

QUARTER NOTES

The Quarterly Newsletter of the F.E. Peacock Middle School Band Program

Band Rehearsal Calendars

Band rehearsal calendars are posted online at www.itascamusic.com.

If I were not a physicist, I would probably be a musician. I often think in music. I live my daydreams in music. I see my life in terms of music.
Albert Einstein

Did You Know?

In 2009, Gallup conducted a national survey about music.

Did you know...

92% of respondents felt that instrumental music instruction should be a part of every school ?

94% of respondents said that music is part of a well-rounded education?

96% of respondents felt that school band is a good way for students to develop teamwork.

97% of respondents agreed that playing a musical instrument is a good means of expression?

When was the last time that 97% of Americans agreed on anything?

With the creative industry being the largest growing sector in the US workforce, employing nearly 3 million people, it is essential now, more than ever before, to prepare students to be creative thinkers and doers.

Thanks for putting your child at an advantage by having him or her participate in band!

Performance Events (Mark Your Calendar!)

VARSITY BAND **Grade 6**

12/5—December Concert
3:00 PM—Peacock
Warm-ups at 2:15 PM

12/7—Yorktown Center
11:00 AM
Butterfield Rd & Highland Ave
Lombard—Carson’s Upper Level

2/20—February Concert
3:00 PM—Peacock

4/19—April Concert
7:00 PM—Peacock

5/30—Memorial Day Parade
9:30 AM—Franzen

Call time is 45 minutes before each event!

CONCERT BAND **Grades 7 & 8**

12/5—December Concert
3:00 PM—Peacock
Warm-ups at 2:15 PM

12/13—Yorktown Center
11:00 AM
Butterfield Rd & Highland Ave
Lombard—Carson’s Upper Level

2/20—February Concert
3:00 PM—Peacock

3/19—Band Contest
Location and Time TBA

4/19—April Concert
7:00 PM—Peacock

5/30—Memorial Day Parade
9:30 AM—Franzen

Call time is 45 minutes before each event!

JAZZ BAND **Chosen by Audition**

12/5—December Concert
3:00 PM—Peacock
Warm-ups at 2:15 PM

2/20—February Concert
3:00 PM—Peacock

3/5—Band Contest
Location and Time TBA

4/14—April Fine Arts Festival
6:30 PM—Peacock

Call time is 45 minutes before each event!

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Dress Code and Uniform Fittings

DRESS CODE

School Owned Items—Band members must wear vests, cummerbunds and bow ties.

Tuxedo Shirts—Band members must wear white tuxedo shirts with 1/8" pleats and wing tip collars.

Black Pants—Band members must wear solid black, full-length dress pants. Wool, synthetic, or fine cotton pants are

acceptable. Jeans, sweatpants, skirts, overalls, leggings, spandex, or Capri pants may not be worn.

Black Shoes and Socks—Band members must wear solid black, low-heel, tie-style dress shoes. Boots, clogs, athletic shoes with logos or white soles, high heels, flip-flops, slippers, or open-toed shoes may not be worn.

UNIFORM FITTINGS

Uniform fittings took place in early November. At this point, all students have received their vests, cummerbunds and bow ties.

Students who ordered a tuxedo shirt or shoes will receive those items either November 30 or December 1.

Pause for Applause—VanderCook, IMEA and YSD Success!

VANDERCOOK HONOR BAND

The following Peacock 8th graders participated in the VanderCook College of Music Middle Level HonorFest on Saturday, September 25 at the IIT Campus in Chicago: Brian Bayer, Alexander Giraud, Kevin Gordon, Sarah Gregor, Sam Grisamore, Margaret Murphy, Ryan Piscopo, Brandon Sgarbossa, Alec Tau and Jacob Ward.

IMEA TRYOUTS

The following Peacock Concert Band members auditioned for the Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA) District 9 Junior Festival Band: Ben Barbanente, Brian Bayer, Kevin Gordon, Ryan Piscopo, Kelsey Rahe and Jacob Ward. IMEA tryouts represent the most rigorous music challenge available to band students in Illinois.

IMEA FESTIVAL

Congratulations to Ben Barbanente, Ryan Piscopo and Kelsey Rahe who represented District 10 at this year's IMEA festival. The festival took place at Willowbrook High School on Saturday, November 6.

YOUTH SYMPHONY OF DUPAGE

Congratulations to violinist Kevin Gordon for making the Youth Symphony of DuPage.

Rehearsal Tardiness and Band Grades—Play in Tune, Earn Points!

While most students are attending before-school rehearsals on time, enough students are arriving late to impede our overall success.

When a student arrives late, it interrupts rehearsal, and prevents that student from tuning his or her instrument. Consequently, we end up losing rehearsal time, and the entire band plays out of tune

The band room is equipped with at least a dozen electronic tuners which are passed throughout each section prior to the start of rehearsal.

