

01-22-26 Rehearsal Notes

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

To see past notes visit the Archive page on our website.

January 29 – No Cadet rehearsal this evening

JR, SR, SYM - DRESS REHEARSAL Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church
149 W Brush Hill Rd, Elmhurst, IL 60126

All three bands must arrive by 4:30 and be ready to play at 6pm.

Note: Attendance at dress rehearsal is required for inclusion in concert.

January 30 – 6:30pm - WINTER CONCERT Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church

149 W Brush Hill Rd, Elmhurst, IL 60126

All three bands doors open at 5, all must arrive by 5:30 ready to play at 6pm.

FUNDRAISER afterwards - Join us at Portillos in Elmhurst, 155 S Rt 83, from 9 – 11:45, tell them you're with the fundraiser or show them the flyer in drive-thru or at the counter, special code **PORTILLOS3** for online/app pick-up and in-store kiosk orders. The band gets 20% of our purchases. More details coming in Rehearsal Notes.

February 5 - SPRING TRIMESTER BEGINS

- Regular practices
- Winter trimester music returned
- Spring trimester music distributed
- Music filing/organizing by parent volunteers

February 12 – Regular practices

- **SEC Online Registration deadline.** *Link will be deactivated after 2/12/2026.*
- **Spring Concert Well-Wishers due** for those using them to cover any fees/tuition.

This allows a 9 week extension beyond the regular December fee deadline

February 19 – Regular practices

- **SEC FEES & COMPLETED JUDGING SHEETS DEADLINE**

Sweeping Assignment for next rehearsal after Symphonic band

You must get a sub if you will not be there. 01/22/26 – No Assignment at Dress Rehearsal

DRESS REHEARSAL AND WINTER CONCERT INFORMATION

Since there is so much information specifically for the Winter Concert, at our new venue, **Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church**, it is all contained in a separate document, **“2025-2026 Winter Dress Rehearsal and Concert Information.”** It is accessible from our Member’s News page along with the 01-22-26 Rehearsal Notes. You and your student(s) need to review the document so you will all know what to expect. Every concert is different, especially in the new location.

ALL MEMBERS MUST WEAR FULL CONCERT DRESS TO BOTH THE DRESS REHEARSAL AND CONCERT

*****SET-UP AND RESET OF THE VENUE*****

- All are to **ARRIVE** for the **Dress Rehearsal** at **4:30** to assist in setting-up the space prior to starting the Dress Rehearsal.
- All students must help set-up chairs and any parental help is appreciated.
- Percussionists must first unload the trailer bringing equipment inside and roll up the ramp to the Worship Center stage. Set-up the equipment on the right/back as at practice. Then assist setting up the chairs on stage.

AFTER THE CONCERT EVERYONE'S HELP IS NEEDED

- Adults will supervise members and their parents in the **RESETTING** of the venue to its pre-concert state.
- We must take every precaution to not damage any church property, especially when restacking chairs, etc.

POST-CONCERT GATHERING – WSHSB PORTILLO'S FUNDRAISER!

*******20% of our purchases come back to the band!*******

Band families and extended family and friends are invited to gather with us immediately after the concert (or order in the app or online) at the **Portillo's 155 S. Route 83, Elmhurst, IL** on the north end of the Elmhurst Crossing Mall off St. Charles Rd and 83. For all orders, dine-in, counter or drive-thru, you must show the flyer (from 1/22 Rehearsal Notes) or simply **mention "I'm with the Fundraiser"** to the order-taker **EACH AND EVERY TIME** you go to the counter to place an order. There is a key they press to let corporate know it's part of the fundraiser. **Our fundraiser hours are 9 – 11:45.** Orders at the kiosk, in the app or online must enter the code **PORTILLOS3**. **Everyone going through the drive-thru must first inform the order-taker, for it to count.** If you'd rather eat at home, you can pick-up your order, but mention the fundraiser or use the code before check-out. **The code is specific and different for each location.**

When ordering at a Kiosk

1. On the payment screen , click on **COUPON**
2. On the next screen, click on **ENTER YOUR COUPON CODE**
3. On the last screen type **PORTILLOS3** and click **SUBMIT**

Share the flyer (on last page) and details about how the fundraiser works and how to order so each purchase counts. Encourage your extended family and friends to join us to help the band. Their purchases from the Elmhurst location will also count, if before check-out, they mention the band's fundraiser to the order-taker or use the **UNIQUE** code, **PORTILLOS3**, to order at the kiosk, online or in the app.

SIGN-UP SITE IS DOWN – REPLACEMENT COMING

The Sign-up Schedule site we have used for 12 years is down. We are working on replacing it and populating a new/different site. Hoping to be up and running, if no glitches, February

SECTIONALS – FOR 02/05/26

Cadet	4:45-5:00pm	KITCHEN	Percussion
Cadet	4:45-5:00pm	UTILITY ROOM	Trombones
Cadet	4:45-5:00pm	UNDER STAIRS	Alto saxes

MUSIC NOTES

Cadets

SECTIONALS – **4:45-5:00pm** KITCHEN – Percussion

UTILITY ROOM - Trombones

UNDER STAIRS – Alto saxes

Do not stand on stairs or landing! Use only the area under the stairwell.

NO CADET REHEARSAL 01/29/25

There will be no Cadet practice at Resurrection on Thursday, January 29, because that is the night of the Winter Concert Dress Rehearsal at Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church in Elmhurst, IL. **We hope you will be able to attend the Winter Concert** there, on Friday, January 30 at 6:30pm where Cadets will be recognized. Otherwise, you may attend the dress rehearsal on Thursday at 6pm. If you come to the Concert consider joining us at our **Portillo's fundraiser** afterwards. See details above.

CADET HOMEWORK – *Continue practicing daily through your TWO week break*

1. Rhythm lines – 37, 41 and 45
2. Homework:p. 22, 24 and 25 → **YOU MUST PRACTICE WITH RECORDINGS!**
Use p. 23 for the SEC
Repeat exercises 106, 108 and 109 which need improvement.

ATTENTION CLARINETS AND BRASS

NOTE TO CLARINETS: Work on upcoming exercises specifically directed to clarinets. **On page 24** - Read the very important "gold bar" teaching on the register key. Practice using the register key for the Grenadilla Gorilla Jumps (ex. 119, 121, 123, etc). Be patient, you are learning a new skill. Also work on #130, Crossing over the Break.

NOTE TO BRASS: Look at page 24 and work on your new, specific lip-slur(s) which are different notes, with the same fingerings, changed by your lips. Being able to match/hear the notes on the recordings will help all brass players.

ALL BRASS MUST PRACTICE WITH RECORDINGS!

TO BOTH CLARINETS AND BRASS: Focus and work on these new skills/notes. The band is depending on your effort and cooperation to learn and master these new skills and notes.

3. **All percussionists MUST use this link Vic Firth 40 Essential Drum Rudiments**, as found on our Music Resource page, to learn your rudiments. Simply scroll down to the four red columns and click on the rudiment you need. You can hear it and if you scroll near the bottom, you can see it played and a watch a lesson/demonstration on how to perform the rudiment in your exercise. NOTE: If the Single Stroke Roll link does not work, try this one Single Stroke Role
Watch for any new email from Mrs. Talbot.
4. **Don't forget to also plan and practice your SEC solo and/or ensemble.**
Online registration ends 2/12.
5. **Daily practice should now be a minimum of 30 minutes**
6. **PRACTICE ALL PERFORMANCE SONGS daily with recordings!**
77 – Sakura, Sakura
 PERC. – 5 measures before the end, hit gong on beat 1
97 – Trombone Rag
102 – Satin Latin
 QUIZ - Percussion
103 – Minuet, **A** – woodwinds, **B** – brass
 QUIZ - Percussion
131 – Kum Bah Yah, **Write in a repeat at the end**
 A – Flutes, clarinets, oboe, bells **B** – Trumpets, saxes, French horns **C** – Low brass

CADETS AND PARENTS, be sure to also read the General Notes further down.

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**Notes to Junior, Senior, and Symphonic bands –**

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FOR ALL BANDS - Control the dynamics, especially making the quiet parts quieter.
And practice the parts we went over in band.

In general **ALL** our ***mp, p*** and ***pp*** dynamic markings must be played MUCH quieter.

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**KEEP YOUR MUSIC IN CONCERT ORDER for collection next week**  
**Read carefully as the collection directions have changed.**

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Junior (see notes above)

SECTIONALS – 5:30-6:00pm – NONE

*******PRACTICE DAILY WITH LINKS SENT IN 10/06/25 EMAIL*******

TUNE

Star Spangled Banner
Veggie Tales Theme Song
Dialogues

March Triumphant
Walk in the Black Forest, A
Serengeti
When Camels Cakewalk to Cairo
Eagle Ridge
COMBINED
Children of the Regiment
God Bless America
Colonel Bogey March

Senior (see notes above)

SECTIONALS – 6:45-7:00pm – NONE

*****PRACTICE DAILY WITH LINKS SENT IN 10/06/25 EMAIL*****

TUNE

Star Spangled Banner
Celebration
Flight of Valor
Linus & Lucy
On Wisconsin
Holiday in Naples
I Will Follow Him
Fiddler on the Roof, Highlights:
COMBINED

Children of the Regiment
God Bless America
Colonel Bogey March

The following song(s) have been cut

Batman, Music from
Kid Stuff
March of the King's Trumpeters
Slavonic Dance No. 8
Symphony No. 100 *Continue practicing to improve it for Spring Trimester*

