

D211 POST: OLD PHS BAND UNIFORMS GET NEW LIFE



This year sees the Palatine High School Pirate Marching Band taking the field in brand new uniforms. The uniforms replaced uniforms which began use nearly 30 years ago. Band director Carlos Esquivel wanted to immortalize the long standing and outgoing uniforms.

After discussion with members of the Band Boosters the group decided on creating pillows from the uniforms. The pillows were ultimately designed by Booster member Ellen Theis. Theis realized the varying size of uniforms would make patterns difficult. With her background as an engineer, she developed the formula which would allow the ultimate use the use for identical pillows.

“The uniforms themselves were really stunning,” Theis said. “I wanted to capture a lot of the look and feel of them as we could. We wanted keep this as a memento for alumni and students.”



Each pillow has the embroidered P from the back of the jacket on one side and the ornate scroll on the reverse. The pillow edges are trimmed using material from the uniform trousers. The boosters have been able to create approximately 200 pillows from retired uniforms.



The boosters worked closely with Palatine High School Culinary Arts Teacher Erika Varela to use the Family & Consumer Science rooms during band camp. While students worked on perfecting their performance crafts, the parents worked to craft the collectable pillows.

Esquivel said the pillows are expected to go on sale during Homecoming. For more information or to place orders visit the PHS Marching Bands website [here](#) or contact Esquivel at 847-755-1802 or cesquivel@d211.org.

[D211 POST: PHS BAND STEPS IN TO DECADE OLD TRADITION](#)



Members of the Palatine High School Marching Band march through the neighborhoods around the school during the annual band barbeque and parade.

The neighborhoods around Palatine High School rang with the sounds of music as the PHS Marching Band concluded band camp with their annual parade and barbeque.

Assistant Band Director Marissa Rentner said that the parade serves two distinct purposes.

“One of the reasons we do it is so the students can some practice on parade basics,” she said. “We also do it as a way to create a community event. Any way we can get involved in the community is something we love to do.”



Members of the Palatine High School Marching Band parade through the residential neighborhoods around the school during their annual band barbeque and parade August 2.

The parade route moves throughout several residential streets in the vicinity of the high school and ultimately ends at the home of one of the band booster members. At the end point, the students break for a small barbeque. Following the meal, the students take a different route back to the school before being released. The parade marks the end of the school's band camp which prepares the students for the upcoming marching band season.

First year drum major and high school senior Zoe Vukelich said she enjoys seeing the families coming out to watch the band's parade.

"This made me really happy to see all of our families," she said. "It makes me happy to realize to see that these are the people I am going to be in band with my senior year. I love band"

This year's parade route saw the students march just over 2 miles with dozens of families and neighbors lining the streets.



Two Palatine High School Marching Band Alumni watch the end of band camp parade from the roof of a house in Palatine August 2.