



GOALS FOR MAY

Happy May! Last month we continued our spring cleaning by working on phrase production. To continue our cleaning focus on your tone this month.

Your tone on your instrument is very important. No matter what you're playing, tone can make you sound like a professional or a 4th grader. One way to work on your tone is to play music expressively! Never play music without expression (even when practicing!) Start by playing long tones and notice all the little nuances in your sound. Ask yourself "Does it sound thin or full? Does it sound in tune? Is it pinched or open? Do I like the sound?"

Remember to **USE A METRONOME** and slowly increase the tempo. As Mr. Hofmann says, "Play the exercise three times in a row without messing up before you increase the speed!"

Pro tip: Keep in mind that what you hear while playing your instrument is different

CURRENT NEWS

May is the month of concerts and parades! Please look at the dates below so they do not sneak up on you. We will keep you posted via the Remind, but stay proactive about upcoming events not reactive.

NEW YORK CITY HERE WE COME! It's the beginning of May, which means our band trip is **HERE**. Remember to pack all the essentials: Toothbrush, fresh underwear, band shirt, socks, good walking shoes, and most importantly **DEODORANT/SHAMPOO/SOAP!**

AS A REMINDER

There is a **new member**/returning member marching demo day is **May 31st**.



WHATS HAPPENING THIS MONTH

IMPORTANT DATES

- May. 2-5 – Band Trip to New York!
- May. 4 – PMEA Band Fest (Elementary/Middle School ONLY)
- May. 6 – Help Stop the Silence Walk (12pm-3pm, Report 11am)
- May. 10 – Band Booster Meeting (6:30pm)
- May 11 – Chorus Fest(Elementary/Middle School ONLY)
- May 14 – Gallery Night (6-7:30pm, Report 5:45)
- May 19 –All American Girls Softball Performance(10-11am, Report 9:30)
- May 22 – Symphonic Band Concert (Report 6:15p)
- May 27 – White Haven Parade (11-2:30pm, Report 11am)
- May 27 – Freeland Parade (3:30pm)
- May 28 – Beaver Meadows (7:30-11am)
- May 29 – Solo / Small Ensemble Concert (6pm)
- May 31 – New/Returning Marching Band Demo Day (4-5:30pm)

than what other people hear. Try recording yourself. This is the best way to hear what an audience hears!

Remember even 15 minutes a day is better than nothing

OH!! Here is a riddle:

April showers bring May flowers, but what do May flowers bring?

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>

Winter Guard Dates:

May 8 – Rehearsal (6-8pm)

May 10 – Rehearsal (6-8pm)

May 15 – Rehearsal (6-8pm)

May 17 – Rehearsal (6-8pm)

May 22 – Performance at the HS ([Report TBA](#), [Perform TBA](#))

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

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