

Archived Announcements

8/12/19

Celebrations

First, how about the Raven Pride Marching Band! Camp was terrific, and the "Meet the Band Night" performance was a pretty awesome start to a school year filled with terrific potential. Wonderful to meet the students and families of our concert, marching, and jazz programs last week. All parts of the band family have grown again for ONW, both in number and quality. I'm looking forward to watching and hearing the exciting and musically rewarding things that our students will bring about for our Northwestband this school year. GO RAVENS!

AND, it is my great pleasure to share the news that BOTH our Raven Winds concert band, and Raven Jazz I ensemble have been selected for all-state convention performances by the Kansas Music Educators association (KMEA)! Groups from all parts of our state submit recorded auditions for blind adjudication annually. Only the top performing groups are accepted for performance at the in-service workshop in February. It is highly competitive, difficult to be selected. Our students earned it, and will no doubt represent our school and band program superlatively. Much more to follow. Congratulations! This is a BIG deal!

Start of School Week

Marching Band - The first day of school is busy enough! As was shared at camp, there will NOT be a 7:00 AM rehearsal this Thursday 8/15. 7:00 AM rehearsals will begin for marchers on Friday 8/16. Please bring your instruments for Thursday! We will do our best to allow time for a warm up and a show run! Movement IV is in!! We'll take our first read together, bring what you need to play on Thursday at regular time.

Concert Band & Jazz Lab - You are welcome to bring your instrument on Thursday, however you will not need to bring you instrument / stick bag until Friday 8/16. We will assign lockers, check out school provided instruments, and handle introductions and syllabus / handbook overview on Thursday 8/15. Looking forward to having you with us!

Welcome New Parents! Join us Saturday - 8:30 AM - August 17th!

Are you a new parent to the band program here at Northwest? Perhaps a veteran parent but have some questions about getting involved! All who are able / interested are welcome to join us in the band room this Saturday August 17th for some coffee, doughnuts, and information. We'll get started at 8:30 AM. Several of our parents will share some helpful information, you'll have a chance to ask questions, and you'll get to meet some really terrific people who are in your corner to guide you through this exciting time of transition to high school and the ONW band program. Hope to see you with us! If this is not a

convenient time for you, don't hesitate to reach out by replying to this message. I'll be happy to meet with you at an alternative time that fits your schedule best.

Annual Ethnic Enrichment Festival

Don't forget about this GREAT way to earn some money for your ONW band account! Still a handful of spots available, fill 'em up! A super fun event, and highly profitable to YOU!! More information available on the link which follows.

40th Annual Enrichment Festival - August 16th, 17th, & 18th. We are needing student and parent volunteers for this festival at Swope Park. If you are interested, please click on the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D49ADAW2DA57-20191>

Olathe Northwest Area Try-It Night - Wednesday August 21st

Each year, Olathe Northwest staff and students host an exciting evening where we invite our new 5th grade students to attend and try out the instruments of the band and orchestra. Again, I would like to ask / beg the students of our leadership team and ALL Raven Band students to consider lending a hand to make sure our future Ravens enjoy a highly positive and exciting experience! Check your calendar on Wednesday the 21st and keep it open as you are able. A training session and a pizza dinner will be provided after school. We will need lots of help through student demonstration, student led "instrumental fittings", and could use some parents to assist with logistics of the evening and visit with future band parents answering questions surrounding things you wish you had known as a new band parent.

We will discuss the day in greater detail on Thursday and will have a sign up available by the end of this week. If you would like to share some music with a small ensemble of friends, we would greatly appreciate that! We have some music available and can help as needed.

Thanks so much for your consideration of lending a hand at this highly important evening for the Raven Band and Orchestra, class of 2027!

7/22/19

2019 Marching Band Camps

Marching band students get a jump start on the show and literature for the season over the summer. These dates are **required** for all students who wish to participate in marching band. Students unable to participate in the full camps should visit with Mr. Davis about a schedule adaptation and **plan to be a part of our concert band** first semester. A reminder that the dates for camps in 2019 are:

- Full Band Camp (All Marching Band Students) is June 3rd - 5th & July 29th - August 7th. (8 - 4) no weekends
- Percussion students will also have percussion camp from July 22nd - 26th (8 AM - 4 PM)
- In addition, will host two HIGHLY RECOMMENDED "mini camps" on July 9th and 10th, from 8am - 12:30pm. We spend two hours outside learning marching fundamentals, and

then inside working on music. Students can come to one or both sessions. More details will be provided before the end of the school year.

Full Band Camp runs from 8 AM to 4 PM with a lunch break. All students will receive a detailed schedule and music in late May. All band students will need to bring a lunch as there are not very many places to eat close to ONW, and no transportation is being provided to and from lunch.

Annual Band Meeting and Meet The Band Night - Wednesday 8/7

All band students and parents are invited and encouraged to attend our booster sponsored annual meeting which will start at 6:30 PM. Lots of helpful information will be shared, a dinner and preview performance from our Raven Pride Marching Band will also be enjoyed by all. More to follow! For now, mark the date and be sure to join us!

