

## End of Camp Reminders

1 message

Jeff Smikahl <jsmikahloe@olatheschools.org>

Tue, Jul 27, 2021 at 8:47 PM

Cc: Jennifer Creek <jcreekoe@olatheschools.org>, Kimberlyn Angelo <kbangelo@olatheschools.org>, Chase Wallace <cewallace@olatheschools.org>, Josh Votaw <jjvotaw@gmail.com>, "jordan\_tincher@yahoo.com" <jordan\_tincher@yahoo.com>

Dear Parents and Students:

As we move towards the end of a very productive two weeks of camp, I wanted to provide some additional information and reminders.

### Thanks!

Thanks to everyone who came out and supported us at the carwash last weekend. We set a record with over \$2400 raised on Saturday!

### End of Camp Performance

Friday night will be our first performance of the marching season and one of the very few live performances for band inside East in the last year and a half. We are very excited to show off the hard work the kids have accomplished at this point of the season. The performance will be held in the main gym at Olathe East and is a required performance for students for a grade. In addition to the performance, we will be holding one of our primary fundraisers for Olathe East Band Booster's general fund. Typically, we would have a big BBQ event with the silent auction and parents and students would spend time eating and bidding on items. Without the ability to feed everyone this year we would ask you to eat before you come to the event and stay after the performance to bid on the wonderful assortment of items that parents have worked all summer on acquiring. The money raised for the boosters goes towards student meals during marching season, the maintenance for the band trailers, and a multitude of other items. A good example is the ice cream truck that the boosters are paying for tomorrow morning for all the students at camp. Attached is the silent auction flyer. We hope you will stay and join us for the event! If you would like to volunteer to help with the silent auction, please sign up here:

## Auction Volunteer Sign-up

The schedule for Friday evening is as follows:

### Orange and Blue Silent Auction and Band Preview

5:30 Volunteers arrive for a brief training

6:00 Marching Band Preview Performance - You may pick up your auction bid number as you arrive for the performance

6:30 Silent Auction Opens

Restaurant Row Opens

Brown Bag Raffle Opens

8:00 Auction is complete and items may be picked up and paid for

Guidelines for masks for audience members right now for the district is that they are optional but recommended. Students will continue to wear their performance masks like we have all of camp when we have been inside.

### Camp Reminders

- Wednesday morning, we will be ending rehearsal early and having a team building water gun fight. As mentioned above the boosters have arranged to have an ice cream truck stop by for the students. Similar to the "spirit days" we have every day with the different themes, participation is not required but is highly encouraged.
- As the weather really starts to heat up a reminder that students should be not only be drinking at camp, but also be drinking a lot of water at home in the evenings. Pre-hydrating is one of the best ways to make sure students stay healthy at camp. In addition, students should still be using sunscreen and eating breakfast.
- Because of the end of camp performance in the evening, we will not rehearse on Friday afternoon. We will go from 7 to 11 like normal and then all students except leadership team will be dismissed. Leadership team students will need to stick around at 11 and help setup for the auction.
- Students will wear their show shirt that they will be given after the rehearsal on Friday morning and shorts, and tennis shoes for the performance.
- Students are required to pass off their warm-up music to their leadership team member by Wednesday.
- The main portions of Olathe East are getting a new air conditioning unit this summer. It is supposed to be up and running by Friday night. Hopefully, this will not happen, but if it should happen to not be working by Friday evening, we will send out an alternative plan via email prior to the start of the event. We will also notify students via the GroupMe messenger app.
- For students who missed the pictures today, there is a way to still be included in the picture. Please email Mr. Smikahl for information.

We have a lot of students who have never experienced "real" marching band until this year. I am so impressed with what we have been able to accomplish with this summer! I hope you will join us on Friday night.

Thanks,  
Mr. Smikahl

## Jeff Smikahl

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**From:** Jeff Smikahl  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 6:52 PM  
**Cc:** Jennifer Creek <[jcreekoe@olatheschools.org](mailto:jcreekoe@olatheschools.org)>; Kimberlyn Angelo <[kbangelo@olatheschools.org](mailto:kbangelo@olatheschools.org)>; Chase Wallace <[cwallace@olatheschools.org](mailto:cwallace@olatheschools.org)>; Josh Votaw <[jjvotaw@gmail.com](mailto:jjvotaw@gmail.com)>; [jordan\\_tincher@yahoo.com](mailto:jordan_tincher@yahoo.com) <[jordan\\_tincher@yahoo.com](mailto:jordan_tincher@yahoo.com)>  
**Subject:** OE Band Update

Parents and Students -

I do not have access to student emails currently so please be sure to share this email with your child! I have notified them in GroupMe that I have sent out an update.

I hope that this letter finds everyone enjoying a wonderful break! We are a week out from the start of band camp activities, so I wanted to share some information and reminders. As always, please email me if you have any questions.

