



www.spiritofwaxahachie.com

Waxahachie High School
1000 North Highway 77
Waxahachie, Texas 75165

from the desk of... **Rich Armstrong**

Kinetic energy of an object is the extra energy which it possesses due to its motion. It is defined as the work needed to accelerate a body of a given mass from rest to its current velocity.

And what better way to define and describe the 2009 Marching Season of the WHS Marching Band!

When we began the marching show process back in May, we agreed on three essential elements: high energy, constant motion, and quality music. We knew these were the keys to a successful season. And so it began...the long, hot summer practices, meetings and planning sessions that lasted well into early morning hours, the seemingly endless rain delays and interruptions, the tedious task of repeating fundamentals again and again. Throughout the process, new leaders were developed and the band began to realize that, perhaps, this was not just an illusive dream, rather a very real possibility.

It has truly been one of the best "rides of my life" - to have the privilege to work with these students. Their desires and commitment to hard work, to giving everything they had on a daily basis - these characteristics were a constant inspiration to our entire staff. From the first time we put the show on the field, we realized that this was something special, and it was confirmed in San Antonio as the booming voice in the Alamodome announced the ten bands advancing to compete in Finals at the State competition, "And at 8:45 - Waxahachie"!

We set the bar extremely high, determining that we would achieve what no other WHS marching band had previously done - make finals at State. I am extremely proud of these students and their tremendous efforts throughout these past few months. As one parent noted, the accomplishments realized in marching band as well as attaining third in the Honor Band process, have established a new standard for Waxahachie - one which will be challenging and invigorating to future classes.

My deepest and sincere gratitude to Reggie Cook , who has been my right hand through this process every step of the way; to Johnny Young, to Kendra Ray , and to my wife, Denise: this would have never been possible without you! To the Charmers, the Cheerleaders, the students, the entire Waxahachie community who have supported us throughout the season and then went the extra mile as we left on Monday - you're awesome! Mr. Nix, Mr. Collins, Mr. Truitt, and Dr. Langley - you are the best! It was absolutely fantastic to look up in the stands in San Antonio and see you - cheering with the most enthusiastic parents! And speaking of parents - there are no words to express my thanks for all that you do. This accomplishment, along with any other successes that we may enjoy, are due to your belief and faith in us, your unwavering support and constant encouragements; we really DO have the greatest parents!

And, a final "Thank You" - to the members of the WHS Marching Band: you have made us all so very proud to call you our students, our children, and our friends. Here's to you...

Marching Midlothian Showcase

First Place Overall
Best in Class
Best Overall Marching
Best Overall Winds



UIL MARCHING CONTEST

W. Gross DeHay, D.D.S., F.A.G.D.
General Director

DeSoto Marching Contest



HILLTOP
Travel Trailers





AREA Contest



 Ray Porter, CPA
972-923-2000

STATE SAN ANTONIO TEXAS



Waxahachie
Daily Light



In order to have a successful contest season, an "army" of volunteers is an absolute necessary...here's a huge "THANK YOU" to our volunteers! You made it work, and we are so very grateful!

