

2009 Band Camp Newsletter

Notes from Mr. C

READ ALL OF THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY!

MARCHING BAND 2009: "Copland's America"

...PRIDE makes the difference....

I hope that everyone is having a great summer. The intention of this letter is to prepare everyone for band camp and the upcoming fall season. I anxiously await the beginning of band camp as we have fun, challenge one another, and continue to strive for EXCELLENCE in every way. In addition to our work on the show, we have some great group activities planned throughout band camp. **Remember that our hours during the August 10 week are 12 noon to 9 pm every day.** We have great music selected, another great drill and strong performers returning this year. It's going to be a great year!!

*"The will to **prepare** is more important than the will to win" - Bobby Knight*

"A great rehearsal must have a relaxed focus" - Mr. C

A concept that is important to our success as a group (and in life) is the concept of PRIDE. Pride is accountable in everything that we do in band and in life. Responsibilities such as **being prepared on our music**, showing up on time, having all the equipment that is needed, and responding positively to leaders during rehearsals/sectionals are all ways in which we showcase our pride in our organization **and in ourselves**. Pride is a concept that we stress in band with obvious connections to events in everyday life. We have excellent tailor-made musical arrangements, accomplished and experienced clinicians working with us and an exciting fall season planned.

Show pride in everything that you do!!

I intend to be at school full time beginning August 3. Feel free to e-mail or call me in my office with any questions after that date. My e-mail address, if you don't know it, is scott.casagrand@d214.org

MUSIC

We have already begun work on "Copland's America." This music is fun and exciting and represents a more artistic approach that we have seen many of our neighboring bands attempt. The challenge of this year's music is significant and will require **home preparation** from everyone as always. This is great music that will keep us challenged through the fall season.

Everyone received all of the music in June rehearsals: Appalachian Spring opener, Hoedown, Appalachian Spring Finale. We will pass out the App Spring Chorale in band camp. If you are missing music, it is your responsibility to collect it from your section leader. Email me if you need contact information for your section leader. We will be spending August music rehearsal time reinforcing fundamentals and memorizing (not learning parts). **WE WILL BE TESTING ON PART ACCURACY AND MEMORIZATION OF APPALACHIAN SPRING OPENER DURING THE FIRST TWO DAYS OF CAMP. HOEDOWN AND FINALE WILL BE TESTED THE THIRD OR FOURTH DAY.** Do you have a commitment to excellence? PRIDE in your work? This will certainly reveal itself in our first tests of the year. Our success as a group depends on everyone **BEING PREPARED WHEN THEY ARRIVE! YOUR FIRST QUARTER GRADE IS AFFECTED.**

MUSIC EXPECTATIONS FOR ALL

Everyone is expected to know their music when they arrive for band camp as described in the "music" section above. If anyone is having problems with sections of the music, take it to your private lesson teacher or set up an appointment with me. We will be testing everyone during the first few days of camp; BE PREPARED. This testing will impact your semester grade.

BAND CAMP NEWSLETTER (CONTINUED)

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GENERAL RELEASE (MEDICAL) AND INFORMATION FORMS DUE IMMEDIATELY

This form is available online at www.herseyband.com. In the unlikely event that an accident happens, we need a history to present to medical personnel as described on the General Release form.

If you have not turned these forms in, **PLEASE TAKE CARE OF IT BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF AUGUST CAMP**. There are a few of you that may not be sure if we have your form. We will confirm this soon via e-mail.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance at band camp and ALL scheduled rehearsals is VITAL to our success as an ensemble. Every single person is important!! During Band Camp we will be setting expectations, developing a group unity and learning music and marching drill that will last throughout the fall and the school year.

We expect everyone.

All conflicts should have been registered with Mr. C in May and June. **Please e-mail conflicts immediately** if you have not done so already. If there are appointments or other conflicts that can be moved to avoid missing rehearsal, **please do so immediately**.

2009 MARCHING BAND COSTS

The \$120.00 band fee should have been received in JUNE. This is a nonrefundable fee that has already been contracted to clinicians that will be helping us in August and throughout the year. In addition, this cost covers the band T-shirt that will be used throughout the year, a pair of BLACK gloves, snacks for 4th quarter at football games and meals on competition days. The uniform dictates that every student will wear BLACK gloves and the same, uniform black shoes. All students will wear the same shoe this year available through our uniform moms. No personal shoes will be acceptable. If you need new shoes, please take care of this problem immediately.

