 Miss Blaylock

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Dear Band Families,

Happy Easter Week! I hope all of you have plans to rest, see family, and celebrate. I just wanted to send you an update on what is happening in the Hartville Instrumental Department. We have many events coming up, and I wanted to make you aware of the details of each!

First, I just want to commend your students and the band as a whole on how well they performed and acted at contest last week! We received a “II” or “Outstanding” rating, and I had at least five people contact me after the performance and compliment the band’s performance. I truly believe the students performed their contest pieces the best they ever have, and I am so incredibly proud of them. I also want to commend those that participated in the District Solo and Ensemble Contest on Friday. Zach Morgan and Vivian Tongyai both received “II” ratings on their solos, and Michael Rainwater and Jennifer Prock received “III” ratings. All of these students performed so well, and just the fact that they went above and beyond what is required and performed solo pieces for a judge says a lot about their work ethic and passion for music. If you see any of these students, please congratulate them on their stellar performances!

This coming week, I have given all band students the opportunity to attend a percussion recital at my alma mater of Evangel University in Springfield, MO. My close friend and colleague, Josh Parrish, will be putting on his senior percussion recital, which will include various percussion performances, including a snare solo, marimba solo, timpani solo, and a jazz combo. Josh is a very accomplished percussionist, and I really think your students will benefit from attending this event (especially if they play percussion!). We will be leaving the school at 6:00 pm and arriving back around 10:00 pm. After the recital, we will make a quick stop at Braum’s to get some ice cream, so if your student wants Braum’s, please make sure they bring money for it. (Double dip cones are only $2.15!) **We are still in need of two more chaperones for this event.** If you are able to come, please contact me ASAP!

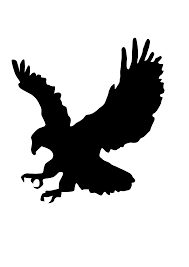
Next, I want to make you aware of the next date coming up on our calendar. The Summit Conference is hosting their annual All-Conference Honor Band on Saturday, April 2nd in Seymour, MO. This will be an all-day event, with students practicing with other talented students all over our conference and a guest conductor in the morning and afternoon, then putting on a concert for the community that evening. As the name suggests, it is an honor to be chosen to represent Hartville at this event. If you student was drafted into the band, they should have received another letter today with more details. Congratulations to those who were chosen!

The next event coming up is a fundraiser I am heading up to raise money for the band’s new uniforms. On April 19th, we will host the first ever Hartville’s Got Talent! It will be held at 7:00 pm in the HHS Gym. Prelims will be held April 11th-14th before and after school. If your student wishes to try out, he/she must sign up in the band room before that week. The sign-up sheet will be posted on Monday, March 28th. The cost per event submitted is $5, and 1st place will receive a $50 cash prize. The event is open to all students in grades 6-12. There is no limit to the amount of people that can participate in one event, and you can do any sort of talent you think can make the finals. These can include singing, dancing, gymnastics, poetry, rapping, playing an instrument, stand-up comedy, stupid human tricks, and even pet tricks! The top ten events will be put into the finals on April 19th and will compete for the cash prize. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Miss Blaylock!

The last two events the HS Band will be involved in this semester are our Spring Concert on May 5th and graduation on May 13th. We will be playing some very fun pieces at this concert, as well as presenting awards to outstanding students. We will also be having a pie auction fundraiser that day, for which I will send home details soon. All bands will be performing at this concert, so please mark your calendars! The band will be performing at graduation as well, with more details to come soon.

I know that was a lot of information, but I hope you feel confident in your knowledge of the upcoming dates on our calendar. As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at the information at the beginning of this note. Your students have been working hard, and I am excited to finish out the year with them. Thank you for your continued support of our program, and have a great 3-day weekend!

Sincerely,

**** **Miss Blaylock**