

BEAT Video Program Application Packet 2016-17 School Year

Thank you for your interest in the award-winning BEAT Video Program. Please read the following information carefully. The most important thing you have to remember is that you should be doing this because you want to learn more about working in a journalism/TV production environment, and not because your friends are doing it.

All students in grades 6-12 are eligible. You do not have to be a current member of the Program to join. To be considered for the 2016-17 BEAT Video Program, you must take the following actions:

1. Complete the attached Student Information Form.
2. Have your teachers complete the three attached BEAT Video Program Evaluation Forms and ask them to return them via mail (Brunswick City Schools, Attn: John Wasylko/BEAT, 3581 Center Road, Brunswick, OH 44212) or email (jwasylko@bcsoh.org) by **Friday, April 15, 2016**.
3. Read, understand and sign the BEAT Video Program Procedures and Attendance Policy.
4. Be sure your parents read everything as well.
5. Return the completed Student Information Form, the three completed Evaluation Forms (or the names of the teachers asked to complete these forms) and the signed Procedures/Attendance Policy postmarked no later than **Friday, April 15, 2016** to *Brunswick City Schools, Attn: John Wasylko/BEAT, 3581 Center Road, Brunswick, OH 44212*.

If you have any questions regarding the award-winning BEAT Video Program, contact John Wasylko (BEAT Video Program Advisor) at (330) 321-7601. Keep in mind everyone has an equal opportunity to be a member of the BEAT Video Program.

Student Information Form
New Members
BEAT Video Program

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

E-mail _____ parent's e-mail _____ Grade _____

School currently attending _____

School you will attend next year _____

1. Describe in 3 sentences why you want to be a member of the Video Program.

2. Describe any previous journalism/video experience that you have. (Please remember this is not necessary for admission into the Program.)

3. List any extra-curricular activities you were involved in last year.

4. List other activities you plan on joining next year (besides the Video Program).

5. List what skills, talents, etc. that you can bring to the Program.

6. Describe yourself in 5 words.

BEAT Video Program Procedures & Attendance Policy

1. BEAT Video Program interviews will be conducted in early/mid- May. If selected, new students will be asked to attend several mandatory meetings in July/August to learn journalism/equipment operation in preparation for the 2016-17 school year. **A membership fee of \$60 (non-refundable) is required to join the Program by May 31, 2016**, which pays for a BEAT T-shirt and an end-of-the-year banquet.
2. Students are required to attend all BEAT Video Program meetings during the school year. Meetings will be held at the Brunswick High School BEAT TV Studio (3581 Center Road) every other Saturday (each team will meet at a different time on Saturdays). Also, students must be able to work on a select number of BEAT team productions and individual projects throughout the 2016-17 school year.
3. Attendance at all meetings is mandatory, as it is during meetings that assignments are selected and discussed. Failure to attend any meeting may result in dismissal from the BEAT Video Program. Students are encouraged to participate in other school activities and scheduling conflicts will be resolved should they arise. Any conflicts should be discussed in person with the advisor prior to the day of the conflict (see attendance policy).
4. Students must display professionalism during all BEAT Video Program productions. If a student displays unprofessional behavior during a production or meeting, he/she will be asked to leave the production immediately. Afterwards, the advisor will review the conduct and possible dismissal from the Program will be considered.
5. Attendance: We realize students are involved in other organizations. **We are happy that students participate in other activities as long as they communicate with the BEAT Video Program Advisor in person, and in writing about them.** Scheduling personal appointments or simply not attending a BEAT Video Program meeting is not recommended. If you need to have doctor's appointments, please try to schedule them on non-Video Program days. We have such little rehearsal time for a group of this nature. If a member is absent, our team does not function in a proper way. Please do not let your fellow members down by being absent.