Since tuning is an essential part of performance-based musicianship, students earn points toward their band grade each time they tune before rehearsal.

To keep from losing points, students must be inside the

band room by 7:10 AM. Rehearsal starts promptly at 7:15 AM. Therefore, instruments must be assembled and tuned when attendance is taken at 7:15.

Please remind your child to be inside the band room by 7:10 AM.

Attendance Policy—Rehearsals and Performance Events

EARLY-MORNING REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE POLICY

Morning rehearsal begins at 7:15 am and will follow this schedule:

- 7:10 Inside Band Room/
Individual Tuning
- 7:15 Announcements/
Attendance
- 7:20 Group Warm-ups
- 7:30 Rehearse Repertoire
- 7:53 Dismissal

Consistent and on time attendance is a prerequisite for continued membership. Valid causes for absences are defined by BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:70:

A valid cause for an absence includes illness, observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, family emergency, other situations beyond the control of the student, other circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's safety or health, or other reason as approved by the Superintendent of designee.

Since poor attendance helps no one, Unexcused Tardiness or Unexcused Absences can lead to lower seating placement or dismissal. Jeopardizing your membership is very serious. Therefore, Mr. Loest will review each situation carefully when determining consequences according to these steps:

UNEXCUSED TARDINESS

Unexcused Tardy 1

- Parent Contact
- Responsibility Reminder

Unexcused Tardy 2

- Parent Contact
- Responsibility Coaching Session*

Unexcused Tardy 3

- Parent Contact
- Lower Seating Placement or Dismissal

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE

Unexcused Absence 1

- Parent Contact
- Responsibility Coaching Session*

Unexcused Absence 2

- Parent Contact
- Lower Seating Placement or Dismissal

**You will meet with Mr. Loest and Mrs. Gornik to implement a solution to your attendance problem!*

SCHOLASTIC ABSENCE

- You may take one Scholastic Absence per term. Reasons include making up a test, attending a study session, or completing a group project.
- Before taking your Scholastic Absence, you must check with your classroom teacher to see if there is another time for you to come in. If no other time exists, then you may take your Scholastic Absence.

- Finally, you must notify Mr. Loest BEFORE taking your Scholastic Absence. Have your instrument and music on hand in case your plans change.

PERFORMANCE EVENTS ATTENDANCE POLICY

Each performance is a musical assessment in which you demonstrate what you have learned. In addition, your performance provides artistic outreach to our community.

Therefore, it is expected that your family will prioritize band performance events above non-school sponsored activities.

If an unavoidable conflict arises, your PARENT must notify Mr. Loest as far in advance as possible to review the situation. All performance events are listed in the 2010-11 Parent-Student Calendar. They are also posted online at: www.itascamusic.com.

An Excused Performance Absence will result in makeup work. An Unexcused Performance Absence will result in lower seating placement or dismissal. Jeopardizing your membership is very serious. Therefore, Mr. Loest will carefully review each situation when determining consequences.

All performance events are listed in the 2010-11 Parent-Student Calendar.

They are also posted online at: www.itascamusic.com.

Practice Cards and Progress Charts

PRACTICE CARDS

Each band member has been issued a practice card that accounts for 20% of the quarterly grade.

To receive full credit, practice cards must be completed,

signed, and submitted at each lesson

Credit is not issued for cards that are incomplete, unsigned, or late.

PROGRESS CHARTS

Each band member has been issued a progress chart that outlines weekly assignments. If you are not sure what your child should be practicing, ask to see the progress chart!

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The mission of the District 10 band program is to provide a quality instrumental music education in a nurturing environment. The band program is dedicated to fostering aesthetic growth as an essential part of a child's total education. The band program exists to facilitate the highest level of musical achievement through a comprehensive curriculum, in keeping with each child's interests, needs, and abilities.

We're on the Web!

Itascamusic.com

Yorktown Trip Chaperones Needed—December 7 and 13

OH THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE YORKTOWN FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Please help our bands bring in the holidays by attending one or both of our Yorktown Center performances.

The 6th grade Varsity Band will play on Tuesday, December 7 at 11:00 am in front of Carson's, upper level.

The 7th & 8th grade Concert Band will play on Monday, December 13 at 11:00 am in front of Carson's, upper level.

Yorktown Center is located at the corner of Butterfield Road and Highland Avenue in Lombard.

YORKTOWN CHAPERONES

Parent chaperones are needed for the December 7 and December 13 Yorktown trips. Responsibilities include riding the bus to and from the event, assisting with music stand and equipment setup at the mall, and supervising students as they eat lunch and browse throughout the mall.

Band students will receive a trip permission form the first week in December. You should indicate your desire to chaperone on the bottom of that form.

The permission form is also available at:
[www.itascamusic.com/
bandhome/bandforms.html](http://www.itascamusic.com/bandhome/bandforms.html)