MARCHING BAND "BIG NIGHTS": AUGUST 18, 19, 20

This year's student leadership group will again determine many details for these very important evenings. The activity will again occur in the Hersey music wing. Attendance is mandatory at all of these activities. Tuesday night will be all group activities. Wednesday and Thursday night, we will run our normal rehearsal from 5 to 9 pm, with other activities beginning at 9 pm and running until 11 pm. Here are some of the tentative plans for this activity:

- Section cookout competition
- Ultimate Frisbee competition between sections
- Dodge ball
- Class skits
- A dance
- Story telling!
- Other sports activities TBA
- Other section activities TBA

and more!!

We will be using the gym, the black box theater, fields outside and the entire music wing for this important evening for the program.

UNIFORM FITTINGS

All uniform fittings took place in June. If you have not been fitted for our marching uniform, please contact Mrs. Ellison IMMEDIATELY. Our first performance will happen the first week of school this year.

You may contact Mrs. Ellison via e-mail or by phone. See print version of newsletter for contact information.

AUGUST 21 PICNIC AND FALL PREVIEW PERFORMANCE

This event involves all families and begins in the school cafeteria. Courtesy of HIA, hot dogs and other picnic food and drinks will be available to all families. After dinner, the marching band will demonstrate techniques used in learning the fall show and they will also perform the show for all. See you there!

BAND CAMP NEWSLETTER (CONTINUED)

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2009 JHHS MARCHING CAMP

The beginning of the new year is upon us and with that beginning comes the JHHS Band Camp!! As stated in earlier mailings, Band Camp will be taking place at JHHS on the listed days. Call **IMMEDIATELY** with any conflicts.

AUGUST

6	3 to 4:30 pm	New section leaders
7	8 to 5 pm	All section leaders
	12:30 to 5 pm	Freshmen
10-14	12 to 9 pm	ALL
18, 19, 20	5 to 11 pm	ALL
21	5:30	Picnic/Parent Fall Preview
26	See times below	ALL (First Wed. night rehearsal)

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS UNTIL OCT 15

Brass and Woodwinds	6 to 8:30 pm
Percussion Battery	3 to 5 pm, 6 to 8:30 pm
Percussion Front Line	5 to 8:30 pm

PLEASE CAREFULLY CHECK THE SCHEDULE BELOW FOR FALL REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES. Evening marching rehearsals may be moved due to conflicts – check the main schedule for exact dates.

MARCHING BAND FALL PRACTICE SCHEDULE

All members will attend Wednesday evening rehearsal **6-8:30** from **August 26 to October 15** (notice the adjustments to rehearsals in October to accommodate District Band auditions). Also, we have mandatory rehearsals scheduled on Saturday, August 29; Monday, September 28 (Yom Kippur) and Monday, October 12 (Columbus Day). This rehearsal schedule is consistent with the rehearsal schedule established the last 3-4 years.

SECTION LEADERS

We will be having an important orientation and leadership session on August 6 and 7 for section leaders, as outlined in the schedule above. We have a lot of material to cover in preparation for your responsibilities this fall. You should have your previous meeting notes, instruments and music with you on August 7. New section leaders will not need instruments on August 6.

Your leadership ability will have a direct impact upon the success of our fall season and I look forward to continuing your preparation for this responsibility and helping any way that I can. We have already had a great start and I look forward to continuing in the same direction. Good luck!!

SHARED SPOTS

A few students (mostly freshmen and some upperclassmen) will share a spot in the drill. This simply means that a few students will alternate practicing in a particular drill spot throughout the season.

Students will be assigned a shared spot based upon instrumentation needs, individual performance level or frequent rehearsal conflicts. These spots will be assigned during band camp and will rarely change once school starts.

