



Message sent from Olathe Public Schools

Parents and Students:

We are heading into our final busy push for the school year! The kids have been working hard and we are so pleased with the progress they are making every week as musicians! A lot of very important information is included in this email, especially for the NYC trip. Please email me with questions.

### **NYC Trip**

A reminder that on Tuesday, March 26th we will have a mandatory trip meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Olathe East Auditorium. We need a parent/guardian **and** the student attending the trip to attend the meeting. At the meeting we will be providing the final itinerary for the trip that will include the flight and hotel information. We will also go through rules for the trip and possible consequences if rules are broken. It will also be an opportunity to ask questions and get answers directly from our tour organizer from Bob Rogers Travel as he will be joining us for the meeting via zoom.

If you are unable to attend the meeting because of a conflict, please email me by this Friday so I can add your name to the make-up list. I will not let a student attend the trip unless I have met with both them and their parent/guardian prior to the trip.

We have had to make a small change for one of the meals for the trip and they would like some input from students on their meal choice for this specific meal. Please log back into Bob Rogers Travel via this link and fill out your meal preference for this meal by this Friday (3-22-24): <https://bobrogerstravel.grcoll.co/go/olathe9312>

We have school buses secured for travel to the airport for the departing flight at the start of the trip. Unfortunately, the district bus company will be unable to provide buses to get us home from the airport at the end of the trip. **Attached to this email is a form that I need parents/guardians to fill out and return by Tuesday, March 26th.**

At the beginning of the school year, I included the full medical form that we would need for the trip so we wouldn't need to collect another one again. However, students often have updated medication changes throughout the year. If you have any changes to your medication please email me by Tuesday, March 26th. Parents of Wind Ensemble students if you provided updates for our KMEA trip you do not need to do it again.

### **2024 Orange and Blue Brigade Marching Band**

The camp dates that I previously sent out as pending have been confirmed. Camp dates for this summer are as follows:

#### **Pre-camp:**

Saturday, June 1st - Pre-camp Camp Carwash

Monday, June 3rd - New marchers, leadership team, drumline (pit and battery)

Tuesday June 4th through Thursday, June 6th all members of the marching band

**Full camp:**

Monday July 22nd - Drum majors and Drumline

Tuesday July 23rd- Leadership Team and Drumline

Wednesday July 24th through Friday July 26th - All members

Saturday, July 25th - Full Camp Carwash

Monday, July 29th through August 2nd - All members

August 2nd - End of Camp Performance and Orange and Blue BBQ- 6 p.m.

We still do not have a finalized contest schedule for marching band. We hope to know more soon but at this point we are asking families to save all October Saturdays as potential marching contests.

**Symphonic Band/Concert Band- 1st/3rd/6th hours**

Mrs. Fillingham sent a separate email to everyone with your concert dates for the remainder of the school year. Please be sure to check that email.

**Wind Ensemble- 2nd hour**

I was so very proud of the KMEA performance! All weekend I received extremely complementary feedback from too many colleagues to count! As we head towards our next performances we will need to have some 7 a.m. rehearsals in the next several weeks leading up to the trip since percussion is in a separate hour. Please see the list below and add these to your schedule.

Friday, March 22nd

Wednesday, March 27th

Tuesday, April 2nd

Wednesday, April 10th

The remaining performances for the Wind Ensemble for this school year are listed below. Please note that because of the trip and the proximity of it to State Large Group Festival we will not be holding a contest prep concert this year at East. Both the Wind Ensemble Festival and the State Large Group performances are open to parents if you are able to get away during the workday. We are performing one piece that we played at KMEA and then one new piece we are learning for the trip and contest.

Thursday, April 4th (During School hours) Olathe District Wind Ensemble Festival (hosted at East)- We will perform at approximately 8:30 a.m.

Thursday, April 18th (During School hours) State Large Group Festival (hosted at East)- We will also perform at approximately 8:30 a.m.

Monday, May 13th Spring Banquet and Concert

**Jazz Band- 4th hour**

The Nighthawks had an excellent performance at the Essential Ellington festival at KU before spring break. We are entering our busiest season of the year for the jazz program and have several events coming up. All the events are open to parents to come and watch.

Wednesday, March 27th - MNU Jazz Festival- Our performance is at 1:00 p.m. at the Bell Center at MNU. Students will be driving themselves or carpooling with another student for this contest because it is so close.

Monday, April 1st- Olathe East Area Jazz Festival- We will host CT and PT jazz bands and the Nighthawks will also perform in the commons at Olathe East. We will also have ice cream available like last year!

Friday, April 26th - KCKCC Jazz Summit Festival at KCKCC. Our performance is at 10:00 a.m. We will take a bus for this contest and students will need to bring money for lunch. For all these performances will be using our Jazz Band uniform which is the black tuxedo with a black button-up dress shirt. The black dress shirt is not provided by the school. Please let me know if you require financial assistance with purchasing the shirt.

**Percussion Class- 6th hour**

All of the students in this hour are either in Wind Ensemble or Symphonic Band so please be sure to read those sections of this email as well.

Because we are unable to take the ensemble to Regional Solo/Ensemble festival this year because of the NYC trip, I have scheduled us to perform at the Washburn University Percussion Festival. This event will be during the school day on Thursday, March 28th. We will be taking a bus to this event and will return before the end of school. Students should bring money for lunch.

Drumline auditions will be Friday, April 5th after school until 5 p.m.

Our annual Percussion Show which is a fundraiser for the percussion program will be held on Saturday, May 4th. Dress rehearsals will be early afternoon (exact time depends on the number of pieces being performed). The concert starts at 7:00 p.m. and is \$5 at the door.

Thanks,

Mr. Smikahl

**Transportation Plans for returning from the Olathe East NYC Band Trip**

The district bus company is not able to fulfill our request for buses to bring us home at the conclusion of our trip (they did approve the buses to take us to the airport at the beginning of our trip). With this in mind, we will need a parent or guardian to pick up their child from the Kansas City International Airport or for the student to ride home with another family. Students are **not allowed** to drive themselves home from the airport. As it will be the end of some very long days it is imperative that we have a clear plan for each child and that parents understand they must pick up their child up from the airport on time. There will be two different flights with slightly different arrival times so it will be very important that parents/guardians understand which flight their child is arriving on.

Who will your child be riding home from the airport with?-----

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Student \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_