

09-24-26 Rehearsal Notes

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

October 1 – **Winter Concert Well-Wishers are due** for those using them to cover any fees/tuition. This allows about an 8 to 9 week extension beyond the August 2025 fee deadline.

October 8 – **Collection of all summer marching and football music with a completed Music Return Form (available after 10/2)**

October 9 – **FRIDAY** – **Band Apparel order deadline 11:59pm CST.**

November 5 – **Band Apparel orders delivered at band**

November 10 – Tuesday evening, **7:30 – 8:30 pm** – Black uniform pants for all and Symphonic blue jacket fitting/exchange at the Borows. You must sign-up in advance.

November 19 - **Cadets' Winter Performance Dress Rehearsal**

Regular practices for Concert Junior, Concert Senior and Symphonic

November 26 – **NO BAND Happy Thanksgiving**

November 27 – **Friday evening– Wheaton Christmas Parade, Arrive 5:00pm, Step-off 6pm** followed by our **FUNDRAISER** at Portillos/Barnelli's in Glendale Heights from 7- 11

Sweeping Assignment for next rehearsal after Symphonic band

You must get a sub if you will not be there. 10/01– Lucy B

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**DAILY PRACTICE SHOULD BE #1 PRIORITY FOR ALL**  
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REHEARSAL NOTES RESUME

On Friday -the day after rehearsal (or occasionally not until Saturday) -there will be a link on our Members' News page to that week's Rehearsal Notes. The Notes contain information for both students and parents and should be reviewed each week. *We point this out because halfway into the year we've had parents telling us they didn't know they were supposed to access them regularly, and they were missing important dates and details.* **There was more about Rehearsal Notes in the Opening Letter.**

You were kept informed over the summer via email. The number of emails will once again be kept to a minimum until next summer. It is your responsibility to check weekly for Rehearsal Notes. **Set a reminder on your phone to check for Rehearsal Notes on Friday night or Saturday. Please inform Mrs. Mergen if you see an error in the notes.**

WEBSITE PROBLEMS? If you are not seeing the correct version of Rehearsal Notes (or other documents) you are expecting, try refreshing the page. Sometimes your computer will show old information until you refresh.

NAME TAGS/SHEETS

Everyone is provided a name tag. It's to be folded in half and hung over their folder and stand, facing the director EVERY WEEK for both trimesters. The name must be visible. It will help the director learn everyone's name and easier for the various and changing attendance takers. It should be kept in the member's music folder or book and displayed at every rehearsal for the entire year. **Do not decorate or make any marks on your name tag.** If yours goes missing or is damaged notify the front table and Mrs. Mergen will print a new one.

CHECK YOUR SPAM/JUNK EMAIL FOLDER

Emails sent by Mrs. Borow and Mrs. Mergen have ended up in some members' spam/junk folders. Check there for band related emails and **mark them as NOT SPAM/JUNK.**

TIMELY DROP-OFFS AND PICK-UPS REQUIRED

We are not equipped to oversee students outside of their rehearsal time. Parents, we are relying on you for timely drop-offs and pick-ups of your student(s). **Parents must park their car and come just inside Cornelius** (near the coat rack) to pick-up their student(s). Please come inside and pick-up your student(s) promptly after their band is finished

PRACTICE TIME REPORTS START NOW

All band members, wind and percussion, are to use this form for reporting **each week's** (not daily) practice, throughout the year. The form requires both the student's name and a parent's signature. Be sure to include first and last names. **Practice times must be turned in weekly and will only be accepted for the current month with the last practice hours of the month accepted at the first rehearsal of the following month. You may NOT accumulate practice times and turn them in for a month or more.** See **Forms/Documents** for the WSHSB PRACTICE REPORT. Suggested practice times are in the Handbook. **The required parent signature tells us you agree with and accept the practice time reported.**

Print off copies now, cut the strips apart and put them in an envelope. Keep them in your music folder so you have one ready every week.

DRESS CODES FOR REHEARSALS AND CONCERTS

Take a moment to review the dress codes on our FORMS/DOCUMENTS webpage.

APPAREL ORDER

Order deadline is 11:59pm on October 9 for distribution on November 5. There is a personalization option for select t-shirts and hoodies.. See more details in the Opening Letter.

