



7th and 8th Grade Band Newsletter

Mrs. Irwin | April 2025

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7th and 8th Grade Band News

- ★ **Congratulations** to all of our 7th and 8th Grade Band Members on a very successful Spring Concert! All of our students performed very well and I am especially proud of our 8th Grade Band Members and their contributions to our program the past 2 years! We will really miss having them in our band! An extra shout-out to Vinton Berry, our Junior High Drumline Student Director and Elijah Jennings, our "Funkytown" Student Director and Arranger!
- ★ **Preparation for Parade Season is upon us!** Please read over the back of this newsletter and be on the lookout for notes home and emails from me with important information concerning NYSSMA Solo Festival (May 2nd or May 3rd), Dogwood Parade (May 17th), Memorial Day Parade (May 26th), etc. As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding these events, please let me know!

Upcoming Events

- ★ **NYSSMA Solo Festival at Wayne CSD:** Friday, May 2, 2025 OR Saturday, May 3, 2025 [TBD upon student registration; Select 7th and 8th Grade Band Students]
- ★ **Dogwood Parade:** Saturday, May 17, 2025, 5:00pm [All 7th and 8th Grade Band Students]
- ★ **Memorial Day Parade:** Monday, May 26, 2025, 10:00am [All 7th and 8th Grade Band Students]
- ★ **Darien Lake Music Competition:** Friday, May 30, 2025, All Day [All 7th and 8th Grade Band Students]
- ★ **DCSD Music Festival:** Monday, June 2, 2025, 6:00pm [Select 7th and 8th Grade Band Students]

9th Period Activities

- ★ **Mondays:** Make-Up Lessons [Students have 2 weeks from the missed lesson to make up a lesson]
- ★ **Tuesdays:** Jazz Band
- ★ **Wednesdays:** DHS Practice Club
- ★ **Thursdays:** JH Drumline and Extra Performances Practice

Dogwood Parade: Saturday, May 17, 2025

Times

4:15pm: PERCUSSION ONLY: Get percussion equipment from school (enter in the back entrance of school)

4:30pm: EVERYONE: Arrive at Liberty Street near Main Street in Parade Dress (see below) with instruments (out of the case)

5:00pm: Parade begins

Approximately 6:00pm: Arrive back at school for parent/guardian pick up and sign out (we will meet parents at the back of the 7-12 building; please park in the stadium parking lot).



Memorial Day Parade: Monday, May 26, 2025



Times

9:15am: PERCUSSION ONLY: Get percussion equipment from school (enter in the back entrance of school)

9:30am: EVERYONE: Arrive at Family Dollar in Parade Dress (see below) with instruments (out of the case)

10:00am: Parade begins

Approximately 10:45am: Memorial Day Ceremony at Williams Park (Clara Barton Street)

Approximately 11:15am: Arrive at Williams Park for parent/guardian pick up and sign out.

PERCUSSION STUDENTS: You must have your parent/guardian drive you back to school so you can put your percussion equipment back in the 7-12 building. Parents, please drive around to the back of the 7-12 building and someone will be there to let you in.

Parade Dress

- Black Pants (no wind pants, capris, leggings or sweatpants)
- 7th and 8th Grade Band Polo Shirt (students received these from Mrs. Irwin in September to borrow for the school year; will need to be turned in for inventory by 6/6/25; do not wash these at home)
- Comfortable, black sneakers or shoes
- Please wear hair pulled back away from your face.

Concert/Parade Attendance

Attendance at all concerts and parades is mandatory. Nothing can replace the experience of a performance. As a performance based class, our concert/parade is the culmination of months of work. Only sickness or a family emergency is an acceptable excuse for missing a concert/parade. All students with an unexcused concert absence must complete a project designated by the band director.