

# QUARTER NOTES

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

## **Band Program Handbook**

*Band policies and procedures are published in the Band Program Handbook, available online at:*  
[www.itascamusic.com](http://www.itascamusic.com).

*Everything matters because everything teaches.*  
 Dr. Scott Bruzek

*It is not mistakes that should be feared. It is lack of best effort.*  
 Timothy Loest

## **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

#### **12/4—December Concert**

Sunday Afternoon  
 3:00 PM—Peacock  
 Arrive by 2:10  
 Warm-ups at 2:15

#### **12/6—Yorktown Center**

11:00 AM  
 Butterfield Rd & Highland Ave  
 Lombard—Carson's Upper Level

#### **2/26—February Concert**

3:00 PM—Peacock

#### **4/18—April Concert**

7:00 PM—Peacock

#### **5/28—Memorial Day Parade**

9:30 AM—Franzen

*Call time is 45 minutes before each event!*

### Concert Band Grades 7 & 8

#### **12/4—December Concert**

Sunday Afternoon  
 3:00 PM—Peacock  
 Arrive by 2:10  
 Warm-ups at 2:15

#### **12/12—Yorktown Center**

11:00 AM  
 Butterfield Rd & Highland Ave  
 Lombard—Carson's Upper Level

#### **2/26—February Concert**

3:00 PM—Peacock

#### **3/17—Band Festival**

Northwestern University  
 All-Day Event  
 Pick-Staiger Concert Hall

#### **4/18—April Concert**

7:00 PM—Peacock

#### **5/28—Memorial Day Parade**

9:30 AM—Franzen

*Call time is 45 minutes before each event!*

### Jazz Band

#### **Chosen by Audition**

#### **12/4—December Concert**

Sunday Afternoon  
 3:00 PM—Peacock  
 Arrive by 2:10  
 Warm-ups at 2:15

#### **2/26—February Concert**

3:00 PM—Peacock

#### **3/3—Band Contest**

Location and Time TBA

#### **4/12—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. Our new vests will be distributed as soon as they arrive.

Students who ordered a tuxedo shirt or shoes will receive those items either November 29 or 30.

## Pause for Applause—VanderCook and IMEA Success!

### VANDERCOOK HONOR BAND

The following Peacock 8th graders participated in the VanderCook College of Music Middle Level HonorFest on Saturday, September 24 at the IIT Campus in Chicago: John Bradley, Jack Drolen, Jenna Drolen, Sarah Eischen, Matthew Fink, Isabel Hilario, Austin McKenna, Henry Miller, Lily Nickisch, Anthony Renella, Anna Sampson, Frank Scheck, and Alex Struck,

### IMEA TRYOUTS

The following Concert Band members auditioned for the Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA) District 9 Junior Festival Band: Ben Barbanente, Lily Nickisch, Anna Sampson, Frank Scheck, and Elena Sgarbossa. IMEA tryouts represent the most rigorous music challenge available to band students in Illinois. Congratulations to our courageous musicians!

### IMEA FESTIVAL

Congratulations to Ben Barbanente, Lily Nickisch and Elena Sgarbossa who represented District 10 at this year's IMEA festival. The festival took place at Plano High School on Saturday, November 5.

## 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 follows 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 one's membership is very serious. Therefore, the director will review each situation carefully when determining consequences according to the following steps:

### **UNEXCUSED TARDINESS**

#### Unexcused Tardy 1

- Parent Contact

#### Unexcused Tardy 2

- Parent Contact
- Student Coaching Session\*

#### Unexcused Tardy 3

- Parent Contact
- Lower Seating or Dismissal

### **UNEXCUSED ABSENCE**

#### Unexcused Absence 1

- Parent Contact

#### Unexcused Absence 2

- Parent Contact
- Student Coaching Session\*

*\*Student will meet with the director and school counselor to implement a solution to the attendance problem.*

### **SCHOLASTIC ABSENCE**

•Students may take one Scholastic Absence (SA) per term for academic reasons. Acceptable reasons include taking a test, attending tutorial, or completing homework.

•The parent/guardian must notify the director before the SA is approved.

•Before taking a SA, the student must check with the classroom teacher to see if there is another time to makeup work. If no other time exists, then the SA will be approved.

•Students taking a SA should bring instruments and music to school in case plans change.

•Each student's goal should be perfect attendance. Not taking a SA will result in Extra Credit.

### PERFORMANCE EVENTS ATTENDANCE POLICY

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

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

If an unavoidable conflict arises, the parent/guardian must notify the director as far in advance as possible to review the situation. All performance events are posted on the District 10 calendar. They are also posted online at: [www.itascamusic.com](http://www.itascamusic.com).

**An Excused Performance Absence may result in makeup work. An Unexcused Performance Absence will result in lower seating placement or dismissal.** Jeopardizing one's membership is very serious. Therefore, the director will carefully review each situation when determining consequences.

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*All performance events are listed in the 2011-12 Parent-Student Calendar.*

*They are also posted online at: [www.itascamusic.com](http://www.itascamusic.com).*

## Washington D.C. Trip—Memorial Day Parade Requirements

### PARADE ATTENDANCE—MAY 28

All band students, grades 6-8 are required to attend the Memorial Day Parade, including students attending the Washington D.C. trip.

### PARADE REHEARSALS

In the past, parade rehearsals were held the week prior to Memorial Day. Due to this year's Washington D.C. trip, parade rehearsals will be held earlier in May (schedule TBA).

The Memorial Day Parade provides a significant service to our community. Please plan your calendar now so that your child can participate in this required event.

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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.*

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We're on the Web!

[Itascamusic.com](http://Itascamusic.com)

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## Yorktown Trip Chaperones Needed—December 6 and 12

### 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 6 at 11:00 am in front of Carson's, upper level.

The 7th & 8th grade Concert Band will play on Monday, December 12 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 6 and December 12 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 have received a trip permission form. You should indicate your desire to chaperone on the bottom of the form.**

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

