



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Everything You Wanted to Know about Pride But Were Afraid to Ask

Broken Arrow Parent Organization, OK, Updated May 2011

What is my Student Account? – An individual account that is set up for each Pride member and housed under the Broken Arrow High School's bank. Funds raised by or paid by an individual Pride member to pay his or her PRIDE fees. Includes all meals prior/during football games and contests, 1 Uniform T-Shirt, 1 "Show" T-Shirt, supplementary instructional fees, and all costs for overnight trips such as transportation and lodging. Depending on trip destinations, costs have ranged \$800 - \$1400. The color guard usually has some extra expense throughout the year such as specialty items and their competition uniform. The BABPA is working to reduce these expenses through Corporate Sponsorships. Student account activity can be tracked through the use of the web-based software Charms at www.charmsoffice.com. See more regarding charms under 'BA Band Terms and Acronyms' as well as www.brokenarrowpride.com.

What is the Booster Account? – Funds which are raised to go to Band Activity Accounts at the middle, intermediate and senior high schools. These funds are used for any purchases that the directors deem necessary for their band programs.

What is Concessions? – The Band Parent Association mans all concessions at the Broken Arrow Public Schools football stadiums. Monies from Kirkland Field and Tiger Field are divided between all the band programs, 6th – 12th grade.

What are Paid Events? – Parents of Pride and Tradition Members have opportunities to work events at Expo Square and these monies go directly to their Student Account. Parents and students may also work Concessions at non-BA Schools and professional events held at Tiger Field for their Student Account Money. Students may also raise money for their Student Accounts by working stadium clean-up. The hourly rate for all of these Paid Events is \$8.00 per hour. In all cases a direct credit will be made to the Student Account for the hours worked, and no cash will be dispersed.

Who are the Chaperones? – Pride parents chaperone trips the Pride takes including to and from football games and contests. Parents also chaperone the overnight contest and are selected by the directors based, in part, upon the number of hours they volunteer during a certain time period. All chaperones will be required to submit a background check, conducted at expense of the BAPS', and to sign affidavits attesting that they have no felony convictions.

What is the Band Parent Association (BPA) - The organization comprised of all parents who have a child active in the Broken Arrow Schools Band Program, grades 6 -12.

Do I have to do a Fundraiser? No. Fundraising opportunities are given throughout the year to raise money for individual Student Accounts. Direct payment to the Student Accounts may be made either in a lump sum or on a payment plan. Student Account balances are due in full prior to the



out-of-state contests. Credit cards are not yet accepted, but this may change soon. Checks issued by credit card companies that are in turn charged to your credit card can be accepted.

What if I have money left in a Student Account when my child graduates or is no longer in Pride? If you have made direct payments into your Student Account and have receipts/cancelled checks, a refund may be requested. If you have a younger child who will be a future member of the Pride, you can save the Student Account money for them to use at a future date. You can also “will” the money to future Pride members to be distributed at the discretion of the band directors (e.g. hardship instances.) Money made through fundraisers or paid events are not refundable.

Where and how can I make payments on my students account? You can write a check and put in envelope outside band secretary office in high school band room. Please put students name on check and outside of envelope and state what payment is for. A payment plan will be sent out on the Pride Contract which will be going out in May. Make all checks payable to BAHS Band. There is also the Charm program see information under Student Account.

Who pays for uniforms? Basic uniforms (purchased from bond funds) are loaned to Pride members. Pride members are responsible for purchasing individual items such as color guard jackets/warm-ups. (NOTE: 1 Uniform T-Shirt, 1 “Show” Shirt will be provided... any additional quantities may be purchased through the Uniform Committee.) Other items are offered for sale, such as Pride tote bags and various T-shirts and are available at all Band Parent meetings. Pride letter jackets are available at local retailers and are optional. Color guard does have extra fees to pay for their practice wear and show outfit.

When are the Band Parent Association (BPA) Meetings? General Meetings are usually held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Broken Arrow High School Band Room [Building J.] They generally last 1 – 1½ hours. Plan to attend; a lot of information is given out at these meetings.

What are the contests in which the Pride will participate? The Pride will be competing in 2 out-of-state contests. These include the Bands of America (BOA) Regional Competition in St. Louis, MO. in October, and the BOA Grand National Competition in Indianapolis, IN, in November.

In-state contests include a local invitational, as well as, the Oklahoma Bandmaster Association (OBA) State Competition in October, which are held in various intra-state locations. Contests are required for Pride members. Parents may attend and ticket information is available at BPA General Meetings. These competitions are also videotaped and video ordering information is available at BPA General Meetings.

What kind of time commitment will my child have by being in the Pride? Optional music rehearsals will begin in June, usually 2-3 hours, 2 days per month. Marching rehearsals begin in July and continue through November, taking approximately 10-15 hours per week. Many times specific sections (i.e. percussion, low brass, woodwind, etc.) will rehearse additional hours during the week. Color Guard rehearses approximately 10-15 hours per week.



This doesn't include the time the Pride is traveling and attending a football game or band contest.

A home football game includes a rehearsal, meal, Pre-Game preparations, and the actual game. Students are typically involved with a home game from 3:30 pm until 10:30 pm.

An away football game includes a rehearsal, meal, travel, the game, and travel back to Broken Arrow. Students are typically involved in an away game from 3:30 pm until 11:30 pm.

Band Contests occur most Saturdays in October and the last weekend of September. Band contests are typically all day events. Detailed itineraries are available at band parent meetings, distributed to the students, via eNews and the Broken Arrow band's website.

Are we allowed to watch the Pride during rehearsals? Yes, you are allowed to watch the kids, but please do not distract the kids. They are practicing and this is a very important time for the directors. Also, please keep the noise down; they are trying to give instruction. During Pride Camp, you are welcome to watch from outside the camp area. Color guard practices are usually held in the gym or band room. Thursday evenings (after season has started) the stadium opens to spectators at 8:30 pm. It is a great time to come watch the kids. You will be able to locate your kid on the field and see what all they have accomplished. **Please do not enter stadium seats until 8:30 pm.**