



Message sent from Olathe Public Schools

Parents and Students:

We are off and running on what I know will be a fantastic year at Olathe East! This will be my first email of the year using the gradebook. If you find out (from your child or friends) you are not receiving my emails or are receiving them at a different email address than you would prefer, please check with the front office to get your contact information updated in the gradebook. I try to only send out weekly emails, so you are not overloaded with information from me, but that means most of the emails I send out are lengthy and contain a lot of new information. Another way to stay plugged in is to check the website frequently at www.oeband. The public side of the website includes general information about the program and also includes the calendar. This calendar is always the most current and up to date version of the OE band calendar you can find. If you sync it with your google calendar on your phone, then if we make changes to the calendar, it will automatically update on your device. There is also a "members only" side of the website which has a lot of useful information including a record of all the emails I send out for the entire year in case you can't find an email. The password for the member only page is Hawks. I encourage everyone to be familiar with the website as that is where we post a lot of information throughout the year.

Upcoming Date

On Thursday, August 18th we will be holding our annual Forms and Fees night prior to the Olathe East Back to School Night. We will start our evening at 5:30 p.m. and it is a come and go event that will lead right into the Back to School Night which starts at 7:00 p.m. Next week we will send out the forms to everyone as well as a sheet detailing costs depending on which ensemble your child is in. We will also have copies of the forms available that evening. Several of the forms are required by KSHSAA and students will not be able to participate in performances until they turn them in.

Band Handbook

I have attached the band handbook to this email. We have also posted it on the locked side of the website. We reviewed the information today in all the classes except for 3rd hour as we were busy getting lockers checked out. Please take time to look through the information and email me with any questions you might have.

Help needed

We are needing some help in a few different areas, and I have found over the years that with a group this big we sometimes have resources I am not aware of. Please email me if you are able to help with any of these items or know someone who you think might be able to.

- We are looking at making some changes to our insurance policy for the band trailers. We have coverage for the trailers but are looking for options for a rider that would also cover the equipment that is being transported.
- We have a significant amount of painting that is needed for our props for the field show this year. If anyone has access to an airless paint sprayer similar to what is used by professional home painters, please let me know.
- We are in need of some parents that would be able to help us sew the skirts for the Talons for the field show. It is a very straight-ahead project for parents that have sewing experience. Please let me know if this is something you would be able to help with.

Concert Band- 3rd Hour

Today we started the process of checking out lockers for this class. We will finish the process on Monday. We will check out school instruments to any student that needs one on Monday. We will be playing in class starting Monday so all students should bring their instrument to school.

Jazz Band- 4th Hour

Today we passed out scale sheets and our first combo tune. I have also emailed the students the backing track for this piece so they can start the process of improvisation at home as they practice. A reminder that we have a wide range of experience levels in this group, and I will meet the student where they are at currently and then help them grow as a jazz musician from there. I know some of the students were a little overwhelmed today but I am confident that they will all do a great job!

Freshmen Percussion Class- 7th Hour

We will check out their lockers on Monday. Today we went through the band handbook. We will play on Monday, so they need to bring their stick bag with their sticks and mallets to school on Monday. We will be doing a group stick order soon and I can fill you in on details of that at a later date.

Marching Band/Drumline

We will begin our 7 a.m. rehearsals on Monday August 15th. We will start on the field at 7 a.m. so students will need to arrive to East early enough to be ready to start rehearsal on time. We have 7 a.m. rehearsals every day except for Thursday since that is block day and 1st hour doesn't meet that day. We will also have our weekly evening rehearsal on Monday as well from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. It will be important that students get plenty of rest on Sunday night every week, so they are ready for our busiest day of the week.

On Tuesday, August 16th we will be hosting a "Try the Instrument Night" at East for 5th grade students looking to select their band instrument for this year. Leadership Team students are expected to help with this event. Please contact Mrs. Creek if you have questions about this event as she is running it.

Attached is a flyer for a DCI World Championships watch party at Olathe South. They will livestream the finals in their black box theatre and band students from across the district are encouraged to attend. This is something we used to do every year prior to Covid, and it is great that OS is bringing it back for the students.

Below is information from Dr. Wolgast about athletic passes for parents that plan to come to all of the football games. If you are part of the Orange and Blue Crew that help with the props and percussion equipment, we will get you into the games at no cost but for all other parents that plan to attend this is an option instead of paying for each game separately. It is not required, and tickets will be available for each event separately at the gate if you prefer.

OE Hawks,

It's that time of year to gear up for the athletic seasons for our Olathe East Hawks. The district offers an Adult Pass for \$75 that gets the individual into all Olathe High School events other than KSHSAA post-season events and select tournaments. By purchasing this pass, you will save yourself time at the gate for any event you attend (a quick scan gets you in) and if you will attend 11 or more varsity events throughout the school year it will also save you money. Information is below at the two links. One is a promotional video and the second takes you to the site to purchase the Adult passes. Please support your OE Hawks!!!

Promotional Video: https://youtu.be/F62NLmq_XsY

To Purchase Your Passes: <https://oeathletics.com/event-tickets>

Thanks,
Mr. Smikahl

This message has been translated from ENGLISH

Original Message

Subject: OE Band Update 8-12-22

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