



Scott Siegel, Band Director

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Hello, MTMB Students and Parents!

Everyone has been working incredibly hard over the past ten weeks, and we have now made it to the most exciting part of the season. Our best rehearsals and performances are still to come, but now is the time for everyone to be strong, push hard, and become the best version of themselves. This will help us to collectively create the best version of our team. If we do that, the best version of our show is sure to follow and we will create memories that will last a lifetime.

As we enter **Week 9** of the regular season, it's time to put on our best performances of the year. Please read this weekly update and contact [Mr. Siegel](#) with any questions you have.

CHEERING EACH OTHER ON!

- I extended a huge THANK YOU to our hosts at Elizabethtown HS, who hosted an enjoyable evening on Thursday. Congratulations on having your best performance of the season so far and for being a positive force for cheering on our friends from other schools. Way to go!
- Last Friday, we proudly celebrated our marching band seniors during their well-deserved recognition night! These talented students have poured their passion, dedication, and countless hours of hard work into every rehearsal and performance.. Congratulations, seniors!! You've made us all so proud!
- A huge THANK YOU to Mr. Lefever, who took the time last week to repair the damaged screen holders for our band trailer. Having them makes setup and tear down of our on-field props so much easier.
- Another huge THANK YOU to Mrs. Pongonis, all the parents, and the MTMBB Executive Board for their work preparing for and executing another amazing senior recognition ceremony. We were totally organized and ready, which was noticed by many in attendance that evening. GREAT JOB!!

- THANK YOU to Adam Gegg for making a recording of our performance at Elizabethtown on Thursday. We will not have time to watch it as a group before Tuesday's rehearsal but you can view the video [HERE](#) anytime until practice on Tuesday.

Absences

Attendance at rehearsals and performances is mandatory for all student performers. The only exceptions are sudden personal illness (verified by a parent or doctor), medical or family emergency (verified by a parent or doctor), or religious obligations. *If you need to miss a band rehearsal or performance at the last minute due to a personal illness or emergency, please contact [Mr. Siegel](#) via email. THANK YOU.*

Academic Eligibility

All marching band students are academically eligible for Week 9! WELL DONE!!

Meetings

- Mr. Siegel would like to meet with all marching band **seniors** on Tuesday immediately before practice. Please plan to attend this short but important meeting in the band room at 5:45 PM on Tuesday.
- Mr. Siegel would like to meet with all marching band **student leaders** on Tuesday immediately after practice. Please plan to stay after practice for 5 minutes Tuesday. We'll meet right there in the stadium.

Weather

The weather has officially turned to fall, and that chill in the air is here to stay! Please make sure you're dressed for the cooler temperatures during rehearsals and performances.

This week's forecast shows highs in the low 60s, with Thursday and Friday not even reaching 60°. Once the sun goes down, it'll feel much colder; expect temps in the low 50s or below.

Remember: if you're freezing, you won't perform your best! **Dress in layers** so you can stay warm. **Under Armour (or similar gear)** is a great option for wearing underneath your rehearsal clothes or uniform.

Hats and gloves are allowed when your instrument makes it possible. **Brass players**, don't forget to use **chapstick or lip balm** after rehearsals...the cold, dry air can be tough on your lips.

Stay warm, stay healthy, and keep sounding amazing!

Rehearsals this Week

1. Tuesday 10/14 = 6:00-9:00 PM
 - a. Doors Open at 5:30 PM
 - b. Team Meeting will begin at 5:50 PM
 - c. First 90 minutes = Final Split Sectional Rehearsal of the Season
 - d. Last 90 minutes = Full Ensemble Visual Rehearsal

2. Thursday 10/16 = 6:00-9:00 PM
 - a. Doors Open at 5:30 PM
 - b. Team Meeting will begin at 5:50 PM
 - c. Full Ensemble Rehearsal in Stadium

Football Friday (A) @ Penn Manor High School — Friday, 10/17

Penn Manor football games are played at Millersville University's Biemesderfer Stadium:
45 Pucillo Dr, Millersville, PA 17551

- **REPORT TIME = 4:30 PM** (Doors Open at 4:00 PM)
 - *Students May NOT stay in the building after school unless they are with another teacher or activity.*
- Instruments to Curb / Load Truck = 4:30 PM
- Auditorium Meeting = 5:00 PM
- Depart Time = 5:15 PM
- Kickoff = 7:00 PM
- **MTMB Performs at Halftime**
- Approx. Return Time = 10:30 PM

- *FYI - It is Penn Manor's "Youth Night"...their two middle school bands will be joining them for the game.*

Showcase Saturday @ Lampeter-Strasburg High School — Saturday, 10/18

Parent Spectator Guide = [CLICK HERE](#)

- **Report Time = 12:00 PM** (Doors Open at 11:30 AM, Team Meeting at 11:50 AM)

- Rehearsal = 12:15 PM
- **Equipment Squad Report Time = 2:30 PM**
- Run Through = 2:45 PM
- Load Equipment = 3:00 PM
- Meal = 3:30 PM
- Auditorium Meeting = 4:20 PM
- Depart Time = 4:30 PM
- Show Begins at 6:00 PM
- **MTMB Performs = 6:30 PM**
- Approx. Return Time = 10:00 PM

MTMB in our Community — Partnering with Kindness Grows Club...

