

09-26-19 Rehearsal Notes

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**DAILY PRACTICE SHOULD BE #1 PRIORITY FOR ALL**  
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ATTENTION CROSSROADS Football Game Participants –

Aurora Christian School 2255 Sullivan Rd, Aurora, IL 60506

Arrival time for ALL is Noon on Saturday, October 5.

One parent and the band player and get in free but beyond that there is an entrance fee.

It's believed to be \$4 or \$5 a person with family maximum \$20.

Be sure you received Rah, Rah and the Hey Song. If you need a reduced copy of the Hey Song either do it yourself or let Mrs. Borow know so she can bring it Thursday.

After the October 3 rehearsal **PERCUSSIONISTS** must take home with you that night all the equipment you will need for the Crossroads performance, including beaters for the bass drum. **DON'T LEAVE WITHOUT IT/THEM!**

You must return all that same equipment at rehearsal on October 10.

EXPERIENCED STUDENTS

Read near the end of these notes about signing-up to become a Student Coach or Mentor. Responses for Coaches are required by October 1.

OPEN BOOSTER JOBS

There are Booster jobs open each week in November and December, plus several weeks in January. If you have not signed-up for your required 4 hours or If you were unable to keep your commitment for music distribution, etc. please sign-up to meet your obligation.

Visit [WSHSB Sign-up Schedule](#)

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

October 3 - Winter Concert Well-Wishers are due for those using them to cover anyfees/tuition. This is about a 9 week extension beyond the regular August 1 fee deadline.

October 5 – Saturday – Volunteers perform at

Crossroads Football Game – Arrive at NOON

October 31 – NO BAND – Eve of Feast of All Saints,

November 12 – Tuesday evening, **7:30 – 8:30 pm** – Black uniform pants for all and Symphonic blue jacket fitting/exchange at the Borows.

You must sign-up in advance. See Rehearsal Notes for more info.

Sweeping/Trash Assignments for next rehearsal after Symphonic band

You must get a sub if you will not be there. 10/03 – Lily G, Adelynn T

SECTIONALS FOR 10-03-19 Note different times shown in RED

Cadet	5:00-5:15pm	Various See Notes	Various see notes
Junior	5:45-6:00pm	Clarinets, saxes	Kitchen
Junior	6:00-6:10pm	Percussion	Kitchen
Senior	6:45-7:00pm	Percussion	Kitchen
Senior	6:45-7:00pm	Dixieland people	Under Stairs
Symphonic	7:45-8:00pm	Clarinets, flutes	Kitchen
Symphonic	7:45-8:00pm	Oboes	Utility Room
Symphonic	7:45-8:00pm	Saxes	Under Stairs

MUSIC NOTES

Cadets

Nice work, to all the new Cadets!

SECTIONALS – For all Cadet sectionals this week, the assignment is:

1. Helpers, make sure all members in your section can adequately play all of the “First Five Notes” (ex. 1,3,5,7,9).
2. Then, help any/ all brass players move up and down in pitch on the open fingering, by loosening and tightening their lips. Doing this is called a lip slur. For all brass, except *E_b* tubas, this can be practiced using the book going back and forth from the note in Exercise 1 to the note in Exercise 9. *E_b* tubas will not have a lip slur until your lesson includes high *B_b*. You will then need to lip slur from *B_b* to *E_b*.

SECTIONALS

ALL 5:00-5:15pm - KITCHEN – Saxes w/Mrs. Talbot

UTILITY ROOM - Jack M tuba with Mr. Li

UNDER STAIRS – Clarinets with Charlotte S

Do not stand on stairs or landing! Use only the area under the stairwell.

Trumpets against back wall/closet doors w/Mrs. Liscom

Flutes in place w/Mrs. Walko

Baritones in place w/Sam C

QUIZ – All brass on required lip slurs for notes in Exercises 1 and 9.

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***Please see the item in General Notes about only using Cornelius Hall  
and not being outside in the parking lot.***

**Cadet Parents** – If your student is struggling to produce sound on their instrument please call the director, 630-231-6155, as soon as possible, before the next rehearsal on 10-03, for suggestions.

**Notice – Week 3 (and 4 if necessary) CADET EVALUATIONS will be held on 10/10 (and possibly 10/17).**

**Early arrivals will be required to begin evaluations at 5pm sharp!** Students will be asked to demonstrate articulation, perform rhythms accurately as well as the 5 notes in review and perhaps one of their exercises. Experienced Cadet Helpers, willing to assist with evaluations, should email the director as soon as possible.

