

9/9/2017

Navo Band Parents –

Happy Saturday! I hope this email finds you all well. I just wanted to update you all on some upcoming dates and information.

- **CALENDAR INFO:** I've added a PDF of our year calendar to print for your convenience. It is on the calendar tab on our website.
- **BAND FEES:** If you have not turned in the band fees/instrument fees that were due on September 1<sup>st</sup>, please try to get them in this week. Payment plans are accepted. Please refer to the powerpoint from our band meeting for price/payment options (band website under communications tab/handouts)
- **CHARMS:** Please update your child's CHARMS account if you have not done so. Directions are on our band website under the Parent Links tab/CHARMS.
- **BEGINNER BAND:** All Beginner Band students should be taking home instruments everyday and practicing what we have been working on in class. Please help your child find an appropriate area to practice at home. (see our practice guide under the parent's link tab on our website). This beginner year is off to a great start!!! Our first performance for you will be the evening of Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at our Fall Concert. We will all rehearse Thursday afterschool from 3:45-4:45pm in preparation for our Friday concert.
- **SYMPHONIC BAND and WIND ENSEMBLE:** Students have already had 2 weeks of sectionals. Sectional schedules are on our band website under the band link for your child. If your child has missed their sectional, please have them arrange a time to make-up that sectional with their director. Our first performance is Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at Braswell HS...details are still in the works, but Braswell HS will be feeding the students ahead of our performance that evening. Plan on students being there by 5pm wearing Braswell colors (Red/Black). Details on performance time will be sent out as soon as I receive it. Our Fall Concert is Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>!!! We look forward to seeing you all there!
- **WIND ENSEMBLE:** Students will have a master class with directors from the Braswell cluster and students from Navo/Rodriguez on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> in preparation for our All-District/All-Region auditions in October. It will be located at Braswell HS from 9:30-11:30 am. Students should be preparing Major scales, Chromatic Scale, a Lyrical, and a Technical Etude. Please encourage students to find time each day to practice their instruments.
- **PRIVATE LESSONS:** I encourage every student to take private lessons! It's a great one on one opportunity for students to learn from a professional on their instrument. Private lessons are like personal training sessions. Each teacher will tailor each lesson to the needs of your child. We have wonderful teachers on every instrument (we are still currently looking for a trumpet and a bassoon teacher and I will let you know when we have found someone). Contact a private teacher today to schedule lessons for your child. Our private teachers are listed on our band website under the private lesson tab.
- **FALL FUNDRAISER:** Hurricane Harvey did some major damage to many people in Southeast TX last week. Many students will be going back to schools this week that were also damaged due to the flooding. As I sat at home thinking about a fundraiser for our students at Navo, I couldn't help but think of the many band programs in TX that will have to rebuild. There will be students going back to school who lost personal

instruments in the floods with no flood insurance to replace them. For the schools that are opening back up to students, there are some who lost their entire music libraries and school instruments, sound systems, tuners, metronomes, folders, solo and ensemble collections, etc. We are truly blessed here at Navo and the least we can do as supporters of children and music programs is to help build up a place for these children to make music again. I proposed an Adopt-a-Band fundraiser to my Fine Arts Director and she is in the process of finding a middle school band program in need that we can donate our fall fundraiser to. Music brings comfort and the students and teachers from this area need that. As soon as I have more information about a school program I will let you all know. I would like the students to write notes to those students as well. I want them to see the bigger picture (beyond our 4 walls at Navo). Music is the universal language, music is compassion, music is love, and music heals. Thank you in advance for your understanding and generosity as we help these students find music again!

Thank you parents for taking the time to read through this email update! 😊 We are so excited about this school year and are enjoying teaching your children each day. Have a great rest of your weekend.

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth Anderson*

**Director of Bands**

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