



COUGAR COURIER

ISSUE 9
APRIL 2018

GOALS FOR APRIL

Happy April and Spring Break! Last month we started our spring cleaning by working on technique. To continue our cleaning focus on your musicality and phrasing.

Start to think about the beginnings of phrases. Ask yourself these questions: "How should I articulate the first note?" "Should I start the phrase strong or gentle?" "Where is the phrase going?"

Remember to **USE A METRONOME** and slowly increase the tempo if you cannot play a phrase accurately. As Mr. Hofmann says, "Play the exercise three times in a row without messing up before you increase the speed!"

Pro tip: try playing a phrase multiple different ways and see which version you like the best!

Remember even 15 minutes a day is better than nothing

CURRENT NEWS

Due to an extra zero the district has ordered 30 new Sousaphones for the Marching Cougars. In the fall **ALL STUDENTS** will be required to perform on sousaphone throughout the 2018-2019 season.... APRIL FOOLS!! On the more serious side, April is the month where we look to recruit new members and work towards a great concert season.

All the MIOSM performances went extremely well and to all the students who were involved, "Brava!"

AS A REMINDER

There is a **New & Returning Member** / Band Parent meeting April 5th at 6:30.

Directors Notes:

Congratulations to Sarah Koviack and Mattie Reed for making the PMEA All-State Festival! Sarah was selected for the PMEA All-State Concert Band and Mattie was selected for the PMEA All-State Orchestra.



WHATS HAPPENING THIS MONTH

IMPORTANT DATES

- Apr. 5 – Leadership Meeting (5-6pm)
- Apr. 5 – New/Returning Member/Band Parent Meeting (6:30pm)
- Apr. 6 – Performance at WBS Penguins game (Report 5 pm)
- Apr. 13 – Trip Payment Due
- Apr. 14 – PME Jazz Festival (TBA)
- Apr. 18-21 – PMEA State Conference
- Apr. 24 – HAAH Showcase (6-8pm)
- Apr. 26 – Leadership Auditions (TBA)
- Apr. 28 – HAHS Jazz Clinic (1 pm)

OH!! One more thing,
remember the old saying
April Practice bring May
Skills... or something like
that?

LINKS

[Marching Cougar Handbook](#)

[Absent Request Form](#)

[Charms Access](#)

[Remind Text Message Access Code](#)

Criminal Record Check is available online:

<http://epatch.state.pa.us>

Child Abuse History Clearance is available online:
<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/findaform/childabusehistoryclearanceforms/>

Federal Background Check is available online:

<https://www.identogo.com/locations/pennsylvania>

Important Dates: Winter Color Guard

Apr. 3 – Rehearsal (6-8pm)
Apr. 5 – Rehearsal (6-8pm)
Apr. 10 – Rehearsal (6-8pm)
Apr. 12 – Rehearsal (6-8pm)
Apr. 14 – Performance at Blue Mountain (Report 1:30 pm)
Apr. 17 – Rehearsal (6-8pm)
Apr. 19 – Rehearsal (6-8pm)
Apr. 21 – Performance at Salisbury (Report 12:30 pm)
Apr. 24 – Rehearsal (6-8pm)

Important Dates: Pit Band

Apr. 4 – Pit Rehearsal with Cast (4 – 6 pm)
Apr. 5 – Pit Rehearsal with Cast (4 – 6 pm)
Apr. 9 – Production Run (6 - 10 pm)
Apr. 10 – Production Run (6 - 10 pm)
Apr. 11 – Production Run (6 - 10 pm)
Apr. 12 – Musical Performance (Report 6 pm)
Apr. 13 – Musical Performance (Report 6 pm)
Apr. 14 – Musical Performance (Report 6 pm)
Apr. 15 – Musical Performance (Report 2 pm)

**Report Times listed above are subject to change. Please keep an eye on the remind messages for accurate times / any new events.

VOLUNTEER

Volunteering is an important part of our program. Even though the season is over it does not mean there are not opportunities for you to help. Please visit our website and sign-up to help the band out*.

How to Get to the Volunteer Page: Click [this Link](#) and then click the Volunteer Tab and roll over Volunteer Needs. Also the FBI Clearance has changed! If you have a current FBI clearance there is nothing to worry about, but it/when it expires the process is a little different. Please see the link on the left labeled “Federal Background Check” for more information

*Please keep in mind that some of the volunteer opportunities require clearances.

Mr. Stefanko: stefankoj@hasdk12.org

Mr. Hofmann: hofmannj@hasdk12.org