

Happy Tuesday!

This is the first (and possibly longest) of MANY weekly emails you will receive from us throughout the school year. You should receive one every Monday or Tuesday morning with information regarding upcoming events, important band announcements, attachments of any handouts, itineraries, schedules, forms, etc., we give to the students to take home (never hurts to assume they won't take them home! :)), and any other pertinent information. Between these weekly emails and our web page (www.nsband.com), we hope to keep you as informed as possible with everything related to the North Scott Band Program. So- here are the first batch of announcements for the 2011-2012 School Year:

CALENDAR(S)- The band calendars are all posted on the webpage (www.nsband.com, click on "Full Calendar" at the top of the main page) in different versions. There are printable list versions, an interactive webpage version, and printable calendars that you can print off as a whole or by month and use as actual calendars! Either way, it is ALL THERE!

Thanks to all who attended the parent meeting last night- it was great to meet all of you, even if the room temperature wasn't ideal! The drumline has been hard at work over the past 4 days and are doing really well!!! We are excited to bring the full group in later this week!!

We wanted to drop a few reminders and some new info for you as rehearsals approach. Please read through the following information carefully:

JAZZ COMBO JAM SESSION: We will be hosting our first monthly jam session of the year at Mojo's Cafe, Downtown Davenport, THIS Thursday (August 4) from 7-9:00 pm. This is a wonderful experience for all- we highly encourage all jazz students (and even non-jazz students!) to come down. We promise you'll have a great time. Hope to see you there!

MARCHING BAND CAMP- Here is the schedule:

Thursday, Aug 4- Freshman and Drumline rehearsal, 8-10 am

Friday, Aug 5- Juniors, Seniors and Drumline rehearsal (and any sophomores we have contacted to be squad leaders), 8-10 am

Monday and Tuesday, Aug 8 & 9- FULL Marching Band Rehearsal, 8-10 am

Wednesday, Aug 10- Trip to Great America (Gurnee, IL) for band members who have attend all of the required camp rehearsals. *They will not be able to get on the bus on Wednesday morning if they have not turned in a medical form! We will be leaving at 7:00 am and will be returning at ~10:00pm.

MARCHING BAND "STUFF"- just a reminder that your son/daughter will need the following for marching band:

INSTRUMENTS!!! (duh!)

Comfortable shoes- NO FLIP-FLOPS!!!!

Lyres/Flip-Folders (excluding drumline members)

Comfortable clothing/sunglasses- we will be outside a fair amount of the time!

REMINDER: Lyres/flip-folders need to be purchased before the first rehearsal this week! Mellophone players, clarinet players, and saxophone players will need to purchase both a lyre and a flip folder. (Thursday for the Freshmen, Friday for upper-classmen, and Monday/Tuesday for EVERYONE!) Trumpet

and Trombone players should purchase a BELL-CLAMP lyre. There are two different styles available, but make sure to purchase the BELL-CLAMP one. It is WAY easier to manage! All lyres/flip-folders may be purchased at West Music or Griggs Music.

REMINDER: NO FLIP-FLOPS for rehearsals! “Grubby” shoes recommended!

FORMS- We will need the following forms returned to us ASAP: The Medical Form and the Handbook/Uniform Size Form. The Handbook/Uniform Size Form was included in the summer band letter, but for your convenience we have attached it (along with the Medical Form) to this email in case they have been misplaced or not received. ****PLEASE use the attached electronic MEDICAL FORM. It was created so you can type right into it and print off a nice, easy-to-read copy for us. There is very important information on there, and we want to be able to read every letter!! :) If you are unable to open these .pdf files, they are also posted on the webpage (click on “Communications” at the top middle of the main page). Please return those to us ASAP! The HANDBOOK FORM states that you have read the contents of the NSHS Band Handbook (and Summer Letter), which may be found on our webpage- just click on “Handbook” on the top of the main page. If you are unable to view the handbook online, we can mail one to you- just let us know! And if for some reason you did not receive the Summer Letter, you will also find it on the webpage under “Communications” at the top.