### A DIFFERENT PAGING SYSTEM

French horns and oboes have a different paging system in their Essential Elements book. There are two pages, A and B, left and right, for every page number. If you have this type of book you should always play from the page on the right side at band rehearsals.

### ABOUT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

It does not matter which edition of Essential Elements you are using as the contents are all the same. The difference is in how you access play-along and other features. Here's a simple way to access Play-Along mp3 files for ALL instruments and exercises from Essential Elements 2000 Book 1. You will need to download a ZIP file and open it to get all the exercises. <https://www.halleonard.com/ee2000Band.jsp>

Differences are as follows.

1. The oldest version came with a play along CD for exercises 1 to 58.
2. The more recent version came with both a CD-Rom and a DVD with more content, online interactive tools and a 15 minute Start-up video.
3. The newest version, Essential Elements for Band, has no CD, CD-Rom or DVD. Rather there is a student activation code on the title page which can be used to access ALL the previous resources and more online through [www.essentialelementsinteractive.com](http://www.essentialelementsinteractive.com) (activation code required). There is an option in the book to get the CD-Rom for free with the included post card. Accompaniments are also available on audio CDs from your music dealer

***Practicing with recordings should help the student HEAR if they are playing the notes correctly.***

## FOR HOMEWORK –

Review and study pages 2 and 3 "The Basics." Practice parts on pages 4 and 5. The odd number exercises are an introduction to the first five notes while the even number exercises introduce tonguing. Review the YELLOW boxes on these pages which introduce new concepts and music theory terms as illustrated on the director's poster at band. **WRITE IN THE LETTER NAMES OF NOTES on exercises.**

Use the link provided above or play with the DVD (if you have it) using the Smart Music software with the adjustable tempo. If you currently have the CD-Rom or online access you may also control the tempo. Listen and try to match the pitch and tone. Use proper tonguing. Practice every day for no less than 20 minutes. You may split the time between multiple sessions. At every practice session, everyone should check their: posture and instrument hold, breathing/airstream, and mouth position (embouchure).

**NOTE to BRASS:** Focus on the trial & error of moving your lips (tightening/loosening) in order to raise and lower your pitch and match the required notes in the exercises. It will take regular practice to reach the notes. For all brass, except Eb tubas, this can be practiced using the book going back and forth from the note in Exercise 1 to the note in Exercise 9. Eb tubas will not have a lip slur until your lesson includes high Bb. You will then need to lip slur from Bb to Eb.

**FOR CADET PERCUSSIONISTS WITH BELLS –** Label your bells using masking or painter's tape, which is easier to remove. Mark the letter name of each note on the tape according to the chart on page 5. of your book.

## FOR ALL CADETS - RECOGNIZING NOTES

The musical staff has five lines and four spaces. Following are mnemonic aids to help remember the names of the different notes on the treble clef and bass clef, both the lines and spaces. It is a time-worn method.

Treble Clef - lines

**E - every**

**G - good**

**B - boy**

**D - does**

**F - fine**

Treble Clef - spaces

spell: F-A-C-E

**F**

**A**

**C**

**E**

Bass Clef - lines

**G - great**

**B - big**

**D - dogs**

**F - fight**

**A - animals**

Bass Clef spaces

**A-all**

**C-cars**

**E -eat**

**G-gas**

***CADETS AND PARENTS, be sure to also read the General Notes further down.***

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Notes to Junior, Senior, and Symphonic bands –

FOR ALL PERCUSSIONISTS - EVERY WEEK All Jr, Sr, and Sym percussionists must bring your own music folders and bell sets. Be sure to label all parts. **ALSO** - You must bring your own printed copy of the assignment grid, emailed to you. Keep it in your music folder and bring to band every week for each of your bands to help expedite the logistics in the section. Bring a pencil too.

REGARDING ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS BOOKS - CONCERT JR, SR **AND** SYM should bring the Essential Elements for Band Book 2 "Red" for possible use at weekly rehearsals. **Note:** Essential Elements for Band Book 2 "Red" will not necessarily be used every week. However, Junior **AND** Senior members are highly encouraged to use Book 2 to for daily practice, personal improvement and preparation for the Concert Senior audition. Symphonic will use various exercises for warm-ups at band

BRING TUNERS

If you own a tuner please bring it each week and tune your instrument before your band time begins.

Tuners are also available at the front table.

