

OE Band Update

1 message

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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 19th and Tuesday July 20th -- 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 21st – 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 22nd - Camp continues for all members with the same schedule
- Friday July 23rd - Camp continues for all members with the same schedule
 - Saturday July 24th - 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 Mello- 11:30 to 1:00 p.m.; Flute, Clarinet, and Saxes- 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.
- Monday July 26th to Thursday July 29th - 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 11th 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

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