FALL IMEA AND HERSEY AUDITIONS

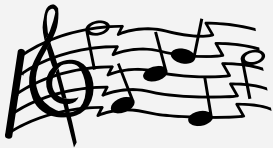
In the Fall (October) IMEA auditions will occur, as well as the Hersey band and seating auditions (November). Both the IMEA and Hersey auditions require the IMEA scale sheets (concert/cadet band just performs the major scale side) and the IMEA audition etudes. The Hersey audition etude will be only a portion of one of the IMEA etudes. ALL students should be learning the scale sheets and IMEA etudes this summer before the pressure of school begins in the Fall. The information can be found at:

<http://www.imea.org/division.shtml>



*"Teachers
open the
door. You
enter by
yourself."*

-Chinese Proverb



CLINICIANS

Marching Visual Caption Head – Mr. Paul Wiercioch will be in charge of our marching and visual aspects again this year and will join us on a regular basis in the middle of band camp. Paul is a graduate of Illinois State University (in business) where he performed in the marching band. He was also a four-year member of the World Champion Cavalier Drum and Bugle Corp and is also on the staff at Normal West and Lake Park HS. Paul was a member of the Plainfield HS band under my direction, 1997-1999.

Percussion – Mr. Tom Leddy will be re-joining the staff in charge of all percussion. He holds music performance degrees from Indiana University and DePaul University and is an active drummer in the Chicagoland area. Tom teaches most of our percussion students privately during the school year.

Percussion – Ms. Gina DeGregorio has been with the staff for many years and is in charge of Front Line percussion. Gina is the band director at Deer Park Junior High (Lake Forest) and she has marched with the Pioneer Drum and Bugle Corp as a percussionist and French horn performer.

Percussion – Mr. Brandon Brown will be working with us throughout the Fall. Brandon is a graduate of Northern Illinois University and has been a member of the Pioneer Drum and Bugle Corp. Brandon is a 2002 graduate of Hersey High School.

Percussion – Mr. Mike Holzkopf graduated from Hersey in 2006 and was an outstanding section leader and musician. Mike has had some drum corp experience and is currently a student at Concordia College in the south suburbs.

Color Guard – Ms. Angela Majetic will be rejoining our staff this year in charge of the color guard. Ms. Majetic is a graduate of United Township High School and she had much success running a guard for many years. She had experience in a nationally-recognized high school guard as well as winter guard experience. Ms. Majetic is an elementary school teacher and track coach in her "day job".

Color Guard – Mr. Peter LePage will be rejoining our staff as a guard and visual designer and choreographer. He was a four-year member of the world-champion Cavalier Drum and Bugle Corp as well as a designer for many high school marching bands and winter guards. He is also on the staff of the Colt Drum and Bugle Corps.

Drill Writer – Mr. Greg Bimm will be continuing as our drill writer this season and has also arranged all of this year's music. Mr. Bimm is the Director of Bands at Marian Catholic High School where his bands have won the BOA National Marching Championships a record 5 times. Although he will not be working with our students directly, we are excited to have his creative mind contributing to our show again this year.

Clinician – Mr. David Morrison will again be helping us in a limited capacity with show design and rehearsals. Mr. Morrison recently retired after 25+ years as director of the Prospect High School band and was named Illinois Teacher of the Year in 2005.

Brass and Woodwind Technicians – We will have three former students working band camp and helping with Wednesday night rehearsals. **Mr. Patrick Dawson, Mr. David Fujara and Mr. Vinnie Inendino.**

PREPARING FOR BAND CAMP

The following list will help you prepare for the upcoming camp. These items are necessary to make you as comfortable as possible.

REQUIRED LIST:

Make sure that you have the following items upon arrival to the first day of camp. **SEE THE ARTICLE BELOW AND PURCHASE MOST OF THESE ITEMS THROUGH MRS. TAKEI in the BAND CAMP KIT :**

Clothing:

1. Tennis shoes - no heels, no sandals (NO high top sneakers- they restrict ankle movement essential to good marching)
2. Loose, comfortable clothing
3. A hat and sunglasses to protect eyes and face
4. Suntan lotion for afternoons and insect repellent for evenings!!
5. **A jug of something to drink!!** - Gatorade or kool-aid is best for quenching that "deep down" thirst - VERY IMPORTANT. **This jug should be something that can be tied and worn around the neck so that you can get a drink during rehearsal WITHOUT LEAVING THE FIELD.**

Classroom materials, etc:

1. **Chalk** to mark drill coordinates that you are learning on the blacktop. Poker Chips will be provided by the school on the first of camp when we use the field.
2. **Band Camp Drill Cards**-explained at right.
3. Section Leaders will need a notebook for drill charts.
4. Make sure your instrument is in working order.
5. School-owned instruments - make sure that one is available and that it works!!! I will be in school by August 3 - come in and check one out, if needed. **The first day of camp is too late to take care of this.**
6. Eat large, substantial meals throughout camp!!
7. Eat large, substantial meals throughout camp, **particularly breakfast!!!**
8. **BRING A DINNER - GOING OUT WILL MAKE YOU LATE RETURNING TO CAMP.** Dinner will be 45 minutes and will fall around the 5 pm hour.

