

March 2020 Letter:

A REMINDER OF MUSIC'S IMPORTANCE TO SUCCESS IN LIFE

Hello Band / Jazz Band Members / Families:

March is always a busy time of year for students. They are faced with extended homework assignments and a full agenda of school activities. Parental support and encouragement are crucial at this time of year.

When students become overloaded to the point of experiencing stress and pressure, they feel the need to lighten their load. Unfortunately, students, parents and counselors often misinterpret the study of music as an "educational extra" and in an attempt to alleviate the student's time dilemma, set music aside. It is at best, a short-term solution.

It is important to maintain music studies for two reasons:

- 1) the personal skills required to handle the challenges of life are actively practiced in music,
- 2) the interdisciplinary skills learned in music are identical to those required for success in life. These skills include working in teams, communication, self-esteem, creative thinking, imagination and invention.

Therefore, the solution to the problem is – **more music!**

Former Chairman and CEO of Apple Computer Inc., John Sculley, commented, *"As a chief executive of a technology company that thrives on creativity, I want to work with people whose imaginations have been unleashed and who tackle problems as challenges rather than seeing them as obstacles. An education enriched by the creative arts should be considered essential for everyone."*

Every parent wants his / her child to enjoy a life filled with happiness and prosperity. For all these reasons and more, we want to make certain our musicians are well prepared for the opportunities of tomorrow. We strongly encourage the continuation of the OAKMONT HIGH SCHOOL BAND / JAZZ BAND MEMBERS' music studies. Should the notion of "quitting music" arise in conversation, contact me immediately. You can count on my support in explaining the unique advantages of having a lifelong relationship with music.

Your support is a cornerstone in the foundation of our music program at Oakmont High School. Thank you.

Many Blessings,
Mr. Everts

OUTSTANDING CONCERT ON FEBRUARY 27!

My goodness! The response from February 27th's concert is so exciting. I was so happy for the students. There was some noticeable growth at that performance. Thank you so much for representing yourself and the composers in such a fine fashion.

Boosters Meeting March 10

For our students / your children to continue to participate / enjoy outside-the-school-day AND & JAZZ BAND activities, we need funding. A school is responsible for what happens during the school day. We have support for concerts at Oakmont High School. We even have \$1,100 for an – one – marching instructor. \$11 an hour for 100 hours.

With no more bingo, our funding has dropped significantly.

We would love to see Oakmont instrumental music continue to move in the current direction. We had a very successful fall semester: three second places and ONE FIRST PLACE. That was with one band director; one band instructor; one color guard instructor; no props; color guard using old equipment / borrowed equipment / old costumes. We have done a great job being frugal. With us being frugal, we are going to have a challenging time *keeping up with the Joneses*. For symphonic band and jazz band, the February 27th concert was INCREDIBLE!

ASAP ... get involved with the boosters. October 24 – we host our first ever NCBA field show competition. October 3 – we host our third annual mattress sale. We cannot see us continue – at the pace we are today – with just two fundraisers.

Also, let us refrain from thinking ONLY the marching band and color guard needs financial support.

Jazz Band could use more music. We have amplifiers / keyboards “struggling.” Have you seen the drum-set? Jazz festivals?

Symphonic band – “Mr. Everts, can we do band festivals?” Now that the band is confident / feeling good about their performances ... Of course, but where is the money for the buses? Where is the money for the fees for the concert band festivals? There is an NCBA Concert Band festival in April. There are two SPRING SEMESTER band reviews: VALLEJO / ENCINAL that host concert band competitions. Sure. It would be nice to take the band to those two band reviews.

Instrument repairs? Instrument purchases? On Wednesday, February 26, during our after school BAND leadership meeting, “Mr. Everts ... the _____ is broken. Can we get it fixed?” The students are asking for instrument repairs. We need to see if we have the funding.

How about a trip? Get on a plane and go somewhere? It may be too late for 2021. But, in the future, I would love the Oakmont band / jazz band students to have that experience.

Boosters meetings: March 10; April 14; May 12 ... Hope to see you there.

March 17 CONCERT AT GRANITE BAY HIGH SCHOOL

This is for SYMPHONIC BAND ONLY! We need to be ready to be at GBHS by 6pm. This is a benefit concert for the A.L.S. Association / American Cancer Society / SPCA. This is a concert for the RJUHS bands. We missed it last year due to scheduling conflict. Time to return!

May 2 – Hosting the Roseville Middle School Honor Band Rehearsal / Concert

8am – 4pm... this is for SYMPHONIC BAND. We will be performing at this concert and assisting. More specific information to follow.

May 12 – 13 Final Spring Concert
This is for Jazz Band and Symphonic Band

May 29 – Graduation

Yes. Symphonic Band is EXPECTED to perform for 3:00pm graduation. We will leave from OHS at 1:45pm. Plan now for your lunch.

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When is band camp?

- July 27, Monday 8am – 2pm
- July 29, Wednesday 8am – 2pm
- July 31, Friday 8am – 2pm

Football Schedule

August 28	vs Foothill
September 18	vs Casa Roble
October 2	vs Ponderosa
October 9	vs Lincoln
October 23	vs Placer

Competition Schedule

October 17	Del Oro
October 24	Oakmont
November 7	Lodi
November 14	Napa
November 21	Fairfield

- Monday night rehearsals for all 6pm – 9pm
- Wednesday night rehearsals for COLOR GUARD 6pm – 9pm
- Thursday night rehearsals for PERCUSSION 6pm – 8pm
- ***When there is NOT Junior Vikings Football schedule;*** to help avoid heat, Saturday rehearsals will be 8am-2pm. I will not know the Junior Vikings football schedule until this summer.

Those (*including* the incoming from freshmen / current EIGHTH GRADERS) interested in **percussion** for the 2020 MARCHING BAND, we are going to have “workshops” in the band room. We are *looking* at a similar experience for the color guard on those dates / times...

- April 20 6:30pm – 8:00pm
- April 27 6:30pm – 8:00pm
- May 4 6:30pm – 8:00pm
- May 11 6:30pm – 8:00pm