

12-03-09 Rehearsal Notes

GENERAL NOTES

TO THE CADETS

Congratulations to the Cadets on a wonderful first performance. You should be very proud of yourselves. It's been a real joy to witness how far you've come since our first practice back in September. The pride and joy you brought to your families and relatives was reflected in their faces and evident in their warm response. [Cadets will not meet again for practice until January 7, 2010.](#)

TRIMESTER IS NOT OVER

Juniors, Seniors and Symphonic have practice on December 10, while Cadets do not. [THIS IS NOT THE END OF THE TRIMESTER.](#) It is simply the last practice before Christmas break. The trimester continues with practice on January 7, 2008 when all Well-Wishers are due, and continues through the end of January when we have our Winter Concert.

IN APPRECIATION

We extend a big thank you to all who participated in the Wheaton Light-Up Parade. It was a good showing in Wheaton and we are grateful to everyone helping to lead in Santa and serve the community. Afterwards we received a number of very nice and enthusiastic compliments from people who had come out to the parade.

ABSENCES

An email was sent out recently to alert parents whose child has missed three or more band rehearsals. Any child missing six rehearsals during this current trimester ***will not be allowed to perform in the Winter Concert.*** There remain six more rehearsals leading up to the concert.

For the next trimester, Spring, we are publishing our new attendance policy that you need to be aware of:

3 absences: chair demotion/ automatic reaudition

4 absences: move to the bottom of the roster for your instrument section

5 absences: you will not be permitted to perform in the concert.

The Handbook will soon be updated to reflect these changes. We are not trying to eliminate musicians - on the contrary, we need 100% of the musicians 100% of the time. If you are ever unsure of your child's exact absence number, email the director and she'll let you know the current total so you are aware and can do what is necessary to ensure your child is able to perform with us.

NECESSARY REMINDERS

[As stated in the Handbook:](#)

- [Dress Code for Practices](#), page 13, Band members; please remove any hat before taking your place at band practice. (This applies to both boys and girls.)
- [Problematic Devices](#), page 7, No band member should have a cell phone with him or her, at their place, during practice. If anyone brings a cell phone with them, it needs to be off or on silent ringer during practice and must remain in their instrument case until they leave. (This means **NO TEXTING** during practice either.)

SEC LOCATION HELP

The SEC (Solo & Ensemble Contest) will be held this spring, most likely Saturday, March 6 or Saturday March 13, 2010. However, we do not yet have a location. If you know of a church or school where this event could be held please contact the director, Karen Borow, to discuss the possibility. Minimal needs would include:

- A large holding/gathering area where cases could also be stored out of the way
- A room big enough for a large ensemble to perform

- Two (or more) classrooms for judging
- Two additional warm-up rooms are desirable

TIME FOR SEC "STATEMENT OF INTENTION"

At this time we need to know your intentions for the Solo & Ensemble Contest. **This is not registration.** That comes later. For now you need to complete the "Statement of Intention" form at the front table. You'll need to supply your name, instrument, and indicate solo or ensemble. Each **ensemble should choose a representative and only that person should sign-up on behalf of the ensemble.** The Statement of Intention tells us how many students *plan* to participate, and for how many events we will need to have judges. For more general information about the contest, see our SEC webpage.

If you haven't yet chosen music to perform there is a JW Pepper Solo and Ensemble music catalog at the front table which you may look at for ideas. Another resource is <http://www.stantons.com/>. Click on Instrument Solos, Ensembles, Methods under Browse Categories at the top of the page. Many titles have a recording you can listen to. A reminder to Cadets, Juniors and Seniors - You may use a solo from your Essential Element book if you like. The director strongly encourages ALL band members, Cadet through Symphonic, to participate in the annual SEC.

WELL-WISHERS

The Well-Wisher Form for the 2010 Winter Concert Program is on our website (**Forms/Documents**). Print off a few forms to have available to solicit a Well-Wisher from businesses you patronize as well as family or friends, **especially over our long break. The deadline is January 7, 2010, our first practice after the Christmas break.**

WINTER CONCERT FLIERS AND TICKETS

Tickets and fliers are available for our upcoming Winter Concert. Please take as many as you need but do not waste them by taking more than you will use. If you run out, you can also print them from our website. Make sure people know that while printed tickets are available, they are not necessary for entrance to the concert.

If every band family would post one concert flyer we would have over 70 fliers posted. If some are able to do more, that's even better. In addition to libraries, think of other places with community bulletin boards, such as banks, churches, park districts, grocery stores, photo copy places etc., and ask them to post fliers. We are depending on you to post as many fliers as possible, wherever you can get permission.

TO BE GIVEN AWAY

At the front table are a few items band members no longer need and are giving away. Let Mrs. W-P know if you are interested. You can try them on at band.

- Boy's size 18 black pants
- Lady's size 8 1/2 black shoes, slip-on, low-heeled flats
- Two long-sleeved white shirts, boys, both size 12. (Girls can wear these too.)

MUSIC NOTES

Cadets

FOR HOMEWORK –

It is very important that you continue practicing daily through the long break. You return on January 7, 2010. You have over a month off. Be sure to read the 12/10/09 notes so you have the latest information.

First trimester rehearsals resume for Cadets on January 7.

FOR HOMEWORK OVER THE BREAK

1. Practice daily with the DVD for a minimum of 30 minutes. Concentrate on improving anything you find more difficult. It is **DAILY** practice that makes the biggest impact on one's improvement.
2. Continue working on pages 16 and 17 and also do 18 and 19. Review songs we have played and work on new songs.

If you are interested in participating in the Solo and Ensemble Contest and did not state your intention on the form at band, email your intention to Miss Cristine Wiesner using Mrs. W-P's address. You might consider #118 as your solo or #185 if you learn the necessary new notes. There are also a couple duets near the back of the book.

Notes to Junior, Senior, and Symphonic bands –

HAVE INSTRUMENTS REPAIRED

If your instrument needs to be worked on, take advantage of the long break and get it into a repair shop early. It should be in optimum condition for the concert.

EXTENDED PRACTICES ON DECEMBER 10

Our last practice before Christmas break is on December 10. Cadets do not have rehearsal and this year the director is extending practice times. We hope everyone will be able to be there for their entire practice time. Part of each band's time will be spent playing as a group. The remainder of the time will be spent in simultaneous sectionals as needed for the different instrument groups. We have additional rooms available for this one night. Times are as follows:

Concert Junior - 5:00 to 6:30pm

Concert Senior - 6:30 to 8pm

Symphonic - 8 to 9:30pm

Junior, Senior, Symphonic (see notes above)

There is no specific play order for this week.

Practice all your songs, concentrating on the most difficult passages. Work especially hard on the areas that have been corrected at band. Play with recordings if possible.

There may be an additional email from the director with special information for this Thursday's practice and sectionals.