



Message sent from Olathe Public Schools

Parents and Students-

We are reaching the peak of marching season and things are about as busy as they have ever been! Please see all the information updates below.

NYC Trip

Thank you for your patience through this process. I have never had to plan a trip on the same year we hosted a marching contest, and it has been extremely challenging.

- At this point I have typically have my chaperones chosen but I have had to push that out until I get through hosting OMI next week. Once we are finished with that event this will be at the very top of my to-do-list.
- I received some additional information today about financial assistance which will help me proceed with that process. I will be sending some additional information out next week to move forward with the next steps.
- To help offset the cost of the trip we have

two fundraisers coming up. On October 10th we will be starting our annual cookie dough fundraiser. While not particularly original in its concept, this has been our most consistent fundraiser for our trips over the years. Students will be bringing information home with them on the 10th and we will end the fundraising on the 23rd. It is not required but we have had kids pay for a significant portion of their trip with this fundraiser. In November we will be holding our mattress fundraiser that we hold every trip year. More information to come at a later date.

Concert Band and 6th Hour Percussion Class

Reminders that we have two events coming up in the next couple weeks. On Monday, October 2nd students will be traveling with the marching band to the Olathe Marching Exhibition.

Students should be in the band room at 5:15 to ride the bus to and from the event with us and should eat dinner before they arrive as there will not be any food available on-site. This is a key component of our unit on marching bands and is a significant portion of their band grade for this semester.

A reminder that the first concert for these students will be on Tuesday, October 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Report times for the students will be sent out closer to the event. We will not have the concert uniforms ready in time for this performance so we will have the students "dress nice". We will go over what is appropriate for clothing options in class.

Jazz Combo Class

A reminder that the first concert for these students will be on Tuesday, October 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Report times for the students will be sent out closer to the

event. Students should be regularly practicing at home with backing tracks on their soloing for the class. We will not have the concert uniforms ready in time for this performance so we will have the students "dress nice". We will go over what is appropriate for clothing options in class.

Marching Band

- Reminder that Monday is the District Marching Exhibition with all 5 high schools performing. We perform third out of the groups. We will be performing the closer to the show for the first time this year! Report time is 5:00 p.m. We have our dry-fit shirts now so please wear those for this event. Students should eat before they arrive. A reminder that black socks must be at least up to their calf.
- Friday, October 6th will be our next home football game. Report time will be 5:00 p.m. We will wear our black cat show shirts for this game. Students should eat before they arrive.
- Saturday, October 7th- Olathe Marching Invitational. Thanks so much to everyone who has signed up to help! We still need help with cleanup at the end but most of the other spots are full. The schedule of the day for our band students as they prepare to perform in exhibition was emailed out in the last email.
- Next week I will be emailing out performance times for our contests at Shawnee Mission North and KBA along with trip sheets.
- Talking to our Athletic Director it sounds like there is a good chance we will be hosting a home playoff game for the first round of the playoffs. Please go ahead and plan on us having a home game on October 27th.

Conferences

If you would like to meet in person I will be available on Wednesday, October 18th from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Olathe East for the traditional "arena style conferences" held in the commons and the gym. If this does not work for your schedule I can be available for parent requested appointments via zoom on Monday 10/16 and Tuesday 10/17. Please email me directly if you would like to schedule a zoom conference.

Thanks,
Mr. Smikahl

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