### Camp Information

The daily logistics of the camp should work very similar to the camp in June. We will keep the same schedule including the open (unsupervised) two-hour lunch in the middle of the day. Students are free to go home, go out to eat, or bring a sack lunch and eat in the band room. However, the staff usually leaves for lunch so there will not be any supervision available during this time. Important items to remember include tennis shoes with socks (no flip flops, sandals, or boots!), sunscreen, a water bottle with your **name on it** instrument, and music. Additionally, all brass and woodwind instruments will need their own flip folder and lyre. These are available for purchase at Meyer Music. I suggest students take their instrument in to the store, so they are sure they get a lyre that fits their instrument. If you didn't have your lyre for pre-camp, you will want to have it for this camp when we start setting drill on the field. It will be an important tool to help with memorization. Percussion students are expected to have a three-ring binder with page protector sheets (instead of a flip folder) and ear plugs. Ear plugs can be the cheap foam ones all the way up to some nice (and expensive) music ones. All students should have a pencil in their case.

Just a reminder that camp is required, and it is where we will learn approximately 60% of the show. In terms of rehearsal time, one day of camp equals one week of rehearsal time during the school year. One week of camp is the equivalent to an entire month of in school rehearsals. Students who miss camp and do not let me know may be written out of the show (at the discretion of the director). Students should report to the band room first each day, and then they will be directed to either the field or gym to start the day. Rehearsal will always start promptly at 7:00 a.m. so please make sure you are allowing yourself enough time to get to the field. Leadership team we will need help with props for most of our rehearsals this season so you will need to arrive earlier than the other students. Please make sure to eat breakfast before you arrive! We will be working very hard, and it will be important to have energy. Also, try to get outside some this weekend and start getting acclimated to the heat if you haven't already been doing so. Students, the biggest change to the daily schedule compared to pre-camp in June, is that you will be inside during the afternoon for music rehearsal instead of out on the field.

Students, please make sure you have the warm-ups memorized prior to your arrival at camp. We plan to have our warm-up memorization pass-offs during camp.

Here is the schedule for the two weeks:

#### **Drumline Camp (this includes all pit members as well)**

- Monday July 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday July 20<sup>th</sup> -- camp runs from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. These two days are for all percussion students (drumline and front ensemble). Drum majors should report on Monday at 8:00 a.m., and section leaders and drum majors should report on Tuesday at 8:00 a.m. We will be working to get all the rehearsal spaces setup for camp, and we will also be doing our warm-up memorization pass-offs for leadership team on Tuesday.

#### **Band Camp**

- Wednesday July 21<sup>st</sup> – First Full Day of Band Camp-- All members report from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m.
- Thursday July 22<sup>nd</sup> - Camp continues for all members with the same schedule
- Friday July 23<sup>rd</sup> - Camp continues for all members with the same schedule

- Saturday July 24<sup>th</sup> - Camp Carwash at Meyer Music. Meyer Music has shortened their Saturday hours, so now we have moved from two-hour carwash shifts to one and half hour shifts- All members are required to fill a shift, please let me know if you need to switch times and go to a different shift. The schedule is as follows: Drumline and Low Brass- 10:00 to 11:30; Trumpets and Mellos- 11:30 to 1:00 p.m.; Flute, Clarinet, and Saxes- 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

- Monday July 26<sup>th</sup> to Thursday July 29<sup>th</sup> - Camp continues for all members with the same schedule
- Friday July 30 -- Morning rehearsal for all members 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. - leadership team members stay to help setup for evening performance after the morning rehearsal. No rehearsal in the afternoon. In the evening will be our end of camp performance. Unfortunately, we will not be able to hold our Orange and Blue BBQ again this year, but we do plan to hold the silent auction. This is our very first required performance, and one of our biggest fundraisers for the band program. It has really evolved into an excellent event! Students are expected to attend this performance, it is not optional!

### ACT

Typically, the early test date conflicts with the Old Settlers Day parade, but since Old Settlers has been canceled for this year the September 11<sup>th</sup> date is a great option and will not conflict with band events! The other good news is that we do not have a marching band contest on the date of the second test date in October, so that weekend would be an option this year as well.

### Marching Season Calendar

I shared this information last year but wanted to send it out again. Students earn participation points towards their grades at every rehearsal, and they earn a significant number of points for every performance. It is extremely important to the success of the group that we have great attendance throughout the season. If you haven't had a chance to look at the calendar, please let me know now about any potential conflicts. The sooner I know about conflicts the easier it is for me to work around them. The dates I am the least flexible are the marching band contests. We pay a significant amount of money for custom drill, so it is critical that those days are kept open and that we have perfect attendance.

After camp is finished, we will have one week completely off from rehearsals and then we will start our weekly Monday evening rehearsals on August 9th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

### L.A. Trip

There have been some questions about when the chaperons for the trip will be selected. I decided to wait until we are back in school in August to select them. I currently don't have contact information for any of the students not in marching band. There are a lot of students in the concert band that are going on the trip, so I want to make those parents can be considered for a position as well. [Attached you will find information about our next fundraiser for the trip.](#) This will be taking place in conjunction with camp so please read this information as it is time-sensitive!

### Band Boosters

We still have a few open positions with the band boosters. Coming off a year where parents did not get to participate in boosters like normal it is harder for us to recruit to fill those positions. If you have any interest in helping out, please let us know and we can help guide you to make a good fit!

I think the show is going to be very fun and I am looking forward to an excellent camp!

Thanks,  
Mr. Smikahl

### **Jeff Smikahl**

Director of Bands  
Performing Arts Department Chair

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