

## ***About the Director***

*Mr. Patrick Ruddy is in his third year serving as the Director of Bands at Harbor Springs Schools. Prior to his arrival, he was the Director of Bands at Flushing Community Schools and an instructor at the University of Michigan-Flint. While at Flushing, the high school marching band consistently ranked among the top ten bands in Michigan in Flight II, which qualified them to compete at the Michigan Competing Director's Association State Championships held at Ford Field in Detroit. In addition, the marching band was selected twice to perform at Disney's "Make a Dream Come True" parade in Orlando, FL. While under his direction, the high school Concert Band and Wind Ensemble consistently received straight superior performance ratings at the MSBOA District Band and Orchestra Festival. Finally, the Holiday Collage Concert that he helped coordinate received the "Excellence in Education Award" from the Michigan School Board Association in 2002.*

*While teaching at Flushing High School, Mr. Ruddy was also a lecturer at the University of Michigan-Flint where he taught undergraduate courses in music education including topics in elementary band as well as marching band techniques.*

*Before he worked at Flushing High School, he spent four years as the Director of Bands at Goodrich high school and nine years as the Associate Director for the Plymouth-Canton High School Marching Band. While at Plymouth-Canton, he helped lead the band to multiple Bands of America Regional and three National Championships. During this same period, he was part of the instructional staff with the Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps, which consistently placed in the top five, including two first place finishes, at the Drum Corps International World Championships. He continues to be an active designer, clinician, and adjudicator for high school and college bands throughout the country. To date, he has designed over 250 shows for high school and college marching bands, drum and bugle corps, winter percussion, and winter color guard programs.*

*He received his formal training at the University of Michigan-Flint where he earned a Bachelors degree in Music Education, with a History minor. He then earned a Masters degree in Wind Conducting at Michigan State University.*

*He, along with his wife Tanya and twin five-year-old girls Eva and Ella, are very thankful to be part of the Harbor Springs Schools and look forward to becoming even more involved with the rest of the community.*