

Happy Sunday Bulldog Band family!

I hope that everyone enjoyed this school break relaxing, spending time with friends and family, and staying safe. I am looking forward to seeing everyone tomorrow and pushing for some great performances in these last three weeks before Winter Break. Please don't forget to bring your instrument and music with you to school tomorrow – we ARE playing in every class. Also, please be reminded that woodwind and brass players are required to have their DeLand Band musician mask in order to play in class. Disposable masks will no longer be allowed. We need to be as safe as possible when playing indoors and the disposable masks were only meant to be a temporary solution. If you need an additional musician mask, you can purchase one for only \$10 (while supplies last). Bell covers are also required for all woodwind and brass instruments except flutes and French horns. Please make sure that you wash your musician mask and fabric bell cover by hand and allow them to air dry. They dry very quickly (overnight), so if you wash them in the evening, they will be ready for school the next day.

This Week:

Monday (11/30) – open

Tuesday (12/1) – Symphonic Band 4:00-6:00pm; Winterguard 4:00-7:00pm

Wednesday (12/2) – **early release day**; Wind Ensemble 3:00-5:00pm

Thursday (12/3) – Percussion 3:45-5:15pm; Winterguard 4:00-7:00pm; Prism Auditions

Friday (12/4) – Prism Auditions

After School Rehearsals

This week we have a full schedule of after school rehearsals and activities (see schedule above). These rehearsals are required as part of your grade for your band class. Just as with marching band, if you need to miss for an unavoidable reason, please have your parent/guardian email Ms. Leimer prior to the rehearsal. We only have a couple of rehearsals left before our Prism and Winter Concert performances, so it is very important that we have all musicians present.

Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble rehearsals will be run on the following schedule to ensure the safety of our musicians.

- 30 min. playing – 15 min. break – 30 min. playing – 15 min. break – 30 min. playing
- During the 15-minute break, the doors will be propped open and students will have time to go outside. This will allow the air in the band room to change out before we begin playing again.
- During the entire rehearsal block the air purifier will be running.

All of this is in accordance with the CBDNA wind instrument aerosol study that recommends bell covers, musician masks, and limited playing of wind instruments inside.

During indoor percussion and winterguard rehearsals, students are required to wear masks that cover the nose and mouth at all times. Students will be given outside mask breaks as needed at winterguard rehearsal due to the heavy physical activity involved.

Winterguard – please remember to wear dance blacks to all rehearsals from now on.

Freshman Ambassadors

Thank you to everyone that applied and interviewed to be part of our new Freshman Ambassadors program. The decisions were very difficult because we had so many strong applicants. The future of our beloved DHS Band program is very bright as evidenced by the dedicated members of our freshman class. Please help me congratulate the following students for being selected as our first class of Freshman Ambassadors:

- Jonah Glenn & Rayne Marshall (assigned to DeLand MS)
- Jaquavion Gaines & Ryan Garbacik (assigned to Southwestern MS)
- Logan Steinbach & Lily Stephenson (assigned to Ivy Hawn)

Solo & Ensemble Applications DUE December 7 (instrumentalists only)

Solo & Ensemble Applications are due to Ms. Leimer by Monday, December 7. All Wind Ensemble students are required to participate in at least one event (solo or small ensemble) for adjudication. Symphonic Band students are required to participate in one event (solo or small ensemble) and may choose to perform for adjudication or for the class. All percussion students are required to participate in percussion ensemble but may also choose to perform a solo or small ensemble for adjudication. There is a possibility that S&E may be held as a virtual event this year, so we will not be having woodwind or brass choir this year.

Colorguard students will be required to perform a solo in addition to the large group (winterguard) performance, however discussions are still underway regarding the FBA event. More information will be distributed as it becomes available.

Prism Concert Auditions

Prism Concert auditions for solos and small ensembles will be held on Thursday and Friday after school. Please sign up for a day on the band office door. We will begin promptly at 3:45pm on both days and auditions will be taken on a first come, first served basis. All entries will be considered for the concerts as long as the performers are prepared. There is no limit to how many will be allowed to perform, but musicians who are not well prepared for the audition will not be allowed to perform on the concert. In addition to the solos and small ensembles, our Jazz Band and Percussion Ensemble will be performing. We will be performing 3 shows (all the same) – Friday December 11th 7:00pm, Saturday December 12th 2:00pm, & Saturday December 12th 7:00pm.

An email about with information about how to request Prism concert tickets will be sent out tomorrow (Monday, November 30), so please be on the look-out for this. Seating is extremely limited, but we will be giving first priority for tickets to our performers' families. All tickets will be FREE this year.

December Concerts & Events

We have performances coming up in December that all instrumentalists will be involved in. This year ALL musicians will wear "concert black" for ALL non-marching band performances. I

wanted to go ahead and give you information about this so that you can take advantage of some black Friday sales if you need any of these items. All "concert black" items must be purchased by individual band members. None of these items are able to be supplied by the school.

"Concert Black" - Attire for all 2020-2021 formal (non-marching band) performances

Please adhere to the following requirements for all Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Band performances for the 2020-2021 school year. The purpose of these requirements is to create a uniform, professional look that will give the audience the best impression of our bands. Always err on the side of professionally modest.

This attire is known as "concert black":

- Black button-down dress shirt with black dress pants, long black socks OR black knee-high panty hose, & black closed toe dress shoes.
- Black dress with black panty hose or tights & black closed-toe dress shoes.
- Black dress shirt with black skirt, black panty hose or tights, & black closed-toe dress shoes.
- Dress shoes must be closed-toe (no sandals, peep toe, open toe, etc.) with low heel or flats.
- Long black socks or black knee-highs must be worn with pants (no sport/short length socks).
- Black tights or panty hose must be worn with skirts/dresses.
- All tops must have sleeves otherwise a black cardigan/blazer should be worn to cover the arms.
- Shoes must be ALL black and relatively plain.
- All jewelry should be minimal, and any hair accessories should be black.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask (or send pictures if you aren't sure).

December Concerts (wear "concert black" for all of these)

- Prism Concerts (3 shows, all the same) - Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, plus solos and small ensembles
 - December 11 - 7:00pm (6:00pm CALL TIME)
 - December 12 - 2:00pm (1:00pm CALL TIME)
 - December 12 - 7:00pm (6:00pm CALL TIME)
- Winter Concert (pre-recorded and posted online for all to view)
 - December 15 - 4:00-6:00pm (recording session for Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble in the auditorium)

Upcoming Important Dates

- December 1st – Winterguard rehearsals begin (4:00-7:00pm)
- December 1st – Symphonic Band rehearsals begin (4:00-6:00pm)
- December 2nd – Wind Ensemble rehearsal begin (3:00-5:00pm)
- December 3rd – Percussion rehearsals begin (3:45-5:15pm)
- December 7th – Solo & Ensemble Applications DUE
- December 11th & 12th – Prism Concerts

- December 15th – Winter Concert filming (Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band)
- December 18th – 2nd Quarter playing tests DUE (1st, 2nd, & 3rd period classes)

#goband

ML