



OWEN J. ROBERTS "WILDCAT" BANDS

Todd R. Mengel, Director

www.ojrhsband.com

2021 SUMMER BAND INFORMATION PACKET

Dear "Wildcat" Marching Unit Member and Parent:

Our 2021 marching band season is coming up fast and my staff and I have been busy preparing for it. The purpose of this packet is to pass along some important information and to share some thoughts about our upcoming season.

2021 SEASON: This season and this whole year will be a fantastic one for the OJR Band! We are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the OJR Cavalcade this fall, and we will be traveling to Disneyworld and Universal Studios in Florida next spring!

FIELD SHOW AND MUSIC: Since we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of the first OJR Cavalcade in 1971, we wanted to do a show that in some way paid tribute to and/or reflected the music of the time period. What better way to do that than with some **Earth, Wind, & Fire!** We're calling the show ***Groovin'*** and it's going to be FUN, BIG, COLORFUL, and LOUD – a perfect fit for our band. I'm very sure that we will once again be the audience favorite this fall. All band members are required to learn the parts and have them prepared & memorized by the time we start band camp. All of you should have received copies of the music before school ended. If you don't have music to practice, please go to our band website (www.ojrhsband.com) and go to the '2021 Show Page' where you will find all of the parts posted for you to print out. You can also find a recording of the show on that same page on our website.

In addition to the show music, we also have lots of stand songs to learn and the national anthem. **Please bring all stand music and flip folders to every practice!!!**

SUMMER PRACTICES & BAND CAMP: All of you were sent a copy of our summer practice schedule before school ended so that you could plan your summer accordingly. Attached here is another copy along with our fall performance schedule. (These schedules can also be viewed on our band website at any time.) (***Reminder that band camp starts at 2:00pm each day.***) You will be given a dinner break each day from approximately 5:30pm to 6:00pm. Please bring along something to eat and **plenty to drink**. You are all required to stay on campus during the dinner break, so please plan accordingly.

Here's a list of other items you should bring with you each day:

- **SNEAKERS – No other shoes are acceptable for practice, except your Dinkles and I doubt you want to wear those!**
- **INSTRUMENTS AND MUSIC**
- **BASEBALL CAP AND SUNGLASSES**
- **PENCILS TO MARK YOUR MUSIC WITH**
- **PLENTY TO DRINK AND EAT**

Remember, band camp is absolutely mandatory. It is critical that we get as much done in those weeks as we can, so we need to have everyone in attendance. **For those of you with jobs, please give your employers your band schedules now and make arrangements with them now so you're not surprising them with your band schedule in August.** Don't wait until the week before to do these important things – arrange them now. If you are absent from any portion of band camp it doesn't just make it harder for you to learn the show, it makes it harder for all of the people in your section to learn their spots on the field with people missing – and that's not fair to the people who ARE there. YOU CHOSE TO BE PART OF A GROUP THAT RELIES ON YOU AND YOUR ATTENDANCE IS CRITICAL AND EXPECTED!




ATTENDANCE POLICY: Our attendance policy is outlined in the BAND HANDBOOK which is posted on our band website. You are expected to be at all practices and performances of the marching band, but we do have a system and procedure in place to request absences when needed. Please take the time to review our attendance policy which is designed to promote effective communication and record-keeping of marching band attendance at rehearsals and performances. It is also my hope that everyone realizes we do not practice nearly as much as most other high school marching bands, and we have come up with a very minimal practice schedule out of respect to you and your time so that you can schedule other things and be a part of other groups, teams, clubs, etc. This means, however, that missing even just one or two practices (of an already light practice schedule) is a bigger deal than it would be otherwise, both to you and to the band. Please do your absolute best to schedule other events, activities, doctor/dentist appointments, etc. around your marching band schedule.


MARCHING UNIT HANDBOOK: To save paper, our marching band handbook is now posted online on the band website: www.ojrhsband.com under the “Handbook” tab in the menu. Every marching unit member must complete the “Contract and Acknowledgement” form found at the back of this packet indicating that you have viewed the handbook online and that you understand and accept the rules and policies of the OJR band.

MEDICAL FORM: All marching band members must complete the medical form found at the back of this packet and return to Mr. Mengel in the band room at the start of band camp. Parents are asked to notify the band director if there are any changes or updates as they occur.


