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Kevin Shira
Director of Bands
Ocean Spring School District

Kevin Shira is currently in his ninth year on staff with the Ocean Springs School District serving in his fifth year as the Director of Bands. His teaching responsibilities include directing the Blue-Grey Pride marching band, conducting the Ocean Springs High School Wind Symphony, and instructing the double reeds at Ocean Springs Upper Elementary.

Prior to joining Ocean Springs High School, Mr. Shira spent two years as the Assistant Director of Bands for the Pass Christian School District. His concert ensembles earned consistent superior ratings both at local and state evaluations. In the Fall of 2016, he assisted the award winning Pride of the Pass Marching Band as they won the Class 4A silver medal, placing first in music at the MHSAA State Marching Band Championships.

Shira attended Colonial Forge High School in his hometown of Stafford, Virginia. His Bachelors in Music Education was earned at the University of Southern Mississippi where he was actively involved in promoting the school of music. At USM, Shira performed with the Symphonic Winds, Symphony Orchestra and in numerous chamber ensembles under the direction of Dr. Mohamad Schuman, Dr. Jay Dean, and Dr. Kimberly Woolly. Shira was a four year drum major of the Pride of Mississippi, leading them in performance at the 84th annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, the 2011 Conference USA championship Game, and several other bowl game appearances. In 2019, Mr. Shira received his Masters of Music Education degree at William Carey University studying with Dr. Wes Dykes and Dr. Jeremy Morgan. In December 2019, Mr. Shira was awarded the prestigious A.E. McClain Outstanding Young Band Director Award from the Mississippi Bandmasters Association.

In his short tenure as Director of Bands, the Wind Symphony has performed at the 2022 Tri-States Honor Band Weekend on the campus of the University Tennessee Chattanooga, the 2022 Western International Band Clinic in Seattle Washington, the 2024 Mississippi State Honor Band Clinic in Starkville Mississippi, and the 2024 Music For All National Concert Band Festival in Indianapolis Indiana. In January of 2025 the BGP and the Wind Symphony were honored to represent Mississippi in the 2025 London New Year's Day Parade. This December, the Wind Symphony will perform as the Featured Ensemble at the 2025 Mississippi Bandmasters Clinic in Natchez Mississippi. They were most recently one of four ensembles selected to perform at the 2026 CBDNA/NBA Southern Division Conference in Tampa Florida.

Mr. Shira is a member of the National Band Association where he currently serves as the State Chair for Mississippi, Phi Beta Mu International Band Fraternity, The Mississippi Bandmasters Association, and the Gulf Coast Band Directors Association where he currently serves as Past President. Mr. Shira resides in Pascagoula Mississippi with his husband Patrick.

