

09-18-08 Rehearsal Notes

GENERAL NOTES

NAME TAGS AND TAKING ATTENDANCE

For the next three weeks or so, all CADETS should have their first and last names **clearly and boldly** printed on a 3x5 index card, safety pinned to their shirt. Even though Mrs. Borow or Mrs. Wiesner-Pardee may know your name, fellow students as well as parents taking attendance, or helping in other ways, may not.

Until told otherwise, before taking their seats, all Cadets and Concert Junior members should also stop and check-in with the attendance taker who is at the front of the room with a clipboard. This is not necessary for Concert Senior and Symphonic since the majority are returning members.

PRACTICE REPORTS ARE IMPORTANT

All band members, wind and percussion, are to use this form for reporting each week's 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. See **Forms/Documents** for the WSHSB PRACTICE REPORT. Suggested practice times are in the Handbook on page 9.

Practice reports serve a variety of purposes. An important one applies to auditions. Close points can make it difficult when determining chair positions. The directors will refer to the practice reports in their decision-making process. It is in your best interest to turn in a weekly practice report.

NEW DOCUMENT AVAILABLE

Music and Instrument Stores is the name of a new document accessible from the **Forms/Documents** page under "General Information." We will try to keep it current and hope you find it useful.

REVIEW THE HANDBOOK

In an effort to keep the weekly Rehearsal Notes from being so lengthy, we refer to the Handbook frequently for details which will not be duplicated in the notes. We need every band family to read the newly updated 2008-2009 Handbook and print the 2008-2009 Handbook Agreement. Both documents are available under General Information on the **Forms/Documents** webpage. If you read slightly over two pages a night you'll be through it in a week. Once you have read through the Handbook please return a signed Handbook Agreement within the next couple weeks.

Following is a summary of Handbook highlights, changes and additions:

- Booster and Well-Wishers are explained on page 5.
- Carefully check the supply list, page 6. Changes have been made, especially for all percussionists. Cadet information has been increased and made more noticeable.
- On page 7 the possibility of each student purchasing cummerbunds and bowties is mentioned.
- Cadets should wear name tags for the first few weeks as described on page 7. Also on page 9 there are new instructions for Cadets and Concert Junior to check-in before being seated.
- Page 8, under "9:00 – 9:30 Reset Hall," clean-up tasks after Symphonic Band will be assigned if students do not volunteer.
- We will no longer have a Music Resource page. Rather we will email you whatever links are available.
- Read through "Attendance and Corrective Actions," page 11, very carefully. There are new policies this year for multiple absences.
- Page 13, students must erase all pencil marks from music before returning.
- Parents and students should review the Concert Season Dress Codes beginning on page 13. Talk especially about the OVERVIEW and DRESS CODE FOR PRACTICES so no one is put in the awkward position of dealing with, or being told their appearance or dress is inappropriate at band practice or other public appearance. A couple clarifications have been made to socks and shoes.
 - Only SOLID black dress/trouser socks are to be worn under pants. No black nylons/hosiery for the ladies.
 - Ladies' shoes must cover the heel, toe and sides of foot. No open toes, heels, etc.
 - Review Jacket and Pants Fitting item on page 14. The date is Tuesday, November 18, 7pm. Please contact Helen Herbst if you need to exchange or pick up a jacket or pants so she knows

how many people to plan for and how many volunteers to recruit for assistance. She can also give directions to the fitting at the Borow's.

- A new request on page 15 for temporary, non-playing, helpers for Cadet band.
- Clarifications on pages 15 and 16 about Cadet participation in performances and the SEC.

LABEL ALL YOUR BELONGINGS, WIND AND PERCUSSION

We don't want to collect things in Lost and Found. Be sure to label your music folder, all parts to your music stand including the carry case, all your own books, and refillable water bottles, to name a few. These are some of the items left after practice most frequently.

RETURN MARCHING MUSIC AND HATS

Some have not returned their laundered hats and marching music. Everything must be returned by our next practice, September 25!

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE SIGN-UP SHEETS

While fall is just beginning, we must already plan for the WSHSB Christmas Season Performances. Read more about our two regular voluntary performances in the Handbook on page 15. The Wheaton Light a Holiday Parade is November 28, line-up 5:15pm. The date for the Yorktown Shopping Center Christmas Performance will be announced in October. Look for the sign-up sheets at the front tables. You need not have marched before to participate in the Wheaton parade and Cadets may march behind the band. Cadets do not perform at Yorktown but are invited and encouraged to attend.

MUSIC NOTES

Cadets

Nice work, to all the new Cadets. We also very much appreciate everyone's set-up help too.

FOR HOMEWORK - Please review and study pages 2 and 3, "The Basics." Work on pages 4 and 5, playing with the DVD using the Smart Music software with the adjustable tempo. Listen and try to match the pitch and tone. 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 (embochure).

BRASS: focus on the trial & error of moving your lips (tightening/loosening) It will take regular practice to reach the notes.

IMPORTANT FOR CADET TUBAS: There is an Eb fingering chart on **page 16** of the following link <http://webtech.cherokee.k12.ga.us/teasley-ms/band/fingeringcharts.pdf>. This link is also available on the **Forms/Documents** webpage.

All tuba players must print and bring the Eb-flat tuba fingering chart with them every week. You cannot use the fingerings printed directly under the notes nor the fingering chart in the back of Essential Elements because they don't match.

Notes to Junior, Senior, and Symphonic bands –

For the next few weeks we will be playing through as many songs as we are able during each hour. It's possible you may not yet have received music for every song listed below. [If you were missing music that was played at practice on 9/18, email Mrs. Wiesner-Pardee before next week with the details.](#) Be sure to check your folders for new music, before you take your seat. New music may be used for sight-reading that same night. We will not begin to work in depth on pieces until the final cuts from the line-up are made.

All members must bring their music and stand with them to band every week. With the exception of helpers, there should be no instances of multiple people trying to share the same stand/music. This is uncharitable and unfair to those who diligently bring their own music and stand.

All members should sit according to ROSTER ORDER within their band. REFER to the lists and seating charts posted on the poles at band.

DO NOT RETURN ANY MUSIC YET – At last week's practice some people turned in their music because they'd already made themselves working copies. We are asking you not to return any music until we tell you to do so in the Rehearsal Notes. All the music has not yet been passed out and the moms do not have check-in sheets to work with. Returning music prematurely can cause confusion. Please be patient.

Junior (see notes above)

Juniors, your songs have lots of sharps and flats. Check the fingering charts and confirm the correct fingering. Please make a special effort to study the key signatures, and play the songs in the correct key.

Strange Pursuit
Hungarian Dance No. 5
Barbara Polka
Slavonic Pageant
March of the Lilliputians
March Triumphant
European Folk Tune Suite

Senior (see notes above)

Moravian Hymn Setting, A
Brighton Beach
Conquista
Slavonic Dance No. 8
Czech Suite
Military Polonaise
Air for Band

Symphonic (see notes above)

Masque
Slavonic Dance #1
Sing My Tongue, Alleluia
Moldau, The
In the Gentle Rain

Everyone received a two-sided sheet for Gentle Rain. Only two people in the entire band are to play the SOLO side. Those two people are Heather Olson and Toby Holda. Every other person is to play the reverse side with the finger snaps.

Speaking of the finger snaps, there should be no apparent beat. The snapping should be slow, steady and at random, like a "Gentle Rain." This is not a race to see who can snap the fastest

Land of Make Believe
Clarinet Polka
Amparito Roca