

FFCHS TROJAN BAND NEWSLETTER

October, 2020



WEATHER!

Normally, the weather only really impacts the marching band. However, since all of the band classes during the school day rehearse outside, it is important that students monitor the temperature prior to coming to school. If the weather is not favorable for outside rehearsals, we will be indoors with another activity – but we will be outside as much as possible.

Please dress appropriately as the seasons are changing! ☺

MAKING PROGRESS!

This year has been interesting, to say the least! All of the band classes are split into separate groups, and it's presented some unique challenges (and opportunities!) for student growth – both individually and collectively.

As we progress with our concert music, and especially in such difficult situations, now is more important than ever that students are working outside of in-school time on their preparation and progress on their instrument.

Smart Practice steps:

- Identify the areas that you struggle the most – bracket those areas.
- When you practice at home, don't play the music that you're already good at!
- Work on bracketed areas under tempo and aim for rhythmic consistency and correct notes.
- When you can play the bracketed areas *correctly* **three times in a row**, increase tempo.
- Choose only 1 or 2 bracketed areas to work on at a time – spend 15 minutes on that.
- If you start getting frustrated – take a break! ☺

“The true beauty of music is that it connects people.” - Roy Ayers

MARCHING BAND PERFORMANCES

The Trojan Marching Band has been hard at work since the beginning of July, and now it's time to start performing!

Marching Band Clinic – Saturday, October 3 from 2:00p.m. to 6:00p.m.: Students will work with a guest clinician who will provide performance feedback and suggestions to the band to improve performance. This is very similar to experiences we have during a “normal” marching season.

Parent Performance – Saturday, October 10 at 5:00p.m.: The band will perform for family! Health screenings will be required, masks, and social distancing.



Marching Showcase Saturday, October 24 – time TBD. Mesa Ridge & FFCHS will perform at FFCHS. At this time, parents will be permitted to attend! **More information to come at a later date – thank you for your flexibility!**



Some of our new instruments the district purchased!

Contact Mr. Race

Email: jrace@ffc8.org

Website: www.trojanband.org

Please allow a 24 hour response time for email! ☺

ALL CITY & ALL STATE

The Colorado Springs & Colorado All State Band are tentatively set for the Spring. Students who are interested in auditioning should continue preparation on the music that was distributed at the beginning of the year. In the event that these are cancelled, the committees running each event have come up with alternative plans for students.

Both of these events are excellent programs to list on resumes! ☺

FOOTBALL PEP BAND

Football season is back! CHSAA voted to begin the season, we will have three homegames: October 9, October 23, & November 13.

Due to health requirements, the pep band will be limited to 25 students. Upperclassmen (seniors) will have priority for games in which they would like to participate for pep band.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR OCTOBER

October 3 – Marching Band Clinic – 2pm to 6pm

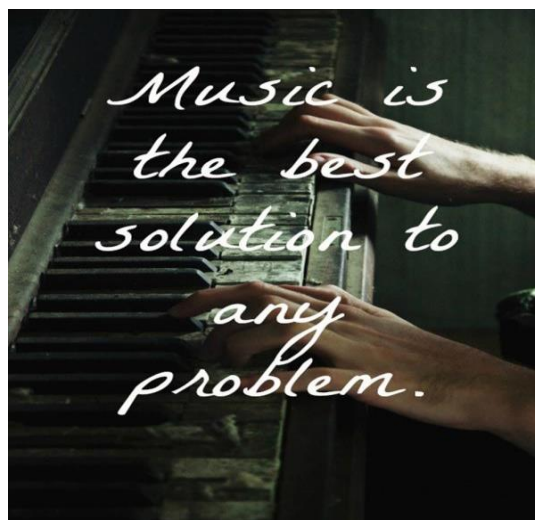
October 9 – Home Football Game

October 10 – Marching Band Parent Performance – 5pm

October 12 – 16 – Fall Break

October 23 – Home Football Game

October 24 – Marching Band Showcase



Band Kids = Best Kids

This year has been a challenge thus far, and will undoubtedly continue to present obstacles and hurdles we will have to overcome. But – band kids are the best kids, and I know we will get through it together!

Thank you to the many students in Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Percussion, Color Guard, and the Trojan Marching Band for pushing through the tough times and still making the decision to be part of the music program. You keep me going!

“Music washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.”