David Allelo	Alan Hogan	Mary Schueler
Sue Allelo	Tommy Huff	Joyce Shepherd
Angela Almand	Alisha Huff	Donna Simmel
Nolan Arney	Dan Hummer	Mike Simmel
Rachael Arney	Brian Ingram	Casey Simpson
Tina Autry	Lisa Ingram	Paula Simpson
Jackie Bailey	David Jackson	Brett Sissell
Michelle Berning	Bobbie Jones	Robin Sissell
Shirley Blanton	Carol Kimberlin	Cris Smith
Nancy Bonillas	Randy Kimberlin	Torre Smith
Kay Bowers	Shane Kinneson	Chris Speigner
Jan Bridges	Stephanie Kinneson	Nena Speigner
Chris Buse	Laura Kirton	Denise Stembridge
Velda Carter	Mary Kirton	Jack Stembridge
Aaron Clayton	Becky Lopez	Billie Stephenson
Patti Collier	Kathy Louque	Stuart Stephenson
Mike Collier	Robin Louque	Tina Svrcek
Maria Craig	David Maass	Chrissie Taylor
Mikel Craig	Pam Maass	Heath Taylor
Angela Cupp	Lucy Mares	Virginia Tipton
Kenya Curry	Ronnie McMahan	Gail Tobias
Jennifer Dacy	Cheryl McMurray	Barbara Tyler
George Devore	Wade McMurray	Tammye Wright
Lauren Devore	Lisa Mederos	
Laurie Donelson	Megan Mills	
Rob Donelson	Rick Moritz	
Lea Duvel	Tobie Nottingham	
Charleta Edmonson	Christi Nutt	
Daphne Emmon	Milton Oblesby	
Tommy Engel	John O'Brien	
Tracey Engel	Sonia O'Brien	
Christine Erickson	Jeni Oebel	
Kirby Erickson	Milton Oglesby	
Bobby Featherston	Sharon Owens	
Cindy Featherston	Heidi Perkins	
Barbara Fobes	Woody Perry	
Alfred Gallegos	JD Peyrot	
Yvette Gallegos	Tricia Peyrot	
Michael Gant	Lisa Popp	
Margaret Gant	Perry Popp	
Danny Gentry	Laurie Prescott	
Ginger Gentry	Emily Price	
Dennis Gilbert	Mark Price	
Cheryl Gilbert	Robert Quigley	
Paige Gordon	Edward Quintana	
Andy Griffith	Ronda Quintana	
Beth Headley	Kendra Ray	
Beau Henry	Kay Reid	
Janet Henry	Rachel Ramirez	
Anita Hernandez	Lisa Richardson	
Jerry Hill	Donna Ritchie	
	Marilyn Rodriguez	
	Hengameh Rundgren	

I would like to personally thank each and every parent, grandparent, friend and supporter of the band for all of the assistance throughout this marching season. From the food cooked by Jackie Bailey and Rick Moritz, to the lunch crew of Heidi Perkins and friends, to my hot dog crew, to the spirit flags, posters, noise makers, and oh, so much more, it has been a fantastic season!

The kids have had a great time and have enjoyed the cookies, candy, treats, pizza, hot dogs, snowcones, and tailgate party. We have had grandparents cooking, siblings serving, friends helping out, and of course the parents hanging in there doing everything I have asked of them throughout the rain, wind and cold. You are AWESOME! Without your support and assistance, none of this would have been possible. As Special Projects coordinator, I am never met with resistance when I need help and ideas. I sincerely thank each and every one of you. Without your help, the successful journey to STATE would not have been possible.

Kathy Louque,
Asst VP Special Projects

Congratulations

Scott Tipton & Molly Prescott
2009 Band Sweetheart and Beau



State Marching Patch

If you did not purchase a "state" marching patch in San Antonio, you can still do so from www.southwestemblem.com

Also available are patches for Area and UIL Sweepstakes

CMS - what a great place! From the staff stepping in during Mrs. Owens' absence to assist Mrs. Shepherd...to the CMS band parents bringing delicious meals (*and oh! those desserts!*)...to the cards and letters from CMS band students...this just HAS to be the best middle school in Texas! We say a huge "THANK YOU" to everyone for their concern, but want to report that Mrs. Owens is doing wonderfully and is anxious to get back "in the swing of things"!

The CMS band enrollment is continuing to gel, with 138 students in place at this time. Contributing factors include relocation of families as well as the realization that, while band is a great opportunity, it's also a tremendous responsibility. The WISD band program has a reputation of not only teaching a student how to play an instrument, but how to develop characteristics that will enhance their future - characteristics such as a strong work ethic, punctuality, integrity, and responsibility. One of Mrs. Sutton's favorite quotes is: "If one will do what is right, one will have a happier life; if not, one's life will be miserable." We wholeheartedly concur!

Our CMS band t-shirts are here, and we are all looking forward to showing them off!

We enjoyed our trip to Celebration Station. While this was a "fun" trip, we will continue to work - both in class and outside of class - to ensure that we're ready for those trips in the not-too-distant future where we will be presenting what we have learned in class. "A band that has fun every rehearsal is probably a 'funny' band"...and that is not our goal. Our goal is to set high standards and expectations for ourselves, and then work extremely hard to achieve them.

From the CMS Band, we say, "Congratulations to the WHS Marching Band!" They placed third out of nineteen to qualify for the UIL Texas Preliminary State Marching Contest at the Alamodome in San Antonio on November 2. The band competed against 25 bands in the preliminary portion of the contest during the day and advanced to the UIL State Finals first the first time in school history. It's a tremendous feeling to know that Clift students have great programs ahead of them: Finley, Howard and then WHS!. The objective of each of these programs is to improve playing skills, which happen to be 60% of the total rating in any marching competition - not to mention the contests during the Spring Concert Season.