GREAT AMERICA TRIP: For those with perfect attendance at Band Camp and wanting to go with us to Great America on Wednesday, August 10, we need both the Six Flags Trip Permission Form (attached) and the MEDICAL FORM (also attached) returned to us by Monday, August 8. THESE NEED TO BE TYPED. We have created a pdf form with fields (highlighted in light blue) you can type into. As mentioned, I have attached it to this email- when you open the attachment, just click on the line (or highlighted field) you want to type, and enter all of the pertinent information. There are also check boxes that you can click on for any “yes” or “no” questions, as well as the list of items under “the student may be subject to...”. You will not be able to save it on your completed form on the computer, but you can print it (maybe print a copy for us and one for your records?). This is very sensitive information, so we need to make sure it is completely legible in the event we need to use it. For those that have already turned in a written form, let us know if you would like the form sent back home to you so you don’t have to look up all of the information again to type it.

GREAT AMERICA COST: Tickets into the park will be \$35 (that is our group rate- the general tickets are usually \$55!), and they will also need to bring money for meals. Checks for the tickets should be made out to “NORTH SCOTT MUSIC BOOSTERS”.

PARENTS! We need a few adult chaperones to go to Great America with us next Wednesday- we will cover your ticket cost for anyone interested and available. Please let us know!

MARCHING BAND RECORDINGS- Full recordings of the marching band music currently being worked on can be found on the webpage (www.nsband.com). On the main page, scroll down to where it says “Download Marching Band Recordings HERE”. This will take you to a page where you can download/listen to the mp3 files. This serves as a valuable practice tool for the students, since we put shows together quickly and rely a great deal on their at-home practicing to get the music ready.

BAND T-SHIRTS: Our awesome “North Scott Band” T-Shirts are available for purchase from the Band Department. They are \$8 for band students (junior high AND high school), and \$10 for all others. We have

S, M, L, XL, and 2X available. The cost for 2X and larger (we can order 3X if needed) goes up \$2 for the special order. We sell them to the students at cost, so we just follow the rates from GT Sports. The sizes run fairly true (if anything, maybe *slightly* smaller) and they are a 50/50 blend. To view the T-shirts, go to www.nsbands.com/merchandise.htm. Long-sleeved NS Band T-shirts will also be ordered (gray or red), so let us know if you would like one, and what size is preferred.

In the case of warm temperatures during the football games, we do allow students to take off their uniform jackets in the stands as long as they are wearing a RED t-shirt underneath. This is the PERFECT opportunity to wear a band T-Shirt! If you would like to purchase one, please email us with the size you would like. This is to help ensure we have enough. We order more every year, so this will help expedite the process and give us an idea of how many of which size to order.

ALL-STATE AUDITIONEES- The materials are now posted at www.ihsma.org (click on "All State Music Festival", and then "General Audition and Concert Information"). As always, start hitting those scales if you haven't done so already!

INSTRUMENT RENTAL FEES- To help offset the cost of yearly instrument maintenance/repair, we are asking all students who are using school instruments (including percussionists) to pay the yearly rental fee of \$40. This covers less than half of the cost to send it in over the summer, due to wear and tear, etc. We also ask that the students TAKE CARE OF THE EQUIPMENT! If there is any excessive damage done due to carelessness or neglect (such as not putting the instruments in the cases before putting them into lockers), we will be asking the parents/students to cover the cost. We understand that accidents will happen, but we also expect the students to do their best to avoid situations that might create problems (i.e. setting the instrument on the floor in a room full of people, setting it on a music stand, not putting it back IN THE CASE before putting it in their locker, etc.).

Many questions can be answered by visiting our webpage (www.nsbands.com). ALSO- the "Communications" page (link is on the top of all pages) features any information we give to the students, including forms, itineraries, links to calendars, etc. This page could also be called "find out what your child forgot to bring home", because we created it for that very reason. We know that sometimes the info does not always make it home. We will also alert you (via the weekly emails) to anything we will be sending home with the students so you know to either expect it or go right to the "Communications" page to download it.

We are looking forward to a very exciting year!!!

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, August 4: FRESHMEN Marching Band Rehearsal, HS Band Room, 8:00 am (FULL Drumline still rehearses)

Thursday, August 4: Jazz Jam Session (Open to EVERYone!), Mojo's Cafe, 7-9:00 pm

Friday, August 5: JUNIORS/SENIORS Marching Band Rehearsal, HS Band Room, 8:00 am

Monday-Tuesday, August 8-9: FULL Marching Band Rehearsal, HS Band Room, 8:00 am

Wednesday, August 10: Band Camp trip to Great America, 7:00 am departure