



Owen Valley Patriot Band and Guard

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**2019 ISSMA All Band
Award Recipient**

**2018 ISSMA Marching
Band State Finalist**

**2018 Winter Percussion
State Finalist - 5th place**

**2018 Winter Guard State
Finalist - 3rd place**

Concert Band

Marching Band

Pep Band

Jazz Band

Winter Guard

Winter Percussion

July 24th, 2020

Owen Valley Patriot Band & Guard Members and Families,

As previously communicated to you, ISSMA (Indiana State School Music Association) has cancelled all of their sanctioned events for the fall of 2020. This decision has since been followed by larger organizations like Mid-States and even BOA. Over the past week many directors and band booster organizations across the state have been working hard to develop a new path going forward for this fall.

Fees:

We have had many families ask about fees for this upcoming season. We took the last week to try and pinpoint what our upcoming expenses would be for this season. Our band booster organization approved a new one year only total of \$150 for this season. These fees will help cover costs of transportation to our existing events, pay for staff that helps our directors, maintain our uniforms, etc. You may disregard the previous payment stubs sent out, and we will have new ones sent home with the students during the first couple days of school.

Schedule for this year:

IHSAA believes at this moment that there will be a high school football season this fall. We will be performing at halftime of our four home football games this season. Instead of performing a complex competition show, the students will instead be performing two different halftime shows to be split amongst the football games. Our first show this season will feature music from popular movies! The Gosport, Coal City and Apple Butter Parades have all been cancelled. To help replace some of these opportunities, we are hopeful that the Martinsville Fall Foliage Festival Parade (new for OV) will happen as scheduled later this fall, along with a stage performance at the Cataract Bean Festival. The other two events that you will see on the updated schedule have no date at this time and are in the process of being planned. We are planning on performing outside of a couple of local nursing homes which would include us marching around the outside and stopping to play for the residents. This would allow elderly residents to social distance and still get some much needed entertainment. We are also trying to plan an October fall outdoor concert at the McCormick's Creek amphitheater or park, where we can play many of our football halftime show songs from this year in addition to other pep band tunes/guard features.

March-o-Thon:

March-o-Thon will still be on for this year as scheduled to help us prepare for the upcoming football game. Students will be able to use their March-o-thon fundraising sheets to gain donations to help them pay their fees for this season. The only change to March-o-Thon is that there will be NO community performance at the football stadium. Practice will end at 4 and students can be picked up then.

“In the Clouds” show:

We will be performing our “In the Clouds” marching show during the fall 2021 competitive season.

Marching Shoes:

Marching shoes will still need to be ordered for this upcoming season. They are worn with our regular marