

DuPage County Fair Grand Opening Ceremony- Instructions Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Parents, please remember to have your cell-phone with you, and on, in case we need to reach you for any unforeseen reason on the day of the parade.

In case of threatening weather –

The director does not run the parades and weather is beyond her control. It is *the parent's decision whether or not their child participates* when there are concerns about questionable weather, the child's health, etc. The director will always be present at the parade, for those who decide to attend. If rain is predicted, those marching should bring a clear poncho. Inexpensive ones can be purchased at places like Dick's, Target or Wal-Mart.

All Parade Participants –

Review and adhere to the complete Marching Dress Code found on the Summer Marching web page. Following are important reminders:

- Be sure to eat, especially some protein, before coming to the Grand Opening
- Water must be in a clear or color-coordinated container as discussed at camp.
- Bring water, and be sure to drink.
- Bring your hat. *Reminders about how the hat is to be worn-*
 1. The headband is to be across the forehead with USA front and center.
 2. The hat is to be worn above the ears. If the headband is not tight enough to stay above the ears use a safety pin to make a tuck on the inside.
 3. The bulk of the hat should lay to the right.
- Musicians, bring assembled instrument, lyre, flip-folder. Leave instrument case and other belongings in your car. (Tape edges of pages to prevent music from blowing away and a rubber band to keep the pages in place.)
- If you have a tuner, please put your labeled tuner in your pocket and bring it along to help.
- Remember to apply sunscreen beforehand.
- Double tie your shoe-laces.

CHECK-IN 3:00pm

3:00: Meet and check-in at Monroe Middle School grassy area, just E of fairgrounds gate S7/Home Ec building, W of the Graft Park Playground, on the N side of Manchester.

3:00-3:30:

- After you check-in, only those who signed-up for this parade, will receive a ticket for free entry into the fairgrounds for that day. While late sign-ups may march, you must buy your own ticket.
- Get fitted for cummerbund, receive rank assignment, tune, rehearse, final announcements.
- Admission to fair is not free. Non-participating band members, family, friends will need to pay admission. The following link contains information on the cost of fair tickets: [County Fair Ticket Prices](#).

3:30- 4:00: We will drill the new system to get us off the Midway using left flank turns, 7 ranks at a time, as we practiced at camp.

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4:15: Step off, in normal formation, from Monroe, to parade staging area, just north of gate W5

4:30: Parade staging, step off; Patriots march in reverse formation to flag pole between exhibit hall and Home Ec. buildings for Opening Ceremonies.

Band will march and perform, alternating between God Bless America and Marine's Hymn.

ORDER OF EVENTS:

At flag position, band will be called to halt, about face, quarter left

After flag is raised, with field conducting, band plays Star Spangled Banner, followed by Spirit of America.

Immediately after - Quarter right and about face, step off and proceed south towards Manchester. Once we have 7 ranks that pass the white fence into the opening you'll be given the command to do a left flank turn. Rank leaders will be in charge to be sure the ranks break down into single file and continue along the fence. Continue in single file and reform into ranks in the driveway. We will exit through the gates, which again may require single file, reforming the block as we return to the school lawn. You must listen to your rank leaders!

At the Monroe Middle School grassy area we will collect cummerbunds and disperse. **Please be patient** and hand in cummerbunds and flags, etc. in an orderly fashion.