

Happy Monday!

Thanks to all of the band moms who helped out with uniform fittings last week- we couldn't have done it without you!

HOME FOOTBALL GAME- This Friday (September 2)!!! Students need to be at the high school no later than 5:45 pm. They will be performing the pregame show, playing the fight song in the stands every time the Lancers score (which hopefully will be A LOT!), and then perform at halftime. After that, they will check their uniforms back in and be free to go! ALL STUDENTS will need black shoes and black socks. The shoes must be ALL BLACK (no white strips, swooshes, etc.) Remember- all Handbook/Uniform Forms need to be signed and turned in for them to participate.

In the event of high temperatures, students may be allowed to remove their uniform jackets while in the stands AS LONG AS THEY ARE WEARING A RED T-SHIRT UNDERNEATH (Preferably a North Scott Band T-shirt- scroll down for more info on those). We are still "on stage" at that point and need to look uniform.

***PARENTS: It is important that students do not eat or drink anything (except water) while in uniform, so PLEASE don't bring any food or drink to them, unless it is water. The uniforms cost a great deal of money to be cleaned, and having this rule helps ensure a long life for them (the last set of uniforms lasted 25 years!).

HANDBOOK FORM: To be able to participate in Friday night's performance, every student MUST have this form (signed by both student and parent/guardian) to us before then. 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.

MEDICAL FORM: ****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!

LESSON SCHEDULES for each week will be attached to each email so you know when your son/daughter has signed up for a lesson.

PIZZA SALES KICKOFF- (THIS Friday, September 2). Students will get information and order forms for this Band/Choir/Orchestra fundraiser during band rehearsal, so look for it to make its way home then! The sales will last for a little over two weeks (Friday, Sept. 2 – Monday, Sept. 19), and funds raised will go into either the students' band or choir trip accounts. The students will be asked to specify on the forms they are given. We have had students in the past get their entire trip paid for through fundraising, so we encourage all students to sell, sell, sell!! Once we receive the official information, we will be sending you (and posting) an attachment that has the rules, format, etc.

BAND GRADES ON POWERSCHOOL- Due to the nature of our grading system (needing to have a certain number of lessons by the end of each quarter), we have to try to give an accurate reading of where the students are throughout the grading period. At this point, we have entered zeros into the first column if they have not had a lesson yet (causing the band grade to read "F"). Those zeros will obviously be replaced with a grade as they complete their first lesson and each one thereafter. *They need to have two band lessons in by FRIDAY, September 16 (and are only allowed to do ONE lesson per week). The sight-reading portion of our 2-part Chair Auditions (see handbook for more info about these) will start on Monday, September 19. Attending those two audition portions will fulfill the remaining lesson requirements for the first quarter, given they have completed the two initial band lessons previously mentioned. Please check Powerschool regularly- if they show a zero or no score under lessons or computer assignments, that means they have yet to complete them.

COMPUTER ASSIGNMENTS: As stated in the 1st Quarter Cheat Sheets, each student is required to do one computer assignment each quarter (except Freshmen- they have two to do during the 2nd and 3rd quarters). These must be done in the music computer lab (the program is on the network) and can be done at any time between 7:00 am and 4:00 pm on school days. Doing them during study hall is ideal- we can't pull students out of class to do them. The scores from these assignments count as part of their lesson grade. **REMINDER:** They can re-do the computer assignments as many times during the quarter as they want to improve their grade. These scores count twice, giving the student SIX grades in the lesson/computer assignment category (4 lessons + 2 Comp) *HINT: If the students go through the lessons before taking the review, they have an opportunity to take notes. These notes may then be used when they take the review. (In other words, they can do as well as they want- they just have to take the time!)*

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!

DINING TOUR BOOKS are now available for the students to sell. For those who are unfamiliar with these, they are books full of "two-for-one"-type coupons for QC area restaurants. They are VERY hot items (we have people calling and asking us when we will be selling them) and pay for themselves many times over. They sell for \$35 and the students must bring in money first before we give them the book (checks made out to "North Scott Band"). I have attached it as well, but you may download a list of participating restaurants from the "Communications" page on our webpage (scroll down to "Fund Raising"). You may show these to potential "buyers" so they can see what a great deal it is. Students will get \$10 profit for each book they sell (which goes directly into their account for the March 2013 Band Trip!), so we highly encourage them to get involved! We have had some students completely pay for their trip in one year's time by selling these! **IMPORTANT NOTE:** these Dining Tour books are fund-raisers for the band trip only- the choir and orchestra do separate fund-raisers for their trip.

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.nmband.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.nmband.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.

Thanks, and Have a great week!

~Mike and Bill

Upcoming Events:

Friday, Sept. 2- Home Football Game! 5:45 pm report.

Friday, Sept. 2- Pizza Sales begin

Thursday, Sept. 8- Jazz Combo Jam Session, 7-9:00 pm, Mojo's Café, Davenport