ORDER LINK → <https://hyperstitch.com/category/schools/west-suburban-home-school-band/>

Email or call/text Mrs. Herrera with any questions; her number is in the Opening Letter.

SECTIONALS FOR 10-01-26 **Note different times shown in RED**

Cadet	4:45-5:00pm	Clarinets	Kitchen
Cadet	4:45-5:00pm	Oboes	Utility Room
Cadet	4:45-5:00pm	Baritones	Under Stairs
Cadet	5:00-5:30pm	Percussion on pads	Kitchen
Junior	5:45-6:00pm	Clarinets	Kitchen
Junior	5:45-6:00pm	Baritones	Utility Room
Junior	5:45-6:00pm	French horns	Under Stairs
Senior	6:45-7:00pm	Flutes	Kitchen
Senior	6:45-7:00pm	Trombones	Utility Room
Senior	6:45-7:00pm	French horns	Under Stairs
Symphonic	7:45-8:00pm	Clarinets	Kitchen
Symphonic	7:45-8:00pm	Saxes	Utility Room
Symphonic	7:45-8:00pm	Flutes	Under Stairs

MUSIC NOTES

Cadets

SECTIONALS – **Note different times shown in RED**

4:45-5:00pm Assignment for ALL sectionals.

Play new notes, Ex. 1,3,5,7,9. Helpers confirm/review tonguing, Ex. 2,4,6,8,10, review letter names of lines and spaces for your clef (See Recognizing Notes below), review hand-out homework

KITCHEN – Clarinets with Mrs. Grace

UTILITY ROOM – Oboes with Ezra Hein

UNDER STAIRS – Baritones with Mrs. Stevenson

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

AT YOUR PLACE ALL OTHER instrument sections, with section leader, and the same assignment

5:00-5:30pm – Kitchen – Percussion on pads w/Mrs. Talbot

NICE WORK, TO ALL THE NEW CADETS!

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**PARENTS** – If your student is struggling to produce sound on their instrument please call the director, 630-231-6155, as soon as possible, before the next rehearsal on 10-2 for suggestions. Also **VERY IMPORTANT**- The director encourages all parents to **make BAND HOMEWORK a part of your weekly lesson plan.**

**A DIFFERENT PAGING SYSTEM** – French horns and oboes have a different paging system in their Essential Elements book. There are two pages, A and B, left and right, for every page number. If you have this type of book you should always play from the page on the right side at band rehearsals.

**ABOUT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS** – *On our Music Resources page is a link to a PDF that explains how to access the play-along tracks and tools to use with Essential Elements. The director expects all Cadets to always play along with these recordings. We've included the link for you → [ABOUT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS](#) "MY EE LIBRARY" (The link is safe)*

*Practicing with recordings should help the student HEAR if they are playing the notes correctly.*

**BRING A SHARPENED PENCIL** for making marking in the notes and making notations on music. Nothing other than pencil markings are to be made.

**PRACTICE EVERY DAY FOR NO LESS THAN 20 MINUTES.** You may split the time between multiple sessions. At every practice session, everyone should check their: posture and instrument hold, breathing/airstream, and mouth position (embouchure).

## HOMework –

1. Do the handout at home and review with your section leader before band during the sectional time from 4:45 to 5pm.
2. Practice Rhythm Studies pg 42, clapping lines 1 and 5
3. In your book review and study pages 2 and 3 "The Basics." Practice pages 4 and 5 and Ex. 1 to 12.  
*The odd number exercises are an introduction to the first five notes while the even number exercises introduce tonguing.*
4. Review the YELLOW boxes on pages 4 and 5 which introduce new concepts and music theory terms as illustrated on the director's poster at band. (See below)
5. **WRITE IN THE LETTER NAMES OF NOTES on exercises.**

## RECOGNIZING NOTES

The musical staff has five lines and four spaces. Following are mnemonic aids to help remember the names of the different notes on the treble clef and bass clef, both the lines and spaces. It is a time-worn method.

Treble Clef - lines

**E - every**

**G - good**

**B - boy**

**D - does**

**F - fine**

Treble Clef - spaces

spell: F-A-C-E

**F**

**A**

**C**

**E**

Bass Clef - lines

**G - great**

**B - big**

**D - dogs**

**F - fight**

**A - animals**

Bass Clef spaces

**A-all**

**C-cows**

**E -eat**

**G-gas**

For your convenience here is the chart Mrs. Borow showed at rehearsal. You might save it for easy reference.