So, we'll continue our work in what we'll call the "preliminary" phase - working on Jingle Bells (the first piece of Holiday Season concert music), and preparing for our public performances that happen to be just around the corner: at Northside and Wedgeworth on Monday, November 30, and at Shackelford and Felty on Tuesday, December 1, followed by the Holiday Season Concert on Thursday, December 17, at 7 pm in the WHS Fine Arts Center. (Parents interested in helping with the stage decorations should contact Mrs. Owens at: dowens@wisd.org. It's a great time to get to know some of the other parents and have some extra fun decorating!) Keep us on your calendars, and we look forward to seeing you!

Donnie Owens, director

Color Guard

As I look back on the first time I saw the colorguard at the Ice Cream Social and then compare that to Tuesday Night at the State Finals I am in awe of the distance they traveled!!! They have come so far in these last three months. The dedication and drive they showed every time I came out to practice was inspiring. Even when I sent instructions through e-mail they worked with diligence and determination. They were not going to be the reason the band wasn't successful!!! Putting all else aside and working as a team was amazing to watch. I applaud you ladies for your effort and your willingness to work together. Thank you for a terrific season!!! You were great!!!! Let's look to the future toward an even better winterguard!!!Denise Armstrong



Upcoming Finley/Howard Events

All Region Tryouts—Friday and Saturday
November 14—15th ALL DAY

Holiday Concert
December 14



Linebarger Goggan
Blair & Sampson, LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Dan Francis (dfrancis@wisd.org)

Kendra Ray (kray@wisd.org)

Donnie Owens (dowens@wisd.org)

Clift/Howard/Finley Band News

E-mails received ...honoring your successful year....

An mail sent to WISD....

As those of you on the receiving end of this email well know, when I believe criticism is due as it regards our school system, I am not shy about giving it out. Being a vocal critic is not bad as long as one realizes that part of the responsibility of being vocal and critical is also giving praise out when that is warranted.

This email is about exactly that. I cannot give enough praise nor be complimentary enough to the WHS Band Staff, teachers, administration and all those involved in providing our kids the resources needed to excel and compete at the recent State Marching Band contest in San Antonio.

Mr. Armstrong and his staff (Mr. Cook, Ms. Ray, Mr. Francis and the Owens, Mrs. Armstrong and the Percussion guy whose name I don't know) are simply put, the best music educators in the state, hands down, end of discussion.

I am in absolute awe of the achievements of the band this marching season. The staff have worked tirelessly, selflessly and have generally gone way over what anyone could realistically ask or think, and they did it because they truly love these kids and love bringing the passion for music into their lives. That, in this world of "doing just enough to get by" attitudes we see sometimes, is also just unbelievably awesome. It starts from the top down. Mr. Nix has done all he can do to provide that platform. Mr. Armstrong and the staff have done all they can do to provide that vision, leadership, education, skill and passion and these kids have absolutely knocked it out of the park.

My wife, other children and I stayed at the same hotel as the kids and staff in San Antonio this week. The hotel staff was complimentary of our kids and our staff. People at the competition, when they saw my shirt advertising the Waxahachie band, told me how well behaved and wonderful our kids were. Do you know how that makes a dad feel, to have a perfect stranger compliment your kids, your band and by extension, your entire program? Of course you do because most of you are parents too. Now, we all know that the kids behavior has many facets, parenting being one, but we shouldn't diminish the effect that clear boundaries, rules and interest in a common goal play in that as well. I believe that part of that credit also goes to the staff, for not forgetting that these kids, after all, are still kids.

I want to make sure that you know, that we as parents recognize that and are eternally grateful for the commitment to our kids that you show each and every day.