In the event that you miss a meeting or production, a record of the date and the reason must be reported to the Advisor (who will decide if it is an excused or unexcused absence). Because the Video Program is not an actual "class", disciplinary measures upheld by the school do not work as consequences. Therefore, listed below is how you will be penalized for attendance:

- **Tardy:** Meetings start promptly on your assigned day (Saturdays, times to be determined). If you are late or absent, you will be marked as "absent-unexcused".
- **Excused Absences:** Speak directly to the BEAT Video Program Advisor (John Wasylko) ahead of the day in conflict. He will decide if it is an acceptable excuse. If you cannot speak with the Advisor directly, please call (330) 321-7601 and leave a message, as well as a phone number where you can be reached. Work is NOT considered an excused absence! Any productions/events will be listed roughly a month ahead of their actual dates. This gives everyone the time to rearrange your work schedule. This is YOUR responsibility.

- **Unexcused Absences:** When a student is absent and the excuse is not valid, it will be counted as "unexcused". It is the Advisor's discretion as to the validity of an excuse. No argument should be given. One unexcused absence will be marked as a "warning", and two unexcused absences will result in dismissal from the Program.

Please sign and Return this Portion of the Sheet

I have read and agree to abide by the above requirements with my parent/guardian and understand the importance of my dedication to the BEAT Video Program throughout the entire school year. I will do my best to contribute to the success of the group and uphold the Video Program's tradition of excellence.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

BEAT Video Program Evaluation Form

3581 Center Road, Brunswick Ohio 44212 (330) 321-7601

John Wasytko. BEAT Video Program Advisor

To be completed by the students:

Student's Name _____ Date _____

Teacher's Name _____ Date _____

To be completed by the teacher:

Please complete the following student evaluation and return it via email to John Wasytko at jwasytko@bcsoh.org by **April 15, 2016**. Rate each area as follows: 4 = Outstanding, 3 = Good, 2 = Average, and 1 = Needs Improvement. Thank you for your assistance.

I know that there are many forms coming across your desk on a daily basis. I really appreciate you taking the time to help this student.

The above named student:	Low			High
1. Is cooperative in class	1	2	3	4
2. Shows respect for authority	1	2	3	4
3. Has a good attendance record	1	2	3	4
4. Demonstrates strong leadership skills	1	2	3	4
5. Follows directions well	1	2	3	4
6. Has good relationships with peers	1	2	3	4
7. Is a positive role model	1	2	3	4
8. Takes pride in work & appearance	1	2	3	4
9. Demonstrates enthusiasm and interest	1	2	3	4
10. Should be a member of the Video Program	1	2	3	4

Please feel free to make any additional comments that you feel would be helpful for our selection process in the space below. Thank you.

Total _____

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Information for Parents

If your child is interesting in joining the BEAT Video Program, parents need to know it is a big commitment for both of you.

Students are required to attend meetings unless they are temporarily excused and must complete written assignments on time to move forward in our group. They will first learn to write stories, which are posted on the BEAT *Open Lines* link (www.thebeat22.com). Their stories may also be selected to run in local newspapers from time to time.

Finally, they will learn to produce news videos that will be broadcast on the BEAT/Channel 22 and on our BEAT video-on-demand server (www.thebeat22.com). These videos may also air on Northeast Ohio TV news stations as well (of which they have in the past).

There are two meetings a month (except holidays), with both the new group and previous groups meeting on Saturdays. They meet from a half hour to an hour unless something special is happening and they will have notice of that. They will each receive a copy of their calendar of meetings and our contact information. Please put it in a safe place so you can refer to it if needed. One written story every six weeks (one-two paragraphs) is required from all BEAT members.

If they have a problem getting ideas, the BEAT advisors are more than happy to provide ideas and information for them. In January, each new student will be assigned a “beat” – just like a news reporter – and that will consist of an assignment to one of the schools in the district. From then on, their stories will be about something happening in those schools.

The majority of our communication is done via e-mail or phone between meetings. It is vital that the student and parent have e-mail addresses that are checked regularly and that e-mails are answered as soon as possible. Stories/photos are sent via e-mail as are suggested revisions, etc.

It also means parents have to provide transportation to meetings on Saturdays. You may also be asked to drive for potential field trips, such as to area TV stations.

We are looking forward to working with your child if he or she can meet the goals. Unfortunately, space is limited so not all of those who are interviewed in May will be accepted, which is why it is important for everyone to understand the commitment it will take.

Thank you in advance. We look forward to working with your child in this rewarding endeavor.

John Wasytko, BEAT Advisor
(330) 321-7601