The chart is hand-drawn on green paper. At the top, there are two musical staves. The left staff is a treble clef with a 4/4 time signature, showing notes F, E, D, C, B, A, G, F on the lines and spaces. The right staff is a bass clef with a 4/4 time signature, showing notes A, G, F, E, D, C, B, A on the lines and spaces. Below the staves, the title "NOTES and RESTS (Beats)" is written. Underneath, there is a table of note values and rests.

| Note Value | Symbol | Beats | Accidental |
|------------|--------|-------|------------|
| WHOLE      |        | 4     | # SHARP    |
| HALF       |        | 2     | b FLAT     |
| QUARTER    |        | 1     | 7 NATURAL  |
| EIGHTH     |        | 1/2   |            |
| SIXTEENTH  |        | 1/4   |            |

**NOTE to BRASS: WORK ON LIP SLURS** – See definition of lip slurs on page 24 of Essential Elements. All brass players must learn to move up and down in pitch by loosening and tightening their lips. Doing this is called a lip slur. Different notes often have the same fingerings. (Notes #1 and 9 are for all except F horns, which are notes #1 and 7.) Focus on the trial & error of moving your lips (tightening/loosening) to match the required notes in the exercises found on the EEI recordings. Listen and try to match the pitch and tone. It will take regular practice to reach the notes.

## **QUIZ – All brass on required lip slurs for notes in Exercises 1 and 9.**

**FOR CADET PERCUSSIONISTS WITH BELLS** – Label the notes on your bells using masking or painter's tape which is easier to remove. Mark the letter name of each note on the tape according to the chart on page 5 of your book.

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

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Notes to Junior, Senior, and Symphonic bands –

Know that we will not play all the distributed songs. Watch your band's music list for the songs that are cut. Keep all music until collection day.

MUSIC MISSING? Songs are listed below. If you are missing any of the following songs please email Mrs. Borow (director@wshsb.org) as soon as possible. She will put it in your music folder. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL Tuesday, Wednesday or NEXT REHEARSAL TO TELL HER.**

BRING A SHARPENED PENCIL for making notations on band issued music. Nothing other than pencil markings are to be made. The quantity of marks should be kept to a bare minimum and all marks must be erased before returning.

FOR ALL PERCUSSIONISTS - EVERY WEEK, ALL percussionists must bring your own

1. **Labeled music folder**
2. **Labeled Essential Elements book**
3. **Labeled bell set.** Be sure to label all parts.
4. **Printed copy of the assignment grid**, emailed to you. Keep it in your music folder and bring to band every week for each of your bands to help expedite the logistics in the section.

REGARDING ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS BOOKS - All members of Concert JR, SR AND SYM, PERCUSSION included, must bring their own, **LABELED**, copy of the **"Red" Essential Elements for Band Book 2** with them to each week's rehearsal although it will not necessarily be used every week. Symphonic must **ALWAYS** bring Unisonal Part 2 #1. Copies of Part 2 #1 are available at the front table.

Junior **AND** Senior members are highly encouraged to use Book 2 AND Unisonal Part 2 No.1 for daily practice, personal improvement and preparation for the Concert Senior audition. Symphonic will use various exercises for warm-ups at band.

BRING TUNERS

Bring your own tuner each week and tune your instrument before your band time begins.

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## **DATE CHANGE FOR RETURNS - NEW DATE OCTOBER 8.**

### **\*\*\*October 8 INSTRUCTIONS for Parade and Football RETURNS\*\*\***

**On Thursday, October 8, upon your arrival, return the following**

- Return laundered marching hat **WASHED AND FULLY DRIED** or pay \$20 fine for unreturned/missing hat. Your return must be noted at front table.
- Return a **Completed Music Return Form** (on FORMS/DOCUMENTS avail after 10/2) clipped to your music. Fines apply for missing or damaged music.
- Return Wind instruments loaned out for summer marching, etc.
- Return Summer marching percussion equipment

**If you didn't do the following on 9/17, do so on 10/8**

- Return ALL audition music and packets.
- Return black band pants and Symphonic Blue jackets if outgrown or no longer needed.

