

**Music Parents provide the following support for the Downingtown High School Music Programs:**

- Tuxes, gowns, color guard uniforms, and cummerbunds to supplement the band uniforms.
- Instruments for band and orchestra; flags, banners, and poles for color guard; and pitch pipes and metronomes for choir.
- Supplemental staffing such as guard and drumline instructors.
- Funding for clinics and masterclasses.
- Awards, plaques, photo plaques, and flowers for senior recognition.
- Educational software, media supplies, and recording equipment.
- Accounting fees, office supplies, and postage.
- Equipping the music department's trucks and trailers.
- Concert sponsors.
- Food for receptions and refreshments at concerts.
- Food, supplies, equipment, etc. for the concession stands.
- Food for bands and football teams at football games.
- Music trip funding for students who are financially burdened.
- Nurses and chaperones.
- Scholarship funds.



MPA information is available online at [www.dhsmpta.org](http://www.dhsmpta.org).

Join the Music Parents mailing list to receive e-mail announcements throughout the year. To sign-up, go to: [groups.google.com/group/dhs-mpa](https://groups.google.com/group/dhs-mpa).



**Downingtown High School Music Parents Association**



*“Making a difference between a good music program and an outstanding music program.”*



[www.dhsmpta.org](http://www.dhsmpta.org)

# **Downingtown High School Music Parents Association**

## **Who We Are**

Downingtown High School Music Parents Association (MPA) is a committed group of parents who believe in the value of music education and the importance of supporting our schools and our children. We take great pride in the tradition of musical excellence here in Downingtown and enjoy being able to contribute to that tradition. We invite you to join us in actively supporting the music programs at Downingtown East and West High Schools.

## **What We Do**

The role of MPA is to provide additional resources and support that allow our schools and students to achieve their potential. Simply put, we provide time and money. Members of MPA contribute their time and talents to fill key roles and provide essential support services. Funds are raised through various activities which are used to pay for expenses not funded by the Downingtown Area School District.

## **How You Can Become Involved**

MPA needs the active involvement of a great many parents to provide essential support services. These parents who volunteer their time and talents are the backbone of the MPA and we always welcome more volunteers. Your time commitment may be great or small, but it is always appreciated. Best of all, volunteering is a wonderful opportunity

to meet other parents, learn some new skills, and have a lot of fun. Opportunities for participation include:

**Staffing the Concession Stand at Kottmeyer Stadium.** The sale of refreshments at football and soccer games is the primary source of revenue for the MPA. Football games require 30 to 40 volunteers per game, and 8 to 10 for soccer. No previous training is necessary and all are welcome.

**Assisting with Fundraisers.** The music students hold fund-raisers during the year to defray the costs of trips. These fundraisers may include the sale of food items or household goods like candles. Parents are needed to help organize these fund-raisers, prepare orders for pickup, and handle the funds. Each student gets to keep the profit from the items that they have sold and the money is kept in their student fund. As trip payments arise, the monies in the student's fund can be transferred to meet those payments.

**Chaperones and Road Crew (Roadies).** Our children often travel to perform. This could include a local trip for the marching band to perform at an away game, or a multi-day trip to perform at venues such as Disney World, the Indianapolis 500, or competitions in Montreal. The choir and orchestra have performed in Boston and Washington, D.C. MPA parents fill two critical roles on these outings. Chaperones travel with the music

students and provide supervision. Roadies are responsible for transporting the musical instruments and equipment. They also drive the truck that tows the band trailer. These are great opportunities to see our musical groups perform before local, regional, and national audiences.

**Nurses/Doctors.** The school district does not provide nurses to accompany our student musicians on field trips. To ensure the safety and well being of our children, we always try to have at least one nurse present to provide first aid should one of our children become sick or injured. Doctors are also welcome.

**Sewing Experts.** If you can sew a straight line and have access to a sewing machine, we need your help creating flags for the color guard, and mending choir robes and marching band uniforms.

**Meetings.** Typically meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM, and alternate between the DHSE and DHSW band rooms. They last approximately one hour and include breakout sessions with the individual music directors. You'll have an opportunity to get details about each music program and to ask questions.

