

Happy Monday!

Thanks to all who helped make our Winter Music Concert a success! Besides all of the students making some great music, we had a lot of help behind the scenes with uniforms, cookies, cider, and many other things that helped make our day a lot easier! Anyway, thanks to those individuals and to all of you who attended the concert- we really appreciate your support!

There is a lot of new and important end-of-the-semester information in this email, so please read carefully!

LESSON SCHEDULE for this week is attached!

JAZZ COMBO JAM SESSION: It's that time again for our monthly Jam Session at Mojo's Café in the River Music Experience! Join us **THIS** Thursday evening from 7-9:00 pm for some great music and great company!

IMPORTANT- BAND GRADES: We are now entering into the final two weeks to complete lessons and computer assignments. The sign-up sheet for the final week has been up since 7:30 this morning and still is not full, so that means everyone in band had a chance to sign up if they wanted to. We just wanted to make you aware just in case you get the "the sheet was already full when I went to sign up" statement from your son/daughter. ☺

*** We have now plugged zeros into the remaining lesson/computer assignment slots to maintain an accurate image of where their grades will be if nothing else is completed by next Thursday. They will be replaced with a score as soon as they are completed. The last day to complete lessons and computer assignments will be **Friday, December 16**. We have now plugged zeros into the remaining lesson/computer assignment slots to maintain an accurate image of where their grades will be if nothing else is completed by next Friday. They will be replaced with a score as soon as they are completed. **PLEASE do not wait until the end of the grading period to check their grades.** Also, as stated and described on the 2nd Quarter Cheat Sheet, one of the five lessons **MUST** be the Scale/Arpeggio Lesson. **REMEMBER:** Students can not do more than one lesson per week!

SEMESTER EXAM REVIEW SESSIONS: We **WILL** be holding review sessions next week for the upcoming semester exams, and will be sending an email out in the next couple of days with that schedule- we are still in the process of getting it ironed out.

SEMESTER EXAMS: See the bottom of this email ("Upcoming Events") for dates and times of the band/jazz band/music theory finals. Our semester exams will cover the following:

BAND: Computer Assignment Material from the 1st and 2nd Quarter, as well as terms. (See study guide)

JAZZ BAND: Basic Jazz Theory (covered in class- see study guide), a Rhythmic Patterns performance evaluation (a detailed description will be forthcoming), and Jazz Terms.

To access the study guides for the two exams, go to the "Communications" Page, click on "Student Materials", and then click the appropriate link under "Semester Exam Materials".

PEP BAND: As stated in the 2nd Quarter Cheat Sheet, students are required to attend **FOUR** pep band performances. The schedule has been chosen to avoid as many conflicts with other events/activities as possible. If any of the pep bands get canceled due to weather, we will alter the requirements accordingly to

remain fair to the students. (NOTE: All double-headers will count as TWO). They will receive credit toward their Band Letter (see handbook on webpage) for every Pep Band performance they attend. For those involved in activities/sports with direct conflicts on Pep Band nights, we just ask that they let us know and to attend as many as they are able. The schedule is now posted on the website (on the "Full Calendar" page).

BAND GRADES: We only have 2 weeks for students to get their remaining lessons in before the end of the semester. We have been reminding the students each day about the MANY open lesson slots that didn't get filled during the first few weeks of the quarter, and how we would be reminding them of that at the end of the quarter when they want to get an extra lesson in and we are unable to accommodate. For any of the little dears that tell you that there were no slots left, they have ample opportunity to sign up if they do so at the beginning of the week, rather than waiting until the end (the lesson slots don't usually fill up until at least the middle of the week). ***If they do happen to fill up right away, students should see us immediately so we can schedule a time to fit them in. PLEASE check Powerschool regularly to make sure your son/daughter is making it to their lessons (we will try to keep them updated daily- if you have a question, or if your son/daughter said they had a lesson but it wasn't reflected on Powerschool by the end of the day, please email us). We have had parents email/call us the last day of the quarter, saying that they had just noticed that their son/daughter did not complete their lessons, and could we do something to help them out. In most cases, we were unable to because of time, etc. As parents, you are able to check student grades 24/7, which should hopefully eliminate any surprises. PLEASE do not wait until the end of the grading period to check their grades.

2ND QUARTER "CHEAT SHEETS" FOR PARENTS: Check these out on the "Communications" page! This should give you all of the basic information you need going into the 2nd Quarter. There are a few differences between the 1st and 2nd Quarters, so please read it carefully. Anyway, we thought it might be handy for you to use. **The end of the semester brings more test/projects/presentations, so we urge the students to get their lessons done early to avoid the "pile-up" at the end of the semester. Ideally, they should try to get their 5 lessons in and computer assignments completed by December 10 so they can focus on those final projects and study for final exams for the remaining week and a half (that would just be our recommendation for their own sanity/stress levels). The official completion date for lessons/computer assignments will be at the end of the day on Friday, December 16. The proposed NSHS final exam dates are December 20, 21, and 22)

CONCERT/SYMPHONIC BANDS: The Chair Placement Auditions we had last quarter only determined who will sit where at the *first rehearsal*. After that, it is completely up to the students! For those wishing to earn a better chair, we have a challenge system set up. Please visit the band webpage and click on "Handbook" at the top of the main page- you will be directed there, and may then click on "Audition Procedures / Challenges" to learn more. We will explain it to both bands, and anticipate some challenges happening fairly quickly! Again, please visit the webpage/handbook for specific info on challenging.

COMPUTER ASSIGNMENTS: As stated in the 2nd Quarter Cheat Sheets, computer assignments are again required for all band students. Freshmen have TWO to complete this quarter, while sophomores and older have one. 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 3:45 pm on school days. 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 SEVEN grades in

the lesson/computer assignment category (5 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 be 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!)*

REQUIRED ATTENDANCE DATES: Please note the required attendance dates for the 2nd Quarter:

Friday, Nov 4- (Jazz 1 and Jazz 2 members only) Jazz Concert: NSHS Aud, 6:45 pm

Monday, Nov 7- (Jazz 1 members only) Performance at Honor Society Ceremony: Aud, 6:30 pm

Sunday, Dec 4- Winter Concert: NSHS Aud, 1:30 pm.

MEDICAL FORM: ****PLEASE use the 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/number!! :) It is posted on the webpage (click on "Communications" at the top middle of the main page). Please return those to us ASAP!

CALENDAR(S)- The band calendars are all posted on the webpage (www.nsbands.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 still 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.

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.

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.nsband.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:

Thursday, December 8- Jazz Combo Jam Session- Mojo’s Café, 7-9:00 pm

Friday, December 16- Lessons and Computer Assignments completed by end of the day; Lesson vouchers / concert write-ups due.

Wednesday, December 21- Jazz Band Final, 9:28-11:01 am

Thursday, December 22- Band Final, 7:50-9:23 am; and Music Theory Final, 9:28 am- 11:01 pm.