can warm up together and get ready to march down. The 27th is also Homecoming, so be prepared for a long day!

## Carrollton Band Day

**September 28**

We will be returning to Carrollton Band Day this year. We will be leaving the school at **6:30 AM** on Saturday, September 28. The Brigade marches at **8:22 AM** and color guard performs at **12:56 PM**. The current plan is to bring the band students back to Braymer after we march and take color guard to Carrollton later that morning so they can get dressed and ready at home or at school.

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## THINGS TO CONSIDER

### Expenses

Being involved in any activity comes with its costs. Band is no exception. This year, the music boosters is paying for our t-shirts that we will wear at home games (football and basketball). That is no small feat! However, students will need to pay for their own marching shoes. I mentioned to my older students that if they had shoes that no longer fit, they could (and should) sell them to other students who might not have shoes. **If your student needs new shoes**, the cost will be **\$25**. I will need that payment by the end of September (09/30/2019). Checks can be made out to the Braymer Band or Braymer C-4.

### Practicing

I've said this to my students before: "Rehearsal time is not the time we learn our parts, it is when we learn what other parts sound like and what everything sounds like together."

Students **need to practice**. I can only do so much with the bands when students only play their instruments at school during class. Practicing needs to be done outside of school. Students can come in early to practice or stay after to practice. Most students could also take their instruments home and practice. Please encourage them to practice! **Especially if I have given them honor band music (\*cough\* \*cough\*, you know who you are).**

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Thank you for letting me work with your students. I hope that we will achieve more this year!

Donald Heaton