MTHS has started a new club called “Kindness Grows”. The marching band, along with Football and Cheerleading, is going to support this new initiative by partnering with them for their first annual “Rise Against Hunger”.

The band will be collecting non-perishable food items that would be in a traditional Thanksgiving meal (stuffing, boxed mashed potatoes, Mac and cheese, corn, green beans, canned sweet potatoes, cranberry, canned chicken, boxed cake/dessert mixes) *Donations can be brought to the band room anytime between October 1 and October 18th.* The goal is to provide 100 meals for families in Lancaster County.

On October 18th, while the band is rehearsing for the Lampeter-Strasburg Showcase, volunteers will be packaging meals between 1-3pm. Any band parents interested in volunteering can use this [LINK](#).

I’ve already received a whole bunch of donations!! THANK YOU for helping to fight hunger in Lancaster County and for supporting this new club!

Looking ahead...

Based on current information and schedules I’ve received, here are the anticipated schedules for all performance events during the final two weeks of our regular season. The times are subject to change. More specific information will be shared closer to each event.

- Tuesday, 10/21 - Community Night
 - Report Time = 6:00 PM
 - Approx. Performance Time = 8:15 PM
- Friday, 10/24 - Football @ Wilson
 - Report Time = 3:00 PM

- Pizza Party and Senior Shows / Handoff
 - Depart Time = 5:10 PM
 - MTHS Performs Halftime
- Saturday, 10/25 - Finale Showcase @ Ephrata.
 - Report Time = 12:00 PM
 - Depart Time = 4:00 PM
 - Show Begins = 5:00 PM
 - Performance Time = 8:00 PM
 - Approx. Return Time = 10:30 PM

Playoffs!?!? Playoffs?!?!

With Friday's big win, the playoff picture is starting to take shape. Our football team has officially secured at least the #4 seed in the PIAA District 3 Playoffs! All MTMB students are expected to attend every playoff game, so make sure to mark your calendars for the upcoming dates!

- Friday, October 31 - BYE WEEK (*Off Night*)
- Friday, November 7 - Class 6A Quarter-Finals (*Confirmed Home Game*)
- Friday, November 14 or Saturday, November 15 - Class 6A Semi-Finals
- Friday, November 21, or Saturday, November 22 - Class 6A Championship
- Friday, November 28 or Saturday, November 29 - PIAA State Semi-Finals
- December 6 - PIAA State Championship Game

****Note: a Saturday game would only occur if we play away at Harrisburg High School. Harrisburg away games are usually scheduled for early afternoon.****

Normal absence rules will be in place during the postseason - absence requests should be submitted at least 2 weeks in advance to be considered as excused. Members of the cast and crew of the fall play will automatically be excused from marching band on November 21/22 if there is a conflict.

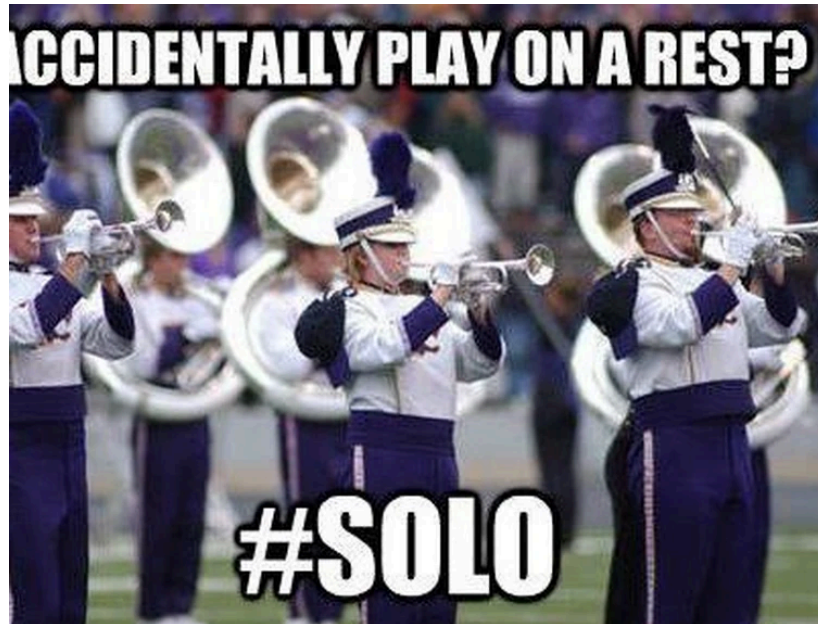
All report times, bus and departure times, etc. will be communicated as soon as schedules are finalized for our upcoming events.

Final Thoughts

We are two weeks to the end of what has been a tremendous season of hard work, improvement, and incredible achievement. There are more performances remaining than rehearsals! This is the home stretch of the season...keep focused and dedicated to excellence! Make sure you are keeping yourself healthy by eating well and staying hydrated. Ensure that your academics are taken care of as well...schedule your time

wisely so you get all assignments completed on time in a quality way! Let's keep working hard and be the best we can be!

~Mr. Siegel



"We forget: In life, it doesn't matter what happens to you or where you came from. It matters what you do with what happens and what you've been given."
— Ryan Holiday, *The Obstacle Is the Way: The Timeless Art of Turning Trials into Triumph*