

Message sent from Olathe Public Schools

Parents and Students:

We are off to a great start to the semester! Basketball pep band game tonight and musical rehearsals in full swing heading into the final stretch before the performances! Below is important information about upcoming events.

Olathe East Area Festival

On Tuesday, January 31st we will be having our East Area Band Festival featuring all the programs at East along with the combined 7th and 8th grade bands at CT and PT. This event is held in the gym and each group setup in the gym will be labeled so you know which setup to sit in front of to see your child. Students should wear their concert uniforms they used for the winter concert.

Marching Band Camp Dates

As much as possible, I try to keep corresponding dates for our camps. However, the calendar has shifted when the start of school which in turn has shifted one of our camp weeks for this summer.

- Pre-camp- May 30th and 31st and June 1st and 2nd. Only new marchers, drumline and leadership team members report on May 30th, but all members of the band will report on the other three days.
- Full-camp- July 24th through the 28th and July 31st through August 4th. The Orange and Blue BBQ would be the evening of the 4th. Drumline and leadership team report for July 24th and 25th and all members of the band report for the remaining days.

As always, if there are conflicts the student should come into the band office and work through them with me as soon as possible. These camps are required for all students in marching band, but I am willing to work through conflicts as long as it is handled well in advance.

Next week I will work on putting together a 2023 marching season calendar and share that with everyone as soon as it is finished.

Bingo

On Sunday, February 5th will be our annual Bingo Event. Attached to this email is a flyer with information. This event pays for the drill writer and music arranger for our field show so it is **critical** that this event is successful so we can continue to be one of the top marching band

programs in the State! We have held this event for several years and it has really evolved into a very fun community event with great attendance!

We also need some help with this event. Please see the links below:

Donations

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E054AAEA829A5F85-2023>

Volunteers

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E054AAEA829A5F85-20231>

Next Year's Band Trip

I shared with students this morning that I have sent a proposal to the school board for the band to travel to New York City next year for our band trip. We would participate in a Bands of America Regional Wind Band Festival in New Jersey and then see many of the great sites that New York has to offer. The board meeting for this month has already been held and so most likely this would go in front of them for approval in March. However, I wanted to go ahead and share the destination with the students now so we can start planning. In late March we will hold a trip meeting in the auditorium. Students interested in attending the trip should attend with a parent/guardian. We are still finalizing a few costs so we will wait to share costs and a tentative itinerary until this meeting. Of all the trips I have gone on with the Olathe East band program over the year our last trip to NYC in 2009 was probably my favorite. I think this will be a wonderful experience for the students and a very different experience than L.A. for the many students who have the opportunity to go on two trips because of the delay to the LA trip from Covid restrictions.

Trailer Sponsorships

We are very fortunate to have a new trailer for our program thanks to the generosity of a band parent. We also have two trailers who were last wrapped in 2013 and the wrap is cracking and fading badly and needs to be replaced. We are in the process of getting all three of the trailers wrapped. To finance this project we sell 6 advertising spots on the back of the trailers. This is not a fundraiser, we are simply trying to cover the cost of wrapping the trailers through the selling of advertising. We will guarantee that their sponsorship will remain on the trailer for a minimum of 5 years but it will honestly probably be on there for closer to 7 or 8. We are asking for \$2300 to have their logo on the rear panel of all three trailers. If there are any parents that own their own company or work for a company that you think would be willing to advertise please reach out to me. Our goal is to secure the advertisers soon so we can get the trailers wrapped this spring and have them ready to go for camps this summer and the season next fall. A reminder since we the boosters have 5013C status this donation would be tax deductible.

Thanks,
Mr. Smikahl