BAND PHOTO: This year we are once again planning to take the band group photo during the annual “Fall Preview Night” on Friday, Aug. 20th. Also, we will take individual shots of everyone in your uniforms like we did last year and you will have an opportunity to purchase the photo if you choose to.



T-SHIRTS: We will again require each one of you to purchase a T-shirt that will go along with our show theme. The purpose of the shirts, as most of you remember from years past, is to wear them under your uniform to performances. Then, you can take off your uniform jackets to cool off after we perform and still be in a uniform appearance. Information on shirt orders and payments will be sent to everyone in July.



SHOES: All band members are required to wear black marching shoes. For freshmen, if your shoes from middle school band still fit and are in decent shape you can continue to wear them with the high school band until you feel it is time for new ones. If any of you would like a brand new pair of shoes, you will be sent a link to an online store set up specifically for our band where you can purchase shoes along with other items. The link, along with additional information, will be sent to all of you at a later time, closer to the start of band camp. *(We also have a limited quantity of used shoes in various sizes that are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Cost for used shoes is \$10.00 per pair.)*



GLOVES: All band members who play a wind instrument will need a pair of gloves to use for our performances when the weather gets cooler, typically around the beginning of October each fall. If you still have your gloves from last year, you are welcome to use them again this year instead of purchasing a new pair. If you need a new pair of gloves at any time throughout the season, the cost is \$5.00 per pair – cash is fine for this payment.

UNIFORMS: The band uniform consists of the uniform top, black pants, sleeve gauntlets, black shoes & socks, black gloves, hat & plume. You are responsible for keeping your uniform cleaned at all times. A weekly inspection will take place before performances and you will be unable to perform if any part of your uniform is dirty or missing! Please refer to the attached page from our uniform committee for more details on how to care for your band uniform.

UNIFORM FITTING: Uniform fittings will take place during band camp. Each student and parent will receive an email later this summer from our uniform committee with a scheduled time for your uniform fitting. If the scheduled time is not convenient, or if there are any problems or questions, please contact the head of our OJR parent uniform committee – Mrs. Danielle Blackledge at: blackledge1@comcast.net

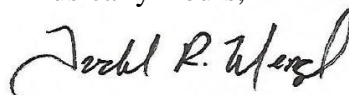
FALL PREVIEW – ALL PARENTS INVITED: **Fall Preview** is the kick off to our season and is tentatively scheduled for **Friday, August 20th at 6 pm** in the stadium. PARENTS AND FAMILIES OF ALL BAND MEMBERS ARE INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO COME OUT FOR THIS TRADITIONAL START TO THE FALL SEASON. This is a FUN night and a great way to meet other parents and get a sense of how our terrific program is run. The High School Band will be performing their show and the Middle School Band will also perform their fall music selections. Parents will have the opportunity to sign up for various volunteer committees to help us out throughout the school year. **Fall Preview** is the best way to come out and see why the OJR band program is the pride of OJR!

OJR BAND WEBSITE / E-MAIL / COMMUNICATION: The easiest and quickest way for all of you and your parents to find any band-related information you need is to visit our band's website: www.ojrhsband.com. The website will be updated regularly with schedules, schedule changes, dates, reminders, etc. I will also continue to email my regular band updates which I like to call "Mengel's Minders". These updates will go to all band members and parents of band members providing that I have a current email address on file, so please update me whenever your email addresses change. For those of you who prefer not to use email, I always print out some hard copies and they are available on the band bulletin board (across from the soda machine) for you to take.

MPO WEBSITE: Our terrific OJR band parents have their own website. The address is www.ojrbandmpo.com. There is a calendar which is updated regularly and there are lots and lots of great photos of the band from our performances each week. Of course there is plenty of information on how you can volunteer with the MPO and support the band.

I think that's about it for now. I know that's a lot of information, but I wanted to keep everyone well-informed. I hope you're as excited as my staff and I for our upcoming season. Of course the most important ingredient in our success is all of you. I know I can count on you to come to band camp well prepared and with a good attitude. Call me if you have any questions. See you soon!

Musically Yours,



Todd R. Mengel,
Director of Bands
610-469-5349
tmengel@ojrsd.net

P.S. – Please don't forget to complete both the Medical Forms and the Contract and Acknowledgement Form found at the back of this packet and return to Mr. Mengel in the band room as soon as possible.

