



Message sent from Olathe Public Schools

Students and Parents:

As the end of the school year gets closer, we have one more big push to the finish. In this email you will find information regarding the remaining events for the school year. First, I would like to mention several successes the program has had in recent weeks. Both of the concert bands received one ratings at State Large Group Festival on April 14th! We were one of the few programs in Johnson County to achieve this feat! We also had several students who received a one rating and qualify for State Solo/Ensemble! More information about that event below.

New Marcher Meeting/Booster Meeting

Tomorrow (Tuesday, 4-26-22) we will have a new marcher meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the band room. The best way to enter the building for these meetings is to park on the West side of the building and enter through door Z. At this meeting we will pass out the marching season calendar and explain the commitment these students are making. Anyone who has not participated in marching band at Olathe East should attend. Students are welcome to come but I must meet with one parent from each family of students who plan to march before I will add them to the show. If you have another child that has already participated in marching band at Olathe East, you do not need to attend.

Following the new marcher meeting will be our final full booster meeting of the year. At this meeting we will vote to approve next year's budget and install new executive board members. I hope you will consider joining us for this important meeting.

KCKCC Jazz Festival

Our last jazz festival of the year will be the Jazz Summit held at Kansas City Kansas Community College. We perform at 1:00 p.m. We plan to leave East around 10:30 a.m. I will pay for their lunch and then we will watch one group perform and then leave and return to East in time for afternoon activities/sports. These kids have worked so hard and are playing really well! You are welcome to take a late lunch and come check out our performance if your schedule allows!

State Solo/Ensemble Festival

I have attached the schedule and I also sent it out to students early last week. The event operates just like regionals except that it is held at Topeka Washburn Rural, and the judging will be more difficult. We are not providing transportation because students typically don't want to be stuck there for an entire day when their performance is only 5 to 8 minutes long. Students cannot drive themselves and must ride with a parent. I encourage carpooling for students who need a ride. Percussionists will need to bring their own gear just like Regionals so keep that in mind when planning rides.

Rescheduled Pizza Jazz

Unfortunately, Mr. Holmes was ill, and we had to reschedule pizza jazz for this year. It will now be on May 2nd. Our performance will be 6:45 to 7:30 p.m.

Percussion Show

The percussion show will be on Saturday, May 7th at 7 p.m. Cost is \$5 a person to attend and money raised is used for percussion equipment/upkeep. This is more of a "show" than a concert and has everything from fun novelty acts to serious percussion ensembles, to the drumline performance. I encourage everyone to come out and support our nationally recognized percussion program! For the student we will have a dress rehearsal that day that will start at 2 p.m.

Spring Band Concert/Awards Banquet

Years ago, in an effort to streamline the calendar and make things easier for parents we combined these two events into one night. We start at 6 p.m. in the commons area for cake and recognition of large groups of students like students who lettered, who were district or all state members, who received a one at regional or state solo/ensemble etc. Then we transition into the auditorium where we have the concert and recognize the individual award winners. We also will have a moment in this concert where we recognized all the seniors in a slide show and have their parents come down to the front of the auditorium and stand with them. We end the night by presenting next year's drum majors as we look to the future. We plan to wear our concert uniforms at this event.

Looking ahead

A reminder for all students in marching band pre-camp is May 31st through June 3rd. May 31st includes drumline students, new marcher students, and then leadership team members. The remaining days are for all marching band members.

In conjunction with pre-camp we will be holding a carwash at Meyer Music on Saturday, June 4th. More information to come about shifts for that event.

Thanks,
Mr. Smikahl