

Charms Information

Who: All PSHS band families

What is Charms? Charms is a cloud-based organization, management, and communication software that we use to maintain our student and parent information such as email addresses, phone numbers, chaperones, and lots more. It helps organize our library, and keeps track of our inventory and uniforms. We use it to send group emails, track fundraiser and trip money and forms. We also use it for fixed billing items (marching band gloves, shoes, tux shirts) and instrument repair charges. We use it to maintain our calendar and manage parent volunteer needs.

When: Because Charms is web-based, it is available 24/7.

Where: Charms is web-based so it can be accessed from any device with an internet browser.

Why: Charms allows us to store information in one place and access it from anywhere. We are going to use Charms to manage almost everything we do (calendar, finances, volunteers, libraries, inventories, forms, etc.). If you want to know what's happening in the program or with your student, you should familiarize yourself with this program.

How: Go to www.charmsoffice.com and click the green Login/Enter button on the upper right side of the screen. You need two pieces of information, the School Code and a password. **NOTE – all fields are case-sensitive.** The school code is PlainfieldSouthBand. For the password, all **returning** members created a password last school year. All **new** members will use their student ID number the first time and should change the password to something else after that.

For a more detailed description of how to access it, go to the PSHS Band blog at www.pshsbands.blogspot.com.

What else do I need to know?

1. Does it cost me anything? NO! The Band Boosters pay for our subscription.
2. Your information is secure.
3. There is a free Charms app for your mobile device.
4. Charms doesn't sell advertising, use web trackers or other intrusive software, they don't sell usage statistics, or use any analytic tools.

Additional information is available from their website (www.charmsoffice.com)

***There will be a Charms “crash-course” on Monday, May 21st from 7 – 7:30 PM in the band room for anyone interested in learning more about navigating this program.

SMARTMUSIC INFORMATION

Who: All PSHS band students

What: SmartMusic is an interactive assessment tool that provides a way to dramatically improve students' skills. As students play along with music onscreen, SmartMusic provides immediate feedback on their performance by showing correct pitches and rhythms in green and incorrect in red. They are also able to hear their part in context with SmartMusic's background accompaniment of a full ensemble.

When: Students can use the SmartMusic computers before school, after school, or during their study hall time. You can also purchase a subscription to be able to use this powerful software at home.

Where: SmartMusic is available at PSHS in some of our practice rooms. To fully implement and benefit from SmartMusic, families would acquire a subscription to use at home.

Why: To address evolving assessment and accountability requirements, SmartMusic offers solutions to develop and implement consistent authentic assessments in our music programs.

- Document evidence of student achievement, making it easier to demonstrate student growth
- SmartMusic gives students instant feedback on their performance.
- Parents can log in to view their child's grades and listen to recordings.

How: To access it at school, you must use a designated SmartMusic laptop in the music wing.

Returning students will use their same login information from the previous year.

New members to the program will be given class time to create their accounts. To purchase a subscription for home, go to www.smartmusic.com and click the “Purchase a Subscription” button on the right side of the screen and follow the prompts.