

## Message From: Rebecca Fillingham

### Subject: Band Update 9/1/25

Greetings OE Band Families!

It was wonderful to see some new faces at the band booster meeting last Monday night. You are the future of this program, and we're so happy to have you involved! If you missed out and want to get connected, just email [oehsbandboosters@gmail.com](mailto:oehsbandboosters@gmail.com)

Once again, a huge thanks to the parents and family members that have worked so hard in assembling our show uniforms. It's been a lot of fun spending my last two Saturdays working with all of you!

We have a lot to squeeze into a short week! Please read carefully as there is a lot to cover.

#### **Calendar at a glance (Full Calendar linked here):**

**Sep 4**—Home football game at CBAC. Call time 5:00 PM in the band room. Game at 7:00 PM.

**Sep 6**—Old Settler's Parade. Call time 8:00 AM in the band room. Parade at 10:00 AM.

**Sep 8**—Monday Night Rehearsal 6:30-8:30 PM

**Sep 15**—**Band Booster meeting, 6:00 PM! All parents encouraged to attend!**

**Sep 15**—Monday Night Rehearsal 6:30-8:30 PM

**Sep 19**—BAND PHOTOS 4:00 PM

**Sep 19**—Home football game and MIDDLE SCHOOL NIGHT at CBAC. Load buses after photos. Game at 7:00 PM.

**Sep 20**—Blue Springs Marching Invitational—All day!!

**Sep 22**—Monday Night Rehearsal 6:30-8:30

**Sep 27**—Saturday Field Tech Rehearsal 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

**Sep 29**—Monday Night Rehearsal 6:30-8:30 PM

**Sep 30**—Fall Band Concert for Concert Band and Jazz Band, 7:00 PM

## Grade Questions:

Since grades have gone into the gradebook, there have been a few questions about what they reflect. The main items that may be causing a grade drop for your student are easily taken care of with some student initiative:

1. **Forms:** Instructions for filling out forms have been sent home in multiple emails and are attached to this email as well. Students must fill out the two ONLINE forms for Transportation Permission and the Substance Abuse Policy and must hand in PAPER copies of the Band Policy Agreement and their Medical Release form. Again, specific instructions for how to do this are attached to this email. These are tied to a grade because students CANNOT perform with the band until all forms are submitted

2. **Pass Off Grades:** Students that receive a "0" on their pass off test did not make any attempt to take their pass off test. Students that received a "5" on their test have made an attempt, but did not quite have everything fully memorized yet. ***All students that have not fully passed of their music are responsible for setting up a time to pass their music for Ms. Fillingham as soon as they are able.*** I am happy to change those grades to a 10/10 as soon the music is passed, but students must make the effort to do so!
3. **Tardies/Unexcused absences:** Any unexcused tardy or absence from rehearsal will result in a lowered participation grade. Please do communicate with Ms. Fillingham or Mr. Reed about any extenuating circumstances that are causing excessive tardies or absences, as we do take those things into account!
4. **Lack of rehearsal materials:** Students that consistently do not have their basic rehearsal materials (music, drill, pencil, field markers, instrument, mallets, sticks, etc.) or who leave them scattered around the band room for others to clean up will lose daily participation points.

***\*\*\*One more thing, just to make it clear in case there is any confusion—no student's grade is tied to whether or not they have paid their band fees. We appreciate those of you that have taken care of that and hope others will do the same, but students do NOT gain or lose any grade points due to band fees.\*\*\****

## **All District Band/Sousa Band Auditions:**

Olathe East has a long history of placing many students in the All District bands. I HIGHLY encourage all students to be working on the all district band music, which can be found linked here: <https://ksmea.org/hsband/excerpts/>. Students that are enrolled for wind ensemble are expected to audition, and will be tested over this material during the last week of October. Auditions are on November 8.

Any freshman interested in auditioning for Sousa band can find the music linked here: <http://ks-sousahonorband.org/how-to-apply/>. Recorded auditions must be submitted to Ms. Fillingham no later than October 15.

## **Home Football Game—Sep 4, Call time 5:00 PM:**

Students will arrive in their DRI-FIT and be sure to have long black socks. All hair below chin length will need to be up away from the face and off the neck, and longer hair should be in a bun. Buses will leave at 5:30 for CBAC.

## **Old Settlers Parade—Sep 6, Call time 8:00 AM:**

Students will arrive in their DRI-FIT and be sure to have long black socks. All hair below chin length will need to be up away from the face and off the neck, and longer hair should be in a

bun. Buses will leave at 8:30 for downtown Olathe. Parade starts at 10:00 AM. We are the last high school band in the parade this year.

## Band Fees and Contributions:

Fees and contributions can still be paid by bringing a check to school or through our website: [www.oeband.com](http://www.oeband.com). Checks should be made out to **Olathe East Band Boosters**.

### Uniform accessory prices:

- Band Dri-fit shirt--\$15.00
- Marching Shoes--\$40.00
- Marching Gloves--\$5.00

**Total cost for all items: \$60.00**

**Band Contributions:** Marching Band Member--\$350

**\*\*\*If you need assistance making your uniform fee payment or your yearly contribution, please reach out to the Boosters ([oehsbandboosters@gmail.com](mailto:oehsbandboosters@gmail.com)) or talk to Ms. Fillingham directly. No student will be excluded from marching band for financial reasons!\*\*\***

## Band Forms

- If you have not filled out the transportation form and substance abuse policy through "In Touch/Touchbase", you will need to do that ASAP. **We cannot allow students on the bus for a game until we have those forms signed.**
- Medical forms and handbook agreements also need to be turned in ASAP.

**Rebecca Fillingham and Chad Reed**

Olathe East High School Bands

[www.oeband.com](http://www.oeband.com)