**RULE FOR RETURNING JACKETS AND PANTS** – If you have outgrown your blue Symphonic jacket or are returning it for any reason, return it with \$5 cash and we will have the jacket dry-cleaned. Band-owned pants are also dry-clean only and should also be returned with \$2 cash per pair of pants. All returns should be made to the Jacket/Pants coordinator, NOT MRS. BOROW.

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Junior (see notes above)

SECTIONALS – 5:45-6:00pm - KITCHEN – Clarinets w/Sam O on [Oh Happy Day](#)

UTILITY ROOM - Baritones w/Mr. Beth - [Oh Happy Day](#)

UNDER STAIRS – French horns w/ Mrs. Garrity - [Oh Happy Day](#)

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

Everyone must bring their own, labeled RED EE BOOK

RED EE BOOK –pg 2 to 3, “reviews”; Rhythm lines 1 and 5

Adoramus and Sanctus
Royal Fireworks Music
Schumann Suite, The
Strauss Waltzes
Symphony #40
Peer Gynt Suite
Oh Happy Day
Rock that Bach!
COMBINED
Star Spangled Banner
Ode to Joy ENCORE
God Bless America

Senior (see notes above)

SECTIONALS – 6:45-7:00pm - KITCHEN – Flutes w/Mrs. Maureen on [Fanfare Prelude](#)

UTILITY ROOM - Trombones w/Samuel on [Jungle Drums](#)

UNDER STAIRS – French horns w/Peter on [Jungle Drums](#)

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

Everyone must bring their own, labeled RED EE BOOK

RED EE BOOK Rhythm lines 1 and 5, page 34, 160-162; plus chorale 154,

Fanfare Prelude: O Worship the King
Toccata for Band
Water Music
Menuetto and Trio
Pizzicato Polka
Jungle Drums
Capriccio Italien
Aria and Fugue
Firebirds
COMBINED
Star Spangled Banner
Ode to Joy ENCORE
God Bless America

Symphonic (see notes above)

SECTIONALS – 7:45-8:00pm KITCHEN – Clarinets w/Justin on [Queen of Sheba](#) and [Prince Igor](#)

UTILITY ROOM –Saxes on [Mambo Jumbo Samba](#)

UNDER STAIRS – Flutes on [Queen of Sheba](#) and [Prince Igor](#)

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

Everyone must bring their own, labeled RED EE BOOK and Unisonal Part 2, #1 in case the director chooses to use one or both.

Prince Igor - mvt 3 and 4
Immortal
Aida
Washington Post
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
Mambo Jumbo Samba
Bumble Bee Jive
Ode to Joy ENCORE
Arrival of the Queen of Sheba
Dynamite
La Fonda Tango
Nessun Dorma
COMBINED
Star Spangled Banner
God Bless America

GENERAL NOTES

Dates below will not be set until the Spring Concert date AND location are set.

- 1. Cadet Dress Rehearsal and Spring Performance at Resurrection**
- 2. JR, SR, SYM Spring Dress Rehearsal and Spring Concert**
- 3. Thursday after Concert - Cadet, Jr, Sr, Sym Collections including our Annual Instrument Inventory/Check**

HEARING PROTECTION

For those who are interested, there are ear plugs which are specifically designed for musicians. They reduce the sound level by 20 decibels but still allow you to hear clearly.

A good number of band members have worn these every week in band for years (and other loud events like football games/movies/concerts). They're comfortable and effective. The drum and bugle corps and college bands now issue them to all their members.

Here's the ETYMOTIC website link [ER20 High Fidelity Earplugs](#) and here's a link for Amazon [Etymotic High Fidelity Earplugs](#).

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**We would appreciate your patience as we prepare the following documents**

### **MUSIC LINKS FOR ALL THREE BANDS**

We will be sending out a document containing links for the Winter Concert to all families as soon as we are able. In the meantime, some can be found at [Past WSHSB Concert Performances](#), on JW Pepper, YouTube and Stantons. Make sure you are using the correct arrangement/arranger.

### **MUSIC – INSTRUMENT-REPAIR SHOPS**

This document can be found on our FORMS/OCUMENTS page.

### **LIST OF PRIVATE MUSIC INSTRUCTORS**

There are a couple new additions to this list. As soon as it is updated the list of Private Music Instructors will be **emailed** to all band families. It will not be on our website since it contains private information.