Symphonic (see notes above)

SECTIONALS – 7:45-8:00pm – NONE

*****PRACTICE DAILY WITH LINKS SENT IN 10/06/25 EMAIL*****

TUNE

Also Sprach Zarathustra - Star Spangled Banner - HB (=Happy Birthday Around the World mease 145-end),
Barnum and Bailey's Favorite

Radetzky March

Galop

Lead On, Oh King Eternal

Clarinet Candy

Disco Inferno

Hernando's Hideaway

Caravan

Morning Noon and Night in Vienna

COMBINED

Children of the Regiment

God Bless America

Colonel Bogey March

The following song(s) have been cut

L'Arlésienne Suite No.1, I. Overture
Nabucco Overture
Old Comrades March

GENERAL NOTES

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE CONTEST (SEC)

[2026 SEC Online Registration Link](#)

ONLINE REGISTRATION ends February 12, 2026.

All fees and completed judging sheets due by February 19, 2026.

Fees are \$4 per person (excluding adults) whether solo or ensemble.

All entries should not exceed FIVE minutes

Our annual Solo and Ensemble Contest is an exciting and much anticipated musical event. Our 24th annual SEC will be held on a **Saturday, March 14 2026, 9am to @2:30pm**. Location is Christ Presbyterian Church, 903 E. Nerge Rd., Roselle 60172. ALL band members, Cadet through Symphonic, are encouraged to participate in the SEC. Students have the opportunity to prepare solos and/or ensembles of their choice and perform them for a judge who then rates their performance. There is no competition; rather, students strive for their personal best. Judge's decisions are final.

Due to the complexity involved in scheduling, **no special time requests will be granted**. Therefore, all members are expected to **reserve their day** for the SEC, ensuring their availability for any/all times. See our SEC webpage for more information.

We have had particular recommendations from the judges. These can help guide your choices for solos in particular.

1. Preferably, all solo piece(s) would be classical and not contemporary/popular.
2. Ideally, all students should play with an accompanist. First choice would be a pianist.

IMPORTANT: Participants using recorded accompaniment will need to bring their CD with their own CD player, or digital recording with their own Bluetooth speaker

With point two above in mind, **the director also asks that any accomplished pianists in our band consider offering to play as an accompanist for one or more SEC solo entries**. Please submit your name at the front table.

AMERICAN WIND SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

American Wind Band is holding a scholarship competition. Applicants provide an unaccompanied recording of their solo for the first round of the competition. Based upon those recordings, the scholarship committee will select contestants to compete in a live audition. This second round will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2026, at First United Methodist Church, 1032 Maple Avenue, Downers Grove, IL.

One high school finalist will be awarded a \$2,000 scholarship. A second high school finalist will be awarded a \$1,500 scholarship. One 8th grade finalist will be awarded a \$1,780 scholarship. A second 8th grade finalist will be awarded \$1,500 scholarship. The scholarship money will be paid to each student's private teacher for future study on a band instrument or the band camp of the student's choosing.

Additional Information for Finalists:

The scholarship winners will be notified at the auditions. All runners-up will receive a certificate of performance. The winners must perform at the American Wind Band's Sunday, April 26, 2026 concert in order to receive their award. The concert begins at 3:00 p.m. Finalists will be asked to arrive at 2:00 p.m. Finalists are strongly encouraged to attend at least one rehearsal before the concert. Good luck!

Form and Recording Deadline: February 20, 2026

Click here for complete information → <http://americanwindband.org/scholarships.html>

SEE PORTILLO'S FUNDRAISER FLYER ON NEXT PAGE

FUNDRAISER FLYER

NOTE: The code **PORTILLOS3** is specific to Elmhurst and is different for each location

You're invited to a

Portillo's®

FUNDRAISER



Join us at Portillo's for a fundraiser to support:

West Suburban Home School Band

When:

January 30, 2026

9:00 PM - 11:45 PM

at the Portillo's located at:

155 S. Route 83

Elmhurst, IL

20% of sales will benefit your organization. Order online or in app for pickup using code **PORTILLOS3** before checkout in the "Coupon Code" field, or show this flyer or a digital version to cashier when ordering at the restaurant. Valid on drive thru, pickup, kiosk, and in restaurant orders.

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FOR GOOD

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For online/app orders to qualify for the fundraiser, orders must be placed for pickup only, from the participating restaurant, on the fundraiser date and during the listed fundraiser hours. Gift card purchases, delivery orders, and orders placed on the third party websites are excluded from the fundraiser. Online ordering subject to availability. \$200 minimum fundraising sales required for the organization to receive donation. Cannot be combined with other offer codes.

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