Hey Band! Let's Go Bowling! Friday August 2nd

ALL students, concert band, marching band, dance team, jazz band... ALL are invited to our annual bowling party to celebrate the end of summer and an exciting start to the 2019-20 school year. It's FREE! Thanks to our band boosters for sponsoring the event!

Marching Band Performance - Sunday August 4th

Looking forward to our performance with the Olathe Civic Band which will be here in a blink! I've received a couple good questions that you may have also...

- The calendar simply says "afternoon". The concert will begin at 2:00 PM. Call time for performers will be at 1:45 PM in the band room. Performance should conclude around 3:15 - 3:30.
- What do we wear? Students will wear band shirts khaki shorts or pants, and tennis shoes.

Marching Band Camp - Starts Monday 8/29

So, I'm always excited to get started on the new year, but never quite like this! Our students have gone above and beyond this summer. The enthusiasm for this marching season is electric! It's a good year to be a Raven! Please review your "What to Bring to Band Camp" attached to make sure you have everything you need.

Brass Impact

Wow! THANK YOU! The event was well staffed, ran smoothly, and was exciting to be a part of. The comments and compliments I have received from the performing groups, their staff, and the audience members have been glowing about YOU! I sincerely appreciate the time and care so many of you shared to make this year's show a complete success. Well done!

Celebrations

Incoming Freshman Ben Wackerla was selected to perform with the 2019 Kansas Bandmasters Association state honor band. Ben and his peers from across the state rehearsed for the convention this past weekend in Wichita and performed brilliantly. Welcome to ONW, Ben! Thanks for a terrific performance.

Numerous Ravens have been hard at work this summer studying music and enjoying jazz, concert, marching, and leadership camps. Last week at the K-State Leadership and Auxiliary Camp, Senior Kyle Wisdom was awarded the Best Marcher award, and Junior Parker Smitko earned the Outstanding Leader award. Way to go!

Registration - Band Fees and Info:

This Thursday at registration day, be sure to stop by and say hello to your band booster representatives! We have information to share, form packets to distribute, and answers to any questions you may have.

Attached is our fee sheet for the year. I am pleased to report that there is no increase this year! Our boosters have worked hard to keep our fees low and reasonable. If you would like to take care of yours at registration, please do so! If you would rather wait until meet the band night, open house, or another time, that's fine. ALSO, please note that no student in the Raven Band Program will ever be turned away due to lack of financial ability. Should you need assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly. Thank You!

[2019 band fees document](#)

SAVE THE DATE: Big, Loud, and Live - DCI Live Stream at AMC Theaters:

It was AWESOME to see so many of you at the Drum Corps Premier at AMC last month and at the DCI Show last week! Don't miss the live stream of Semi-finals which will take place on THURSDAY August 8th! The performances begin at 5:30 PM and we will again meet up in the large circle at AMC off Strang Line to enjoy the performances as a big, rowdy, flock of Raven band fans. Hope you can join us!

Leadership Workshop with Dr. Tim - Tuesday 8/13

Save the date, Tuesday August 13th! Dr. Tim will be hosting his annual leadership workshop in our area and all are welcome to join us. The cost will be \$30 and we will depart ONW at approx.. 3:30 PM and return before 9:00 PM. I will share much more information as the date gets closer. Save the date, you'll be glad you attended!!

Dr. Tim's leadership workshop is a highlight for me and for our students every year! **Students should bring paper and a writing utensil!** Attire is casual! Wear your favorite Raven Band gear! A reminder that the cost is \$30 per person. Please make your check out to the ONW Band Boosters as we will pay with one check. If you bring cash, please place it in an envelope marked with your name & "Dr. Tim" so we can make sure it is credited appropriately. I will also have a simple form available for you to sign if you wish to use funds in your band account.

Please arrive to the ONW band room in time to submit your payment and load the bus or suburban's by 3:30 PM. We will go to Freddy's for ice cream following the workshop's conclusion at 7:00. I'm buying the ice cream, if you would like anything additionally, please bring money. I anticipate that we will be back to ONW by 8:30 – 9:00. **Students should sign up using the link that follows by the end of the day Friday August 9th.**

7/19

Tomorrow's (Tuesday's) band booster's meeting will be held in the Raven's Nest!

Remember that all are welcome! I'm bringing some snacks and sodas, see the info below and please join us if you can. Looking forward to planning out an exciting new year for our students.

The Raven's Nest is located just Northwest of the commons area. If you access the space from the "band" or events entrance, cut down the 1500 hallway to get there as the commons is being waxed. I will have signs to help you find your way. You are also welcome to enter from the north central entrance next to the Ravens Nest.

Sign up for a slot to help at next Monday's DCI Show!

Wow! One week from today. Thanks in advance to all who have signed up to help. I sure would rest easier seeing more of the spots fill up though, if you are able to lend a hand it would be greatly appreciated. Help is needed particularly in set up, clean up, and parking. As it stands now, Alex Baiza and I are going to be covering a lot of ground unassisted in the lot! Thank you for your consideration and support. More details below as needed, sign up for a shift or two or three [HERE!](#)

Sign Up Link - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d49adae2da57-dci2019>