God Bless and Best Regards, Brian K. Ingram

To the directors, awesome drum majors, and incredible students of the Waxahachie High School Marching Band --

Just saying congratulations on a job well done in San Antonio isn't enough to convey the pride I, and I hope everyone in Waxahachie, feels in the Spirit of Waxahachie Indian Band. I do not have a child in the high school band program, but I still follow the blood, sweat, and tears of the WHS band each year. I can only imagine and appreciate the sacrifices you have made to bring the Waxahachie band program to this level. Your work ethic over the last year, but especially this marching season has reached new heights to epitomized the ideals of dedication, determination, and pride that are watchwords of the WHS band. You have achieved what no other Waxahachie band has ever done -- achieve finals in the State Marching Contest, and you did it as the smallest band to reach finals, beating out bands literally twice your size. This, along with the incredible performance of the band last year in the Honor Band competition, have truly made Waxahachie a name to be reckoned with in the band world! It was an honor and privilege to be present in San Antonio to watch your performances in prelims and finals. I wish I could hug every one of you & tell you how good you looked and how proud we are of all of you. You should very proud of yourselves, and the lessons you've learned to achieve this level of excellence. Future WHS band students will know they will have a big responsibility to live up to the standards you have set for them.

You have done your job well, and I hope the school and WISD administrations appreciate and will continue to support wholeheartedly the quality of the band programs of WISD.

Just sign me.....

A loyal & proud supporter of the Spirit of Waxahachie Indian Band

December Booster Meeting

Monday, December 7, 7 pm

NEWSLETTER ONLINE:

www.spiritofwaxahachie.com



WISD BAND STAFF

Rich Armstrong
Director of Bands

Reggie Cook
Asst. Director of Bands

Johnnie Young
Percussion

Kendra Ray
Director, Finley 7th Grade

Donnie Owens
Director, CMS

Denise Armstrong
Color Guard Director

Dan Francis
Director, Howard 8th Grade

Margie Owens
Coordinator, CMS

BOOSTER OFFICERS 2009 – 2010

President _____ Lisa Popp
 Vice President _____ Ronnie McMahan
 Assistant VP Concessions _____ Perry Popp
 Assistant VP Fundraising _____ Lisa Richardson
 Assistant VP Special Projects _____ Kathy Louque
 Assistant VP Communications _____ Paige Gordon
 Secretary _____ Carol Kimberlin
 Treasurer _____ Edward Quintana
 7th Grade Rep _____ Joyce Shepherd
 8th Grade Rep _____ Tricia Peyrot
 Clift 6th Grade Rep _____ Tina Autry

The Waxahachie Band Booster Organization provides support for all students in the Waxahachie Band Program. Every band parent and friend of the band is invited to join the Waxahachie Band Booster Organization. The Waxahachie Band Booster Organization meets on the **first Monday** of each month, 7:00 P.M. in the WHS band hall.

Thanks a Million! I would simply like to thank every parent who has volunteered in any capacity through the fall. Last minute cries for help were always filled by the next willing parent. I consider it an honor to be able to volunteer for this wonderful band staff and the best group of kids in Waxahachie. Thank you parents for joining with us and helping the Waxahachie band program become what it is today!!!!
Ronnie McMahan—VP

November 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 WHS State Marching San Antonio	3	4	5	6 WHS vs Waco	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 Playoff Game Forney @ Midlothian Jr. High	14 All Region Auditions
15	16	17	18	19 Jazz Concert	20 Possible Playoff Game	21
22	23	24	25 HOLIDAY	26 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	27	28
29	30					



HELP SUPPORT THE BAND

by visiting this link

www.magfundraising.com/WaxahachieBandBoosters

Our

Goal: \$4,000.00

Current

Amount Raised: \$235.20

Presently

Total Subscriptions Sold: 26

Magazines¹ make great Christmas gifts.

This site will also allow you to purchase 10 different collectible books², music cd's³ (from 10 different musical categories) and 6 different varieties of 2.7 lb tubs of cookie dough⁴.

Magazines – 650 to chose from at up to 85% off newsstand prices

Books – 10 titles, prices range from \$17.00 to \$38.00

CD's - \$15.00 each

Cookie Dough – Shipped directly to your home

Prizes for student sellers

- Highest dollar amount sold**
- Most magazine subscriptions sold**
- Next 9 behind highest \$ amount sold**
- Next 9 behind most subscriptions sold**

Be sure you tell your buyer to put your name in message optional box when they place their order online. This will allow us to track our prize winners.

¹Profit on Magazine Subscriptions is 40%, including shipping

²Profit on Books is 40%, excluding \$5.00 shipping cost which is already included in the price

³Profit on Music is 40%, excluding \$1.40 shipping cost which is already included in the price

⁴Profit on Cookie Dough is 40%, excluding \$4.00/tub shipping cost which will be added to the price