

**From:** Scott Stanton - RCHS  
**Sent:** Friday, February 05, 2010 11:51 AM  
**Subject:** Pledge-A-Thon, Large Group Performance Evaluation, After-School Activities

Hello Band Parents,

On Wednesday and Thursday, students received our annual Pledge-A-Thon materials. We are requesting that each student submit 10 names and addresses of family and friends that are out of town (in-town if necessary) for this purpose. Families with multiple children in the band are asked to submit 15 names and addresses. We will be sending letters to those addresses that will outline our plans for the donations. We will be requesting any donation amount, but will specifically ask for a minimum of \$10 in donations. These donations, as always, are tax deductible. Our purposes are two-fold – 1. Continue to provide for the band budget to meet second semester needs including music purchases, repairs, band banquet and awards, outside instruction (clinicians, judges for Pre-Festival concert, judges for officer and auxiliary auditions, etc.), and other immediate needs of our band program; 2. Funding new marching band uniforms currently slated for introduction for the 2011 marching band season which, depending upon several factors, will cost between \$40,000 and \$60,000. We need EVERYONE to help. The financial crisis in our nation is affecting everyone, including our band. We ask for your help in providing these names and addresses by next week.

Please check the website, [www.rockdaleband.com](http://www.rockdaleband.com), and the calendar of events regarding after-school activities. We are entering our final week of section rehearsals. Students that have missed rehearsals MUST make these up by Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> in order to be permitted to participate in LGPE. Upon return from Winter Break, we will have after-school rehearsals for both the Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble. We are scheduling guest clinicians for some of these rehearsals. Please note that these rehearsals are MANDATORY. We also have our Pre-Festival concert at 7:00pm on Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. This concert, as with all concerts, is MANDATORY.

For those of you that are unfamiliar with Large Group Performance Evaluation, this is an opportunity for our bands to be evaluated by band directors from across the state and nation. Our students are judged in many areas from fundamental tone production to perfection of tough musical passages. These evaluations use the National Standards for Music Education and the new Georgia Performance Standards. This event is comparable to End of Course Tests, Benchmarks, SAT, ACT, and other important tests.

Here is the basic LGPE schedule for the Rockdale Band Program:

Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup> – Concert Band performs at 5:00pm

Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup> – Symphonic Band performs at 5:00pm and Wind Ensemble performs at 8:25pm

LGPE is held at Stephenson High School in Lithonia

We will be posting itineraries on our band website prior to the Winter Break.

Please check the calendar for our Winter Guard and HeRoS Percussion Theatre performances. The winter guard will be performing at Pope High School this Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:44pm. They will also be performing in Pensacola, Florida on Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. HeRoS Percussion Theatre has a rehearsal from 9:00am until 5:00pm on Saturday and will perform on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at West Forsyth High School. Helpers are needed for the RCHS Winter Guard and HeRoS Percussion Theater with the floor and equipment. Please contact Mr. Belfast if you are interested in helping with the Winter Guard and contact Mr. Stanton if you are interested in helping with HeRoS.

We appreciate your support and help in all the areas above. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

**Scott T. Stanton**

**Director of Bands**

**Fine Arts Chair**

**Rockdale County High School**

**[www.rockdaleband.com](http://www.rockdaleband.com)**