

OE Band Update 4-30-21

1 message

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To: jennbillam@gmail.com

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Message sent from Olathe Public Schools

Parents and Students:

Below you will find several pieces of important information about extra rehearsals and plans for the concerts next week.

Rehearsals

In preparation for the concert on Tuesday we will be holding the following extra rehearsals:

Monday, May 3rd- 7 a.m.- Jazz Band rehearsal

Tuesday, May 4th- 7 a.m.- Wind Ensemble rehearsal

Tuesday, May 4th- 2nd Half of Advisory- Combined Symphonic Band/Concert Band/7th hour percussion rehearsal

Spring Concert

We still hope to have the concert outside on Tuesday, May 4th. However, at this point the weather is not looking favorable. With this in mind, I have told the students we will operate with a Plan A and a Plan B and will choose on Tuesday. Those plans are detailed below. Regardless of which plan we use, we will start at 6:00 p.m. to allow time for awards and senior presentation in addition to the concert itself. We are asking students to dress nice which for us means no shorts, no hats, no t-shirts or flip flops. We don't want parents to go spend money on clothes, please contact us if you need to borrow some clothes. I will make the decision on which plan to follow by 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday. The report time for the students for the concert will be somewhat determined by if we are performing inside or outside. I will include report time in the email that I send out at 3:00 on Tuesday. It is very important for me that we are able to recognize the seniors as a group so both of these plans will allow us to all attend the event together.

- Plan A- We will have the concert outside. Chairs will be supplied for students, but all parents and guests should bring their own folding lawn chairs. Towards the end of the concert we will do a senior recognition and will invite the parents/guardians of the senior to come down to the front of the crowd when they hear their child's senior memory played over the speakers. Even though we will be outside we will still ask everyone to wear masks. If we are outside it will be cooler than it has been recently so students should take that into account when choosing what they will wear. We will have OE backgrounds up for students and parents to have their picture taken together.
- Plan B- We will have the concert in the main gym. Students will stay seated on the gym floor in their groups (similar to the Area Festival) for the duration of the concert. Parents should sit in their family "pods" and spread out between both sides of the gym as much as possible. For parents that don't feel comfortable being in the gym feel free to sit in the commons area and listen through the gym doors. We will do the same senior recognition as outlined above and will ask for parents to come down and line up in front of the wind ensemble during the recognition portion. Once again, we will be following the district's mask mandate that everyone in attendance will wear a mask. We will have OE backgrounds up for students and parents to have their picture taken together.

Percussion Show

We have changed our plans slightly for the Percussion Show. We will not be livestreaming the event. Instead, we have been given permission to have a live audience. Similar to the theatre events that have been held this spring,

we will be using an online ticketing system. Tickets for the event are \$5 and the proceeds will go towards percussion equipment for Olathe East. The auditorium will have seats in groups of four and groups of two and we ask that if you are only in a group of two that you save the four seats for bigger groups. I will send out an email on Tuesday once ticketing goes live. The event is Saturday, May 8th at 7:00 p.m. Students participating in the show will have a dress rehearsal at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday. If you have never seen the show I really encourage you to come check it out! It is less of a concert and more of a show with a constant stream of different times of percussion groups.

Leadership Team Interviews

During class time on Wednesday and Thursday of next week we will be conducting interviews with anyone that is interested in being part of the band leadership team for next year.

Thanks,

Mr. Smikahl