Only section leaders will be issued full drill charts (they will not need note cards). All other students except the front line will need the bound note cards described at right. Both the optional and required items are very important to insure a productive, valuable and safe band camp experience. Make sure that you obtain these items as soon as possible.

BAND CAMP BOUND NOTECARDS (AKA "DOT BOOK")

Except for section leaders who will be responsible for notebooks and members of the front line (pit), all students will purchase a bound set of note cards with the attributes described below.

You can purchase these through Mrs. Takei. All students do not need to carry a notebook; these cards should be more effective and useful. They will be used to record your own individual coordinates for each set/picture of the show. **THEY WILL BE USED EACH AND EVERY DAY FOR THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE SEASON AND THEY WILL BE CHECKED THROUGHOUT THE SEASON.** Coordinates describe your exact location on the field for each picture formed. You will have a different set of coordinates for each picture. There will be approximately 70-80 pictures in this year's show. The NOTECARDS must conform to the following attributes:

1. Have at least **40 cards** bound together (you can use the back of each card, as well).
2. They should be bound by a METAL OR PLASTIC binder in a **spiral fashion** that runs the length of the card (this **must** be durable). THREE RING BINDERS ARE UNACCEPTABLE - they don't last the season, the pages tear easily and are lost.
3. A rope, string or shoestring that runs through the binder and is long enough to go over your shoulder. This will enable you to carry the coordinates while still marching and playing your instrument - don't use your pocket because it wears out the cards prematurely.
4. Your name and coordinate number should be on the front cover (the coordinate # will be assigned during camp).

These cards should be carried at ALL REHEARSALS through band camp and the fall season, so make them as durable as possible. These cards will allow you to look up your coordinates quickly, which will facilitate learning at a more rapid pace. If the cards are lost or fall apart before the end of the season, it is the student's responsibility to replace them immediately. Notecards will be turned in for **grades** throughout the season. **AGAIN - SEE THE ARTICLE BELOW ON BAND CAMP KITS AND PURCHASE THIS ITEM THROUGH MRS. TAKEI.**

NOTECARD GRADES

Students will be asked to pass in their notecards/notebooks periodically to assure that they are up-to-date. Every ten to fifteen pages of drill learned will be tested in "coordinate"/phrase length tests.

Start committing your coordinates/phrase lengths to memory immediately so that you do well on these tests. They are essential to improving our "cleanliness" in executing the drill and have a large impact on our performances. Making sure that your coordinates are correct and up-to-date is essential. Your up-to-date notecards/notebook and coordinate tests, as well as music tests, will encompass a major portion of your first and second quarter grades - be prepared!

BAND CAMP NEWSLETTER (CONTINUED)

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BAND CAMP NOTEBOOK FOR SECTION LEADERS ONLY

Only section leaders will need to have the notebook. Each section leader will receive their own personal set of drill charts that they must keep with them at all times. This set of charts (approximately 80 pictures this year) will contain everyone's personal coordinates and directions for marching maneuvers during the actual marching performance. Section leaders should have these notebooks at ALL rehearsals, from August through the end of October. The notebook, which will be occupied exclusively by drill charts, will consist of:

1. Hard back, three-ring binder notebook (soft backs will not last the season)
2. At least 40 laminated sheets, which will have back-to-back 8 x 11 drill charts placed in them.
3. A rope long enough to run through the binding of the notebook and over your shoulder. This will enable you to keep the drill charts with you while marching.
4. A pocket (handmade is fine) to permanently hold a pencil that will be used to take notes, etc.
5. VISIBLE NAME AND COORDINATE NUMBER WRITTEN ON THE FRONT - many notebooks have a tendency to be lost or mixed up with other notebooks because names and/or coordinate numbers were not clearly visible on the cover. Your name also identifies your notebook for coordinate tests.
6. ALL OF YOUR OWN INDIVIDUAL COORDINATES MUST BE WRITTEN OUT ON EACH PAGE.
7. Pouch - Include a pouch in your notebook to keep many personal and required items (chalk, pencil, etc). The notebook is with you all of the time and is therefore a secure place for valuables.

