Good evening everyone,

Here is the first of my 2022 (Somewhat) Weekly Updates! I try to make them regularly on either Monday or Tuesday once the school year starts, but sometimes the note doesn’t make it out until later in the week.

I have some bulleted items of information below, which is the usual format for these notes, but before I went into the info I just wanted to share how proud I am of your kids and how hard they’re working this year! We’ve experienced minimal discipline issues, the kids are mostly prepared, and they seem excited about the season!

**PICNIC**

The annual “Yay, Band Camp’s ½ Way Done!” Picnic will be held tomorrow, **Fri, July 22, from 12:30p-3:00p, at Hampden Park** (the one next to the Hampden Pool). We will be in the upper pavilion away from the playground equipment. The kids were made aware of it earlier in the week, and that it would cost $5 (to cover pizza). So far 15 students have given me their payment***. I will gladly accept payment tomorrow morning; they just need to tell me tonight if they plan to attend or not*** so I know how much pizza to order. If your student wants to attend but won’t eat pizza, they don’t need to bring me anything…just attend! 😊

Students/parents are ALSO encouraged to [visit this link](https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/70a044eadac23a4f49-band) to volunteer to bring items like chips, cookies, desserts, etc. Thanks so Drum Major Zach for putting this sign-up together!

This is an annual picnic we host to give the kids a chance to blow off some steam and have some fun! Bring your favorite game, slip ‘n slide, kickball, what-have-you. Parents are permitted to attend, of course, but this isn’t a real formal thing; just a chance for kids to have some fun! 😊

**PARENT PREVIEW**

This year’s Parent Preview Performance will be held on Thursday, August 4th, evening (location and exact time TBD). You get to see some of the things your students have been working on all summer, meet their friends, and their staff, find out how you can volunteer with the WONDERFUL CV Band Boosters, and enjoy some yummy food! More info on that will be coming.

**INDIA DAY PERFORMANCE**

On Saturday, August 6, we will be participating in India Day to be held on the Harrisburg campus of Harrisburg Area Community College. Exact timing and details will be sent out next week, but for planning purposes, we will take school buses to the performance, which will take place in the later morning/early afternoon. We will perform “Crazy In Love” for the parade, to make life a little easier for ourselves. 😊 We should have a band truck to transport instruments/flags. We will then take buses back to CVHS, unload, and everyone will be free to go!

This is a required performance for all band members, both musicians and color guard. If your student is unable to attend, and you haven’t already done so, please send me an email so I know what to plan for.

**DCI TRIP CANCELED**

This year’s group trip to DCI East on Fri, August 5, has been canceled. We will not rehearse/meet at all that day. Students/families are encouraged to attend on their own, of course! Things have changed from a CVSD transportation standpoint since the last time we did this trip and I wasn’t aware of some of the extra hurdles. Next year, though, Allentown, here we come! 😊

**DOT BOOKS**

You have may have heard your student mention something about a “dot book.” This is a small notebook (dimensions are about 3”x5” or so), usually spiral-bound, where students keep track of their “dots” on the field. This will be very important for students to have in order to learn drill (how they move around the field). They can be purchased anywhere you can buy office supplies. It’s also very helpful to have a spare shoestring as a strap when they’re on the field.

**FALL REHEARSAL SCHEDULE CHANGES?**

This fall brings about potential changes to the regular rehearsal schedule. For instance, Dr. Jesse Rawls, the new Principal of CVHS, has let us know that Back to School Night will be held Thursday evening, August 25. This means we will move rehearsal that evening to Wednesday, August 24th. There will be other changes throughout the fall, either due to building dates that have just recently been scheduled, or due to rehearsing mainly at Chapman Field (JV games are held some Monday evenings)! I will be working at updating the calendar and sharing those updates with you in the near future.

**DISNEY/SCHOOLOGY**

Lots of questions have arisen regarding the HS Music Dept. trip to Orlando, FL, as well as Schoology access. For those of you who are new to CVSD, Schoology is our Learning Management System, or LMS. It’s the primary place where teachers share information with students, sometimes even administering assessments using its platform. It is also the district’s preferred method of communication for teachers. It is due to this position that we, as a department, have chosen to utilize Schoology for sharing information regarding the trip. Mr. Griffith has been doing an awesome job of organizing this trip thus far, including communicating information when he receives it.

IF YOU/YOUR STUDENT ARE NOT ENROLLED IN THIS GROUP AND WOULD LIKE TO BE, please login to Schoology, click on Groups, and in the search bar type inGNTS-RT7T-3KCB3. This way you’ll be in the know re: all things CV Disney! 😊 If you do not have a Schoology login, please [visit this link](https://www.cvschools.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=1043457&pageId=3250052#Schoology) to the CVSD website for more information.

Once the school year starts, we plan to host an evening meeting of all trip attendees to go over all the important details.

**ECHOES IN THE VALLEY, 50TH ANNIVERSARY!**

This year marks 50 years since the very first Echoes in the Valley, held in 1972. We have 13 high school bands signed up so far (which is GREAT!), and some fun celebrations in the works. Keep your eyes peeled for details on how you can be a part of this event!

**THIS YEAR’S GROUP…**

Is comprised of 27 woodwinds, 22 brass, 20 percussion, 1 drum major, and 28 color guard, bringing us to 98 students! This is a 10% increase from last year’s membership, and it places us back in the Patriot Division (91+ performing members). If you know of anyone who still wants to join, IT’S NOT TOO LATE! We need students for the front ensemble (or pit) percussion. These are non-marching students who perform on marimba, vibraphone, synthesizer, and accessory percussion. Interested folks should send me a note!

That’s it for now, folks! Congrats, you made it to the end! 😊 Your kids are doing a fantastic job, and I’m happy to be able to work with them again this year!

Sincerely,

~Mr. P.~