Junior (see notes above)

SECTIONALS – Note different times shown in RED

5:45-6:00pm KITCHEN – Clarinets and saxes w/Adelynn T on Allegretto 27 to 43

6:00 to 6:10pm KITCHEN Percussion on practice pads only w/ Franko R on When the Camels Cakewalk to Cairo

RED EE BOOK – Announced by director on the spot

Allegretto Symphony #7

QUIZ – Clarinets and Sax, 27 to 43

Chorale Elegia'nt

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Lochinvar

Washington and Lee Swing

When the Camels Cakewalk to Cairo

Star Spangled Banner *w/Symphonic*

God Bless America *Combined bands*

Ode to Joy *Combined bands*

We Need a Little Christmas for parade

Christmas Spectacular for parade

Senior (see notes above)

*******SPECIAL SENIOR BAND ASSIGNMENT FOR HOMEWORK*******

The director wants you to listen to this recording of Eroica, using this YouTube Link, [Eroica Recording](#), and follow along with your own music. Afterwards email her with major mistakes you hear and where you think, as a band, the pitfalls or dangerous spots are for them. What parts sound sloppy, muddy? Not perhaps what Beethoven intended?

Unfortunately, those parts are also the parts where we will tend to have trouble, too. So, listen, send me your emails, put post-its on your own music, too, and be prepared to briefly share this next week at band – just the number or measure where you think they got weak.

SECTIONALS – 6:45-7:00pm KITCHEN – Percussion w/ Steven T on [Mambo Cubano](#) and [Tap Out](#)

UNDER STAIRS – [Just a Closer Walk with Thee](#) - Dixieland people only w/Josh F

Do not stand on stairs or landing! Use only the area under the stairwell.

RED EE BOOK – Announced by director on the spot.

Alleluia

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Mambo Cubano

March in F

Eroica, Overture

Tap Out

Star Spangled Banner *do not loose, will be used for Spring concert*

God Bless America *Combined bands*

Ode to Joy *Combined bands*

We Need a Little Christmas for parade

Christmas Spectacular for parade

Symphonic (see notes above)

SECTIONALS – 7:45-8:00pm KITCHEN – Clarinets and flutes w/ Franko R on [Ruslan and Ludmilla](#)

Due to the large sectional, please play more softly, do no play out as usual

UTILITY ROOM – Oboes on [Ruslan and Ludmilla](#)

UNDER STAIRS – Saxes with Kaitlyn L on [Ruslan and Ludmilla](#)

Do not stand on stairs or landing! Use only the area under the stairwell.

RED EE BOOK – Bring to band every week for possible warm-ups.

Chronicles of Narnia

Cumbanchero, El

QUIZ - Percussion

Egmont Overture

Florintiner

FOUR: on a Remix of Beethoven

(Will be referred to as Remix)

King of Love My Shepherd Is, The

Ruslan and Ludmilla
That's a Plenty
Tico-Tico
Virgen De La Macarena, La
Star Spangled Banner *w/Junior*
God Bless America *Combined bands*
Ode to Joy *Combined bands*
We Need a Little Christmas for parade
Christmas Spectacular for parade
NOTE: The following were passed out early for trimester 2
American Salute-*Given only to woodwinds*
American Overture *Given only to French horns*

GENERAL NOTES

REMEMBER THAT WE ARE ONLY ALLOWED TO USE CORNELIUS HALL

No one should be outside other than going to and from your car. There should be no running, playing or visiting with friends anywhere outside; on the hills, grounds, parking lot, etc. This applies to adults as well, visiting with other adults or on your phone outside. Of course sitting in your car is ok. Otherwise come inside Cornelius Hall when you arrive. Parent Safety Marshalls please be aware of this and direct students and adults inside.

HOUSEKEEPING AT REHEARSALS –

With the large number of band members' instruments, we need to maximize our instrument storage space. There are reminder signs on either side of the kitchen door.

Cadet and Senior cases should go on/under tables to the right of the kitchen with Junior and Symphonic to the left of the kitchen

- Cases must be closed AND latched with stand cases inside.
Cases should be set neatly on or under a table, **next to each other**, generally parallel to the short end of the table. They should be standing on their narrow edge to maximize storage space
- Long cases (bass clarinet) and large cases with round ends (such as tuba, baritone, trombone) should stand on end along the window wall near the storage closet.

There should be no instruments or cases on the open floor near the bathroom.

There should be no instruments or cases near or in front of the closet doors across from the front tables.

BAND BUDDY SYSTEM – We have a Band Buddy System where experienced families answer questions from new families and help them as needed to navigate their way through the system so the band experience is not so overwhelming. Sign up at the front table to get a buddy or be a buddy.