2021 “*WILDCAT*” MARCHING UNIT

BAND SUMMER PRACTICE SCHEDULE

BRASS & WOODWIND SECTIONALS:

- TUESDAY, JULY 20th (10:00am to 12:00pm)
- TUESDAY, JULY 27th (10:00am to 12:00pm)
- TUESDAY, AUG 3rd (10:00am to 12:00pm)

FRESHMAN DAY:

(For ALL freshman and/or newcomers to the band)

- THURSDAY, AUG 5th (9:00am to 12:00pm)

BAND CAMP:

- AUGUST 9th through 13th (2pm to 8:30pm): All Units
- AUGUST 16th through 20th (2pm to 8:30pm): All Units
- AUG. 24th (5:30pm to 8:30pm): All Units
- AUG. 26th (5:30pm to 8:30pm): All Units

COLORGUARD AND PERCUSSION WILL HAVE THEIR OWN SEPARATE REHEARSALS PRIOR TO BAND CAMP. THOSE SCHEDULES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED BY THE COLORGUARD AND PERCUSSION INSTRUCTORS.

All Rehearsals are mandatory. Please keep in mind that your attendance is critical, particularly at band camp. We cannot learn the show without you there! If you chose to be a member of the marching band, then you are expected to make a commitment to being at all functions. Please contact either Mr. Mengel or your instructor ahead of time with any problems you may encounter with the schedule.

2021 “WILDCAT” MARCHING UNIT

FALL PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

(Draft #2 – 5/6/21)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>FUNCTION</u>	<u>REPORT</u>	<u>APPROXIMATE RETURN/FINISH</u>
Aug. 27	Away Game (Conestoga)	4:30 pm	10:30 pm
Sept. 3	Home Game (Wissahickon)	5:15 pm	9:45 pm
Sept. 10	Home Game (Avon Grove)	5:15 pm	9:45 pm
Sept. 17	Away Game (Reading – Albright Stadium)	4:30 pm	10:45 pm
Sept. 18	CAVALCADE (Exeter)	TBA	TBA
Sept. 24	Away Game (Boyertown)	4:45 pm	10:15 pm
Oct. 1	Home Game (Methacton)	5:15 pm	10:00 pm
Oct. 2	HOME CAVALCADE (OJR BAND CAVALCADE)	TBA	TBA
Oct. 8	Away Game (Perk Valley)	4:45 pm	10:30 pm
Oct. 9	CAVALCADE (Penncrest)	TBA	TBA
Oct. 15	Home Game (Norristown) <i>HOMECOMING</i>	5:15 pm	9:45 pm

<u>DATE</u>	<u>FUNCTION</u>	<u>REPORT</u>	<u>APPROXIMATE RETURN/FINISH</u>
Oct. 20	HALLOWEEN PARADE (Elverson) <i>Rain Date Oct. 21ST</i>	5:00 pm	9:00 pm
Oct. 23	Away Game (Springford) <i>Afternoon Game</i>	11:45 am	5:30 pm
Oct. 29	Home Game (Opponent TBD) <i>Senior Parent Night</i>	5:15pm	9:45pm
Oct. 30	CAVALCADE - PAMBC FINALE (J.P. McCaskey)	TBA	TBA
Nov. 6	<i>Rain Date for McCaskey Cavalcade</i>	TBA	TBA
Nov. 9	Marching Band BANQUET (High School Cafeteria / Auditorium)	6:00 pm	

Please Note: All times listed are tentative at this point. Cavalcade times are listed as “TBA” or “To Be Announced”, but will generally involve a late-morning practice, followed by a meal together at OJR in the afternoon before we leave for the cavalcade in the evening.



OJR WILDCAT MARCHING BAND!!!

Welcome Letter From YOUR 2021 Drum Majors

A Letter to All:

We want to welcome you all to your 2021 marching band season, full of fun and exciting events! Although our 2020 marching band season was not what we hoped for, we want this year to make up for all that lacked last year. It is hard to believe that this season is only two months away, although it sounds sooooo far away, football games are just around the corner. We are going to have so much fun, HOWEVER, we will need your help to make this year the best that it can be! In order to make this show truly Groovy we will need your full attention and support. Although this year may consist of long hot hours of hard work, it will all pay off. Without your dedication, we as a band will not be able to succeed. Our band works so hard each year to create an unforgettable show, that even the folks down in Disney will not be able to forget. Oh did we not mention that, WE ARE GOING TO DISNEYYYYYY!!! We are so excited to take this show down to Disney and cannot wait to create so many lasting memories with all of you. Congratulations on making it through such a hard year, we can not wait to see you and your smiling faces!

