The BRHS Band Program will hold a DRUM-A-THON starting **SATURDAY JUNE 8th at 8:00am in the BRHS Auditorium through SUNDAY JUNE 9 sometime after 2pm.**

The Band will be attempting a **GUINNESS WORLD RECORD** for the longest group drum roll!!! The current record stands at just over 27 hours. There is an unofficial record of 30 hours that we will strive to exceed to be on the safe side.

We are holding this event to raise money for new drumline equipment. Our current equipment is well past its prime and we will have to borrow equipment for our Memorial Day Parade from other schools since we have 3 broken carriers! Our goal is to raise **$5,700**, the cost of the new equipment.

Each student that wishes to be involved will fill up a pledge sheet for every minute they play. Donors may also put down a maximum pledge amount. At $.25 per minute a max pledge of $25 would need 100 minutes (1 hr, 40 min) of roll time. Since we are trying to achieve a World Record, donors may also write in an additional amount only if we hit 30 hours as a full group. We are also accepting flat donations and folks may also choose to donate at the event. If 10 students were to get 10 $25 max donations, that would raise $2,500. If 15 students got 10 $25 max donations, that would raise $3,750 and so on!

Pledge sheets must be filled out and returned to Mr. Balch by **Friday May 31st.** This is important in our tally and we can better judge our fundraising “thermometer” during the event with everything tallied up before-hand. Please remember good fundraising etiquette and only go to folks you know, etc.

Since this is literally a “marathon” drum roll, we’ll be providing a quiet place to rest, snacks for the participants, water, EAR PLUGS, band aids/tape, as well as the auditorium for the performance and videotaping. We are going to contact the local radio stations, The Pioneer as well as the Grand Rapids Press and 9/10 News and WoodTV 8 for media coverage. We are also going to stream live via YouTube as well as posting updates on Facebook. All participants under 18 must also have parents sign a form for Guinness to verify the world record attempt as well as a BRHS parent permission form to stay overnight.

This is no small undertaking. It is going to be a great challenge mentally and physically to pull off the full 30-hour roll. We are talking to alumni as well as current and future marching drumline members to participate. We also need parent assistance to help me chaperone and relieve one another for sleep, etc. I think we are determined enough (and crazy enough) to pull this off!! Please have your folks contact me if they are interested in helping out in any way – particularly Saturday night.

**We will be making t-shirts for the event on sale for $10 each.** Students, parents and community members may buy a shirt (participant shirts may be free… I’m checking now). These will be for sale at the event.

I’m very excited to attempt a historical feat and raise money for an important part of our program! Practice your rolls!!!!!!!!

MORE INFO:

To pull off the record, we must schedule everyone in pairs for 1 hour at a time (one person rolls for a while, then overlap to the next person and so on). Each person can reasonably roll for 5-10 minutes at a time. Stretching for 20-30 minutes is the most you should do at one time without a break. (Remember, this is a GROUP record – don’t jeopardize the attempt with a lapse in concentration or tired muscles!!) You will probably be asked to do more than one “shift,” and we must have a large team of participants that stay through Saturday night and into Sunday morning.

This is a 30-hour relay of sound on one drum that must never end. Dibs on the final stretch for the record will go to Alex Conati, if he chooses, as he is the only graduating 4-year drumline member. Joe Templin should be his assistant as current section leader.

All of the nuances and rules for the record attempt will be made in detail before the event takes place. Be sure you become very familiar with it when this becomes known. I do not know what type of roll and what speed of roll is acceptable – I figure a medium-soft buzz roll and a reasonable, sustained speed is all you need to do. I am also unsure of exactly who can participate, but I know we will need more than just the current drumline members if Guinness will allow it.

If you plan on attending Alex Conati’s open house, you must note this when we set the schedule so we have folks who continue towards the record (you may not be able to stay at the open house the entire time). Alex has agreed to be part of the overnight crew, but won’t be available all day on the 8th.

**If you were in the drumline this year** **WE PLAN ON SEEING YOU THERE TO HELP OUT!!**

I will need help with the YouTube feed and video equipment. I’ll see if the Schroeder’s are in town for that weekend to help with this – they did this for their recital this semester.

Everyone who rolls will need to be logged in and out so we may account minutes rolled for the pledges. Kramer, myself and a parent will probably do most of the official work for this. We will have stopwatches/phones with us for time-keeping.

I am putting 3 of the new drums on loan through Meyer Music to be on display so folks can check it out. It will be a Mapex Quantum snare, quints and top bass – glossy black with standard hardware.

Wannabe’s, students, parents, community members, administrators and media are certainly welcome from 8am-8pm Saturday and 8am-2(?)pm Sunday to watch. Please, no shouting or distracting behaviors that will break the concentration of the student rolling!

PARENT PERMISSION FORM

(for participants under 18 years of age)

I give my son/daughter permission to participate in the 2013 BRHS Band Drum-A-Thon on June 8-9. If the student is going to be staying overnight, it will be a “lock-in” scenario. I understand this is an intense activity of sustaining a drum roll as a group for 30 hours. My son/daughter will be responsible for their scheduled time(s) and WILL CONTACT MR. BALCH IMMEDIATELY IF THEY CANNOT ATTEND.

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Print\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Print\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN WITH FILLED OUT PLEDGE SHEET BY MAY 31st.**

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\_\_\_\_\_\_ I am available to chaperone the 2013 BRHS DRUM-A-THON! My hours of availability are:

June 8 or 9 **\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_** Phone or email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

June 8 or 9 **\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_**

June 8 or 9 **\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_ I am willing to stay up overnight on Saturday June 8 to relieve Mr. Balch (the more the merrier – and the more sleep we get!!!)

\_\_\_\_\_ I can assist with publicity, contacting community members, selling t-shirts at the event during day-time hours (please note hours above)

\_\_\_\_\_ I can assist with bringing in donations of food/water/snacks for the participants (jot down what you’d be willing to bring in)

\_\_\_\_\_ I have a power source battery I’m willing to donate for the weekend in case of a power outage (video cameras, computers, official clock, etc.)