

Parents and Students:

First, a big thanks to all the parents and students who worked very hard on Saturday in the heat on our props for the show. It is not easy work, and we really appreciate your time and talents.

First, a reminder that 7 a.m. rehearsals begin tomorrow. The expectation is that students will be on the field ready to start rehearsal at 7, so that requires them to be at East in time to get their instrument and get up to the field by then. Percussion need to be there even early as battery warms up at 6:50 and front ensemble has a significant amount of instruments to move up there. We will have 7 a.m. rehearsals even if it rains, as we will stay inside and work on the music. A reminder that leadership team members need to be there early tomorrow as well to help put the front blinds away from getting painted this weekend.

Students, we have finalized the parts for the closer. We have removed about 40 seconds total, which is quite a bit of music. We removed two percussion phrases, shortened the clarinet solo to one phrase, and then removed the first "tag" ending and jumped straight to the second one. This basically eliminated most of the very fast section except the last 8 bars. We also modified a few of the low brass parts in the other sections that we kept. With these changes it is my hope that we can now perform it at the original mm 140 tempo that it was written at. These changes will make the demand of the show a little less, and will give us much more time to clean the drill. I know it is less convenient for all of you, but I put all the parts in one file. It is attached to this email. A reminder that the closer starts at Q, so the material before it is just the last portion of the ballad. I have been working on the audio file all weekend and am having trouble with Sibelius. Our drill writer is trying to help me out with the audio file and I hope to have all the problems worked out by tomorrow.

I also want to thank everyone who came to Forms and Fees night. We got the majority of forms turned in and also did very well on the fundraiser. Those will be very important funds for the program as I just learned this week that I am taking a 21% budget cut in my building budget. If you have not had a chance to turn in the forms they are due this Friday, August 24th. Students are not eligible to perform at the first home football game unless they have their forms turned in.

The first game will be on August 31st. There will be a separate email detailing this event and the instructions for it. It was listed as two different dates in a few places, but the game is on the 31st. This Thursday, August 23rd is our Open House at Olathe East. I will cover the information that I usually cover at our first booster meeting. Since we did the Forms and Fees night and Test Drive Fundraiser and did not do an August booster meeting this will be important for parents to attend if possible.

Thanks,
Mr. Smikahl

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