To the Seniors: Howdy Seniors! Well, we've made it this far and if all goes well over these next couple of months, it will be a "normal" (if we can call anything having to do with marching band normal) season to round out our high school marching band careers! We have an awesome Earth, Wind, and Fire show planned and hopefully last season's sneak peek of September pumped you up for a great year. As Seniors, this year is extra-special for a few important reasons. You set the example FOR THE ENTIRE BAND. The younger band members totally look up to you to know what to do and how to do it (think back to when you were freshmen and sophomores and were looking for someone to help you). Also, this is your last high school marching band season so let's all agree to make the absolute best of it. Have fun, work super hard, play with the most pride ever, and then have some more fun. Oh, and yeah...DISNEYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYY! Time to make some memories!

To the Juniors: OMG we are finally upperclassmen woo woo! (*round of applause*) Congrats on making it this far, we are through half of our high school career :) Coming off not going to Disney our freshman year (RIP), and then getting a super weird year this year (also maybe a RIP, idk the season was pretty good tbh but anyways) it is finally time for us to get to relish in an amazing (HOPEFULLY NORMAL) year of band!!! The spirits might be low from all that has happened, but we need to make sure to bring our A game to this amazing show! Also, like Disney, come on, DISNEY! Earth, Wind, and Fire is a group that brought excitement and entertainment, which is what we need to pull out this year. It's gonna be hard to bring all that energy, but you all have to be bored of sitting at home and doing nothing by now. Let's make sure to bring our funky fresh 70s style and energy this year, and it is sure to turn out to be something amazing! (*cue disco dance moves*)

To the Sophomores: You made it through your first year woooooo! We hope you all had a blast and are thankful that you chose to come back for another amazing year! We are planning so many fun things this year, so hopefully it will be even better than the last. Although y'all are still underclassmen, we need you to play out and have fun with the music to make sure that we sound amazing this season. It is going to be so much fun this year and remember we even get to have a blast in DISNEY*cheering* Earth, Wind, and Fire brought the energy, and we know that you guys can too! Bring your best 70s dance moves and playing ability this year to make sure the show is full of energy. Let's bring our funky moves and fresh style and make this year a show to remember!!!

To the Freshman:

HEYOOOOO Freshmannnnn, our little freshies <3, we are so excited to welcome you to the high school. As your first experience of high school we want to make marching band a fun and safe experience for all of you. Where you can make lifelong friendships that you will never forget. Although this will be different from middle school, we will make the transition as easy as possible! This year is focused on Earth, Wind and fire, a very upbeat and entertaining music group that ruled the 70's. We will need your full attention and readiness to learn in order to make this an unforgettable first high school experience. Although high school may seem scary and full of a lot of hard work, it will all pay off and fly by as soon as you know it. Enjoy every moment of being in this incredible band!!!

This year's show is going to be so amazing because we know everyone is gonna put everything they have into making this show spectacular! With your hard work, dedication, and energy, the band can make a comeback and show just how little COVID has affected us all. We as your drum majors wanna thank you in advance for participating in the band and joining our wonderful family! We cannot wait to make it to Disney with all of you!! Let's make it a banger this year and take our funky fresh moves across the field and right down to Disney ;) See you all at the start of the season <333

Yours Truly,
The 2021 Drum Majors:
Lauren Meinhart
Mack Grant
Lauren Bodor



OJR MARCHING BAND

CONTRACT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

(Due at Beginning of Band Camp)

To save paper, we no longer print out copies of the marching band handbook. The handbook can be viewed on our band website: www.ojrhsband.com. Please sign and return this form acknowledging that you have viewed the handbook online and are aware of all policies and expectations of marching band membership.

I acknowledge that I have read the 2021/2022 marching band handbook (handbook can be found on the band website at: www.ojrhsband.com). I pledge to adhere to all policies and guidelines outlined in the handbook and to contribute to the marching band in a positive way. I understand the consequences and/or penalties if I do not.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

PLEASE NOTE: This contract, along with the medical form, must be signed and returned before you will be permitted to perform or travel with the marching unit.

