



Greece Marching Band Blue Knights

The "Blue Knights" Express

April 1, 2008

The Director's Corner

Congratulations on another fantastic week of rehearsals. I am so pleased that after only six rehearsals, we are able to put the entire parade tune together. We were also able to start the national anthems, which sound great now that we have a nice, full brass and woodwind section.

I am also excited to be starting the new Asset of the Week program within our band. Many thanks go out to Ashley Krueger and Brittany LaRocque (10th graders, ARHS) for their initiative and assistance with getting it started. This program shows in yet another way how marching band is not about the destination, but it's about the journey!

Hopefully the weather will turn in the next week or two and we can start getting outside and doing what a marching band is supposed to do...MARCH. Also, just so everyone knows, I will be confirming everyone's school and grade this week, so that I can send a confirmation email to the band director's of the district, allowing them to check on everyone's attendance in band. Please make sure that marching band does not get in the way of your work in band during the school day! Be a role model in school, and that way your teachers will see how much you value marching band and music in general. Keep up the good work, gang!

Rehearsals left before performance...

5

(Mighty St. Joes on 4/26)

Welcome to Rochester!

Preparing for a parade season is not easy when the weather does not cooperate. However, there are ways to work around it, both in and out of rehearsal, to make sure that we are as prepared as we can be!

When you are practicing your music at home, make sure that you are adhering to the following details:

- 1.) Always practice standing and not sitting. It will help your muscles build endurance.
- 2.) Make sure that all of your music is memorized, with the details like dynamics, sticking and proper breaths included.
- 3.) Mark time, or better yet, move around while you play. Even if it makes a small circle in your bedroom, it is better than nothing.
- 4.) Even when you think you are satisfied with how you are playing, always try to make something better or more precise.

Taking care of these details at home will better our chances as a group of looking great, even if we do not have too many opportunities to get outside before the first parade.

Remember, people are watching us all the time. We want to make sure we are always representing ourselves in a positive manner and showing the world how great the Greece Marching Band Blue Knights really are!

Important stuff to know

- ◆ The deadline for commitment **nt** has come and gone. Please make sure that all of your **forms are turned in and your registration money** is turned in to the parent boosters.
- ◆ Remember that if you are a new member, please keep in mind you will need to **buy marching shoes and gloves** (approximately \$27 total for band, \$35-\$40 for guard). More information about that will be coming home soon!
- ◆ **Uniform fitting** began tonight and will continue this Thursday, April 3rd. Please wear black socks, shorts and a t-shirt when you are going to be fitted. This will make sure we get the most accurate measurements.
- ◆ As the weather changes, it can still be quite nippy when we go outside. Please make sure to **dress for the weather**.
- ◆ The **Lottery Raffle and Candy Sale** fundraiser will be starting soon. Be paying attention for details.
- ◆ Calling all parents, the Boosters are looking for more parents to **help sew flags and uniforms**. Please contact Lisa Murphy about Volunteering!
- ◆ All of the latest information can be found on the marching band website. **www.greecemarchingband.org**.
- ◆ If you need to be **absent** for a rehearsal, you **MUST** email Mr. Hoffman as soon as possible to let him know at **greecemarchingband@hotmail.com**.
- ◆ **Asset winners of the week:** James Weiser, Eddie Rogers, Connor Ray
- ◆ **This week's asset:** Positive Peer Influence!

Greece Marching Band

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This Week's Schedule

Thursday, April 3rd

Rehearsal at West Ridge: 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Color Guard starts at 6:15pm

Tuesday, April 8th

Rehearsal at West Ridge: 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Color Guard starts at 6:15pm

Upcoming Events

Sat, April 26th – Mighty St. Joe's Alumni Corps
Indoor show at Apollo. We perform at 7:00pm sharp.
Dress rehearsal will be from 12:00-1:00pm. You need to be back for the performance by 5:45pm.

Sat, May 10th – Lilac Festival Parade in Downtown Rochester. Details TBA. This usually happens around 10:00am and we report to WR by 8:00am.

Mon, May 26th – Memorial Day Parade in Greece. We typically march at 2:00pm.

Thur, June 26th – Barnard Parade in the evening. Times and details TBD.

Aug 18-22, 2008 – Mandatory Band Camp for anyone marching in the fall season.

Booster Contact Information

Connie LaRocque, President
865-4377 or President@greecemarchingband.org

Contact any Executive Board member via the website:

www.greecemarchingband.org

Please feel free to ask any questions or provide any feedback that you have to Mr. Hoffman or one of the parent boosters. We are more than happy to address any concerns. You can email Mr. Hoffman at greecemarchingband@hotmail.com or call him at 966.4675.