

 OAK CREEK HIGH SCHOOL BAND 

340 EAST PUETZ ROAD

OAK CREEK, WI 53154

(414) 768-6210 Ext 7265 FAX: (414) 768-6130

Amy Fuchs & Guy Gregg—Directors

a.fuchs@oakcreek.k12.wi.us & g.gregg@oakcreek.k12.wi.us

June 6, 2011

Dear OCHS Band Members and Parents:

Congratulations and welcome to our new and returning band members and parents to the 2011-2012 OCHS Band Program! This is our **24th** year in continued pursuit of musical excellence based upon a rich tradition of positive experiences and successful accomplishments! Our success is due to YOUR attendance, discipline, dedication, pride, enthusiasm, and sacrifice. As a member of the OCHS Band, you are expected to accept the responsibility of being a young adult and contribute your personal best in all our endeavors: home practice, memorization, attendance at all rehearsals-performances and your very best behavior.

So what's up for this year? Membership is 225! The '11 Marching Show is more exciting and beautiful than ever! The music and drill are ready for you to make it come alive! The staff anxiously awaits your presence to begin teaching.

We'll be traveling for marching contests at Waukesha, Northern Illinois University, Greendale, Cudahy, Marengo, IL, and UW-Whitewater (State Championships). We will also perform 3 home football half-times and a Special Encore Performance at OCHS. Everyone will again be required to participate in WSMA District Solo-Ensemble and be expected to participate in HOME PRACTICE, rehearsals, performances, concerts, and fundraisers. We have not finalized our spring trip destination; however, it promises to be another memorable tour.

All rehearsals will take place at OCHS. Please look over the schedule carefully and Plan Ahead. It is imperative that everyone attends ALL rehearsals and performances to ensure our competitive readiness. Everyone is affected when you miss band.

Another vital part of being prepared for the fall season is having all students know their music before we start rehearsals in August. **NOTE:** We will again be holding weekly summer sectionals for all (including Mallet Percussion) to help with this task. The sectional schedule is included below. Parents: It is required that your musician practice, learn, and memorize their music during the summer (see deadlines below).

Remember that August brings hot temps, rain, and mosquito fest, so bring a water bottle and comfortable tennis shoes to march in. TENNIS SHOES ONLY!! This is for your safety! Don't forget to bring the sunscreen and bug spray and to dress for the weather!

The 11-12 Band will devote our season to working hard and going the distance. Ms. Fuchs and Mr. Gregg are ready to say, "Band...A-Ten-Hut!" We will see everyone for the **first FULL rehearsal on August 8th from 5:30 – 9:30 pm** (arrive at 5:15). Remember to bring your music, instrument, pencil, water bottle, tennis shoes and above all, a positive attitude to work hard. **The First Band Camp is on August 13th from 9 am-3 pm.**

******Mark your Calendar for the MANDATORY PARENT MEETING AUGUST 18th in the OCHS New Gym at 6:00 pm. ALL FORMS** (Permission For Field Trips; Travel Agreement; Contract; Parent Support, District Background Check), will be distributed, completed & **RETURNED** at this meeting. **The \$75 Transportation Fee** (checks payable to OCHS Band; #451 in memo section) will also be **due** at this meeting. **ANY ONE with a student in the OCHS Band MUST ATTEND this meeting. If you are ABSOLUTELY unable to attend, you must call or email to set-up an individual appointment with the directors.**

The \$75 transportation fee is used to offset the cost of our motor coach transportation, food provided each weekend and also to offset decreased fundraiser participation. These coaches are needed for shelter, storage, comfort, timesavings, restrooms, and entertainment.

Uniform Fitting: Required for everyone at registration-OCHS room 265 (band room)

August 9 8:00-11:30 am & 4:00-7:30 pm

August 10 8:00-11:30 am & 4:00-7:30 pm

Note: Marching Uniforms are provided-students must supply their own black socks and plain white T-shirt with sleeves. Students also need to purchase a Blue Dri-Fit Band Polo for non-formal performances. These can be purchased through the Band ONLY (NOT OCHS Spirit Wear). Info will be available at the parent meeting.