OWEN J. ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: FIELD TRIP AND MEDICAL
AUTHORIZATION CONSENT
FORM

ADOPTED: 7/26/04

REVISED: 6/9/14

Medical Authorization Consent Form for Field Trips

Student's Name (Please Print, Last Name First)	Date of Birth	Grade/Teacher
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As parent(s)/guardian(s) of the above student, permission is granted for this student to attend the Owen J. Roberts field trip to 2021 / 2022 Marching Band Performances taking place on _____ . I/We am(are) aware that the Owen J. Roberts School District requires all participants on a field trip to supply the following information in case a medical emergency should arise during this field trip:

- (1) **INSURANCE.** Students **WILL NOT BE PERMITTED** to attend field trips without supplying current and accurate health insurance information.

Name of Insurance Carrier: _____

Policy Number: _____

- (2) **FAMILY PHYSICIAN**

Name: _____ Phone: _____

FAMILY DENTIST

Name: _____ Phone: _____

- (3) **FAMILY CONTACT.** On the date of this field trip, if any emergency should arise, please call:

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Home _____

Work _____

Cell _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Home _____

Work _____

Cell _____

(4) **FOOD, INSECT, OR DRUG SENSITIVITIES.** The student is known to react unfavorably or is allergic to the following foods, insect, or drugs:

Requires use of Epinephrine YES NO

(5) OTHER HEALTH ISSUES: _____

(6) My child requires the following:

a. **INHALER: YES NO**

b. **EPI-PEN: YES NO**

(7) Please state the name of any prescription that the student will require on the trip and the reason for the prescription.

Prescription: _____ Reason: _____

Time: _____ Dose: _____

Parent/Guardian is responsible for assuring that ALL medication is supplied and is in compliance with the Owen J. Roberts School District Medication Policy #210.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH OWEN J. ROBERTS DISTRICT POLICY, STUDENTS MAY NOT CARRY MEDICATIONS, OTHER THAN PRE-AUTHORIZED INHALERS OR EPI-PENS. Please note, a nurse may NOT be present on the field trip.

MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION AND CONSENT:

In the event of an emergency, 911 will be called and your child will be transported to the nearest hospital. I/We hereby authorize any physician, hospital, or other health care provider to give emergency medical care and treatment to this student.

The undersigned have read this Medical Authorization Consent Form for Field Trips and declare and affirm that I/we consent to the contents herein stated.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Student Signature (only if student is over 18 years of age) Date

FIELD TRIP MEDICATION FORM

STUDENT NAME: _____ DOB: _____ GRADE: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN EMAIL: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN TELEPHONE: _____

THIS PORTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

NAME OF MEDICATION(s): _____

DOSAGE: _____ TIME(s) OF DAY TO BE TAKEN: _____

STUDENT MAY CARRY AND SELF-ADMINISTER MEDICATION: ____ YES ____ NO

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF MEDICATION(s): _____

I request/authorize the school to allow self-administration of the above medication to the above student in accordance with the instructions provided.

HEALTH CARE PROVIDER SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

HEALTHCARE PROVIDER BUSINESS NAME: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

THIS PORTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PARENT/GUARDIAN

STUDENT MAY CARRY AND SELF-ADMINISTER MEDICATION: ____ YES ____ NO

I request/authorize the school to allow self-administration of the above medication to the above student in accordance with the instructions provided. **I will only send the number of pills (in the original labeled pharmacy container) required for the length of the trip.**

IF STUDENT IS NOT PERMITTED TO SELF ADMINISTER*PARENT DESIGNEE ASSIGNED BY PARENT** (School staff not permitted to administer medication)

***I hereby designate another parent to carry and administer the following medications for my student.

Medication name(s): _____

Parent/Guardian Designee: _____

*Parent Designee will be required to carry/store medications and administer as prescribed by physician order.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Sign here if your child does NOT take any prescription or over the counter medications:

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____



OWEN J. ROBERTS MARCHING BAND

Request for Excused Absence

Excused: _____

Unexcused: _____

Director
Initials: _____

(Office Use Only)

Name: _____ Section: _____

Requested Date(s) To Be Excused: _____

Reason for request: _____

Student
Signature: _____

Parent
Signature: _____

*** This form must be submitted before the absence occurs (except in illness or emergency in which case it should be submitted immediately afterward). Submission of this form does not necessarily mean the absence is excused. You will receive the bottom half back indicating whether or not the absence was approved by the director.*

This portion will be returned to student...

Name: _____

Requested Absence Date(s): _____

Director Signature: _____

Comments:

<input type="checkbox"/> Excused
<input type="checkbox"/> Unexcused