PRACTICE REPORTS ARE IMPORTANT

All band members, wind and percussion, are to use this form for reporting **each week's** (not daily) practice, throughout the year. The form requires both the student's name and a parent's signature. Be sure to include first and last names. See **Forms/Documents** for the WSHSB PRACTICE REPORT. Suggested practice times are in the Handbook.

Print off copies now, cut the strips apart and put them in an envelope. Keep them in your music folder so you have one ready every week.

Practice reports serve a variety of purposes. An important one applies to auditions. Close points can make it difficult when determining chair positions. The directors will refer to the practice reports in their decision-making process. It is in your best interest to turn in a weekly practice report.

Practice hours will be tallied and the three highest from each band, including Cadet, will be published in the respective concert program. **The required parent signature tells us you agree with and accept the practice time reported.**

BAND APPAREL ORDER – All ordering will be done online. Soon you will be provided a link to a secure site for placing place your order. The company has been in business since 1965. We ordered through them last year and everyone was very pleased with the merchandise. There will be pictures and size charts for the available items. Online orders will be taken through the deadline TBA.

JACKET AND PANTS FITTING

We hold a jacket and pants fitting *only once a year*. The jackets are for Symphonic members while the pants are available for any band member. After this one and only fitting opportunity everything is packed away and not accessible. This year's fitting date is **Tuesday, November 12, 7:30 - 8:30 pm**. **YOU WILL NEED TO SIGN-UP IF COMING**. The sign-up sheet is at the front table.

The director wishes to emphasize that the band has over 100 pairs of pants to lend. Whether for concerts or looking ahead to marching, you should think about this now as November 12 is the only fitting date. This fitting happens annually. If you are concerned you might need a larger size later in the year she said you can take two pair. You need to sign-up to try them on, on November 12.

REGARDING LATE ARRIVALS

Late arrivals should be rare, but if you do arrive late and are not in your seat, either while attendance is being taken or after it has been completed, you will be marked absent unless you do the following. Check in with the attendance taker if you see a red stop sign standing up, which says "**STOP, CHECK IN WITH ATTENDANCE**." If there is no red stop sign then just continue on your way.

HEARING PROTECTION

For those who are interested, there are ear plugs which are specifically designed for musicians. They reduce the sound level by 20 decibels but still allow you to hear clearly.

A good number of band members have worn these every week in band for years (and other loud events like football games and movies). They're comfortable and effective. The drum and bugle corps and college bands now issue them to all their members.

They sell for \$13.95 on the ETYMOTIC website and here's a link for Amazon [Etymotic High Fidelity Earplugs](#).

MUSIC LINKS FOR ALL THREE BANDS

A document containing links for the Winter Concert songs should be emailed to all families this week. This is much earlier than usual ;>)

MUSIC –INSTRUMENT-REPAIR SHOPS

This document has been updated and can be found on our FORMS/OCUMENTS page

PRIVATE MUSIC INSTRUCTOR LIST

This document is being updated and will be emailed to all families since it contains personal information. It should be ready by October 3.

STUDENT COACHES AND MENTORS

Our Private Music Instructor List also contains names and contact information for Student Coaches.

COACHES are band members willing to help/coach others on their instrument. Fees, if required, would be discussed and paid privately between the parties involved. This assistance could be for any reason; to learn how to play better, correct trouble spots, prepare for auditions, etc. It's up to you. Interested, experienced musicians may add their name to the list of potential coaches.

If you wish to add your name to the list of coaches, email Mrs. Mergen before October 1. After that she will finalize the updated document and email to all families.

MENTORS are different from coaches

This is for students (a.) who want to ask someone about rhythm(s), music notation, notes etc. and students/mentors (b.) willing to help those in group (a.) This is different from Music Coaches and lessons in that it won't necessarily be routine and there will be no cost to those in group (a.) It is like the band buddy program we have for adults, but this is on the student level.

If you need some help, ask to see the list of mentors at the front table.

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY FOR DOUBLE REEDS

One of the oboe/English horn teachers on our Private Music List, Mrs. Lisa Larsen, shared the following: I am excited to share that I will once again be co-hosting the University of Illinois Double Reed Faculty as they visit the area this fall. This year's event will be **Tuesday, November 5** at Bethany Lutheran Church, 1550 Modaff Rd, Naperville. The time is still TBD, but expect it to be somewhere in the 5-7pm range.

This is a totally FREE event,

For those who have not attended in the past, the evening will begin with a short faculty performance, Q&A time, a masterclass for oboes in one space and bassoons in another, and will wrap up by gathering all students together for a mass double reed ensemble.

If you want to know more, email Mrs. Mergen and she will send the complete details to you.