While At Registration: **Sign-up for Saturday Camp food and Parent Volunteer assignments.**

Concert Attire: Students must provide their own **CONCERT BLACKS**. This means ALL students MUST have Black Dress Pants or Skirt/Dress (Knee-Length MINIMUM), Black Dress Shirt or Blouse, and Black DRESS SHOES and socks for ALL Concert Performances! NO EXCEPTIONS!

Instrument Repair: Your instrument MUST be taken in for summer repair/cleaning/check up. Take care of it NOW to ensure proper playing condition. Students who will be using a school instrument will be contacted to pick them up during summer sectionals when they return from summer repair.

Marching Rehearsals: **EVERYONE REPORTS AUGUST 8th, from 5:30-9:30 pm** at OCHS. Enter the Northeast doors (Door 18) & proceed to 2nd floor. Camp #1 is on August 13 from 9am-3pm and lunch will be provided. All students are assigned a food item for each band camp. Be sure to bring your assigned item Each Week. ALL Students are required to be at ALL rehearsals as part of the commitment to the OCHS Band. **ALL** absences must be accompanied by a signed note from a parent or guardian, or will be considered unexcused which may result in suspension from performances. We are responsible for your safety! **READ YOUR SCHEDULE & PLAN AHEAD!**

Bring water bottle, cool/comfortable/athletic clothes (jeans are not recommended) and comfortable tennis shoes. Bring your music, instrument, & pencil! The first 2 weeks of rehearsals concentrate on music and basics, while the Saturday camps focus on the visual drill aspects of our show.

Summer Sectionals: are held in OCHS Band Room #265 and Choir Room #260; Each Instrument group has a One Hour sectional on June 16, 23 and July 7, 14, and 21.

12:30 pm Flute, Clarinet

1:30 Alto Sax, F Horn

2:30 Trumpets

3:30 Baritone, Trombone, Tenor Sax, Bass Clarinet, Bari Sax, Tuba

***Colorguard Sectionals will be held on June 13, 27 and July 11, 25 from 6-8:30 pm at OCHS**

*Be prepared to rehearse OUTSIDE, wear comfortable TENNIS SHOES and bring Water!

Battery and Mallet Percussion – You may meet any time between 12:30 and 4:30 to practice.

We have scheduled the **summer sectionals** in order to help you accomplish your memorization deadlines. Remember: there is a reason that you have received your music EARLY!!!! You are expected to attend these sectionals and work AHEAD!!!! YOU ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE ALL MUSIC MEMORIZED BY AUGUST 27th. Parents please help monitor your student so that we may progress rapidly through our show!

****Memorization Deadlines****

August 13	Warm-Ups, 1812 Opener & School Song Complete
August 20	Aquarium & Bell Carol Complete
August 28	1812 Finale Complete

We hope you enjoy the summer and return with a positive attitude, renewed commitment to band, and much excitement to see your friends. Please return with an abundance of enthusiasm, energy, pride, dedication, and commitment to carry us through another adventurous year enjoying our band together!

If you will be on vacation or discover a **conflict with the schedule**, please email the above addresses or leave a message at 768-6210 ext. 7265.

IF for some reason your enrollment status changes, CALL IMMEDIATELY!

Enclosed you will find the TENTATIVE schedule for the 2011-2012 school year. For your convenience, we have a calendar format available upon request or located on our webpage at www.ocmarchingknights.com. Please read it carefully and plan ahead to adjust your personal and work schedule to attend all scheduled activities. Attendance impacts your peers, staff, and directors. We **depend** on each other and therefore, NO ABSENCE GOES UNNOTICED! **Work is NOT an acceptable excuse.** It is **your responsibility** to share your band schedule with your employer and make it very clear that you cannot compromise the commitment you have made to the Band and everyone who works with it. We will accept nothing but your Absolute Best! We will work around other activities, but you must **communicate** with us and make every effort to resolve conflicts. You must follow the example set forth by those who came before you and learn to budget your time wisely to accomplish band-homework-other activities. The fall season is crunch time for everyone, but you can do it. The key is to be personally accountable and meet the memorization deadlines by August 27th. We wish you a safe, restful summer and we'll see you soon!

Musically Yours,
Amy Fuchs & Guy Gregg