You are responsible for listing your own, personal coordinates in your notebook!

Save yourself
some time
and effort!
Purchase a
Band Camp
Kit.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: BAND CAMP KIT

For your convenience this year, the HIA is offering a Band Camp Kit for \$10 that will contain the following items:

- Water bottle lanyard
- Two large pieces of chalk
- Regulation dot book (pre-printed with diagram of football field)*
- Dot book strap

* Each page of the dot book will require a diagram of the football field. These pre-printed pages will save time and effort!

All items will be labeled with your name and distributed on the first day of camp.

Contact Linda Takei via e-mail or phone 847-577-3535 if you have questions or would like to place an order. See print version of newsletter for contact information.

Special thanks to Mike Price, who very generously designed and printed the dot books.

BAND CAMP NEWSLETTER (CONTINUED)**READ ALL OF THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY!****2009-2010 Band Calendar**

Subject to change. Watch monthly HIA newsletter for updates to calendar.

August		
6	New Section Leaders	3 to 4:30 pm
7	All Section Leaders	8 am to 5 pm
	All Freshmen	12:30 to 5 pm
10-14	All Members	12 to 9 pm
18	Band Big Activity Night	5 to 9 pm
19-20	All Members	5 to 9 pm
	Band Activity	9 to 11 pm
21	Picnic/Parent Fall Preview	5:30 pm
26	First Day of School	
	First Wednesday Night Rehearsal (All)	6 to 8:30 pm
28	First Home Football Report	5:15 pm
29	Rehearsal (All)	1 to 6 pm
September		
12	Lake Park Marching Festival	Late morning through late evening
15	HIA General Meeting	7:30 pm
17 (Thurs)	Home Football Game Report	5:30 pm
28 (Yom Kippur-Mon)	Rehearsal	1 to 5 pm
October		
2	Home Football Game Report	5:30 pm
3	Prospect Marching Competition	Late afternoon through late evening
9	Homecoming Football Game Report	5:30 pm
12 (Columbus Day)	Rehearsal	1 to 6 pm
14	IMEA Dist 7 Band Auditions (select)	After school
	No Wed PM Rehearsal	
15	Rehearsal (All)	6 to 8:30 pm
17	U of I Marching Festival	All day to late evening
23	Last Home Football Report	6 pm
26	Concert/Symphonic Auditions begin	
28	Marching Party	TBA
November		
10	HIA General Meeting	7:30 pm
11 (Veteran's Day)	Symphonic Band Camp	11 to 6 pm
14	District 7 Jazz Festival (select)	All day
18	First PM Symphonic Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
21	IMEA District 7 Music Festival (select)	All day
24	Jazz Night Club Concert (Jazz I and II)	7:30 pm
December		
4	Dress Rehearsal	3 to 5 pm
6	Holiday Concert (Two Performances)	1 pm and 3 pm
18	Holiday School Assembly	9 am
January		
4	Classes Resume	
12	HIA General Meeting	7:30 pm
22-23	Jazz I and II to Purdue	
27-30	IMEA All-State to Peoria (select)	

BAND CAMP NEWSLETTER (CONTINUED)**READ ALL OF THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY!****2009-2010 Band Calendar**

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February		
6	Jazz Ensemble II to New Trier Festival	All day to late evening
	Percussion to Vandercook	All day
17	Symphonic Band Festival at BGHS	7:30 pm
27	Jazz I and II to Jazz in the Meadows	All day to early evening
March		
3	District 214 Honors Music Festival @ Forest View (select)	7:30 pm
8	HIA General Meeting	7:30 pm
9	Concert Band Festival at BGHS	7:30 pm
20-28	Spring Break	
29	Classes Resume	
April		
9	Chicagoland Band Festival Set-up	PM
10	Chicagoland Concert Band Festival (will need lots of student/parent help)	All day to late evening
15-16	Solo & Ensemble at Hersey	PM
May		
1	Symphonic Band to Superstate (if selected)	All day to evening
10	HIA General Meeting	7:30 pm
19	Spring Band Concert	7:30 pm
21	Formal Band Awards Banquet	TBA
28	Night of Percussion	TBA
31	Memorial Day Parade	TBA
June		
5	Graduation	
11	Last Day of School	

Visit our Web page
www.herseyband.com