

Good evening band family!

I hope that you all had an enjoyable weekend. I'm looking forward to another week making music with the best students at DeLand High School. ☺

This Week:

Monday (1/11) – open

Tuesday (1/12) –Winterguard 4:00-7:00pm

Wednesday (1/13) – open

Thursday (1/14) –Winterguard 4:00-7:00pm

Friday (1/15) – Winterguard payment #1 DUE (\$150)

Playing Tests PAST DUE

All playing tests for students in 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 6th, & 7th periods are past due at this point. For details about the playing tests (they are different for each class), please log into Canvas and look under “assignments” for your band class. You will submit all videos on Canvas. Emailed videos will not be accepted. This is the exact same procedure we used last quarter, but if you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to your section leader or ask me.

Late submissions are still being accepted, but 10 points will be deducted from the grade you earn for your submission. Even if it's not perfect, please submit your video as any grade you receive will be much better than receiving a zero for not completing the assignment.

All-County Band Auditions

All students that registered for All-County Band auditions have been added to the audition Canvas courses. These courses will be published tomorrow (Monday), so please look for this in the afternoon and accept the course invitation. If you are auditioning on more than one instrument, you will be in two courses. All instructions for the auditions will be located in that Canvas course.

The final day to submit audition videos is January 23. I highly recommend that you start working on your recordings at least 1 week before the deadline so that you can get several good takes and choose your best one. I also recommend that you record your videos after a regular warm-up and not after a long practice period so that your chops are not tired.

I have opened up two days after school for recording sessions if you would like to record in the band room using the Blue Yeti microphone. You must bring your own laptop to record to. Recording sessions will be held on January 19 & 21 from 4:00-6:00pm in the band room. I will post a sign-up sheet on the band office door later this week with specific appointment times (10 minute blocks). This is not a requirement. You may choose to record your audition at home, but I wanted to open up this opportunity to our students that would like to record with a higher quality microphone.

Solo & Ensemble Applications – PAST DUE

Solo & Ensemble applications were DUE the week before break (Monday, December 14) from all students in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd period. If you didn't get this in before the break, you currently have a zero for that grade in Focus. I will accept these late without penalty, but I need the ASAP so that I can complete our school's registration for the event. If you need a digital copy of the application, please email me (mcleimer@volusia.k12.fl.us) and I will send it to you.

This year Solo & Ensemble will be completely virtual. Students choosing to play for the judge can either pre-record their performance OR live-stream with the judge. Because of these changes, I am allowing ALL students to choose whether they want to perform for the judge (for a rating OR for comments only), perform for their class period, OR perform on a special evening recital at the end of February in the auditorium.

Upcoming Important Dates

- January 15th - \$150 Winterguard payment DUE
- January 23rd – All-County Audition videos DUE (Canvas)
- January 30th – Optional Pep Band Performance (more info soon)
- February 1st – Percussion after-school rehearsals resume
- February 2nd – Symphonic Band after-school rehearsals resume
- February 3rd – Wind Ensemble after-school rehearsals resume
- February 13th – 1st Winterguard Competition
- February 19-20 – NEW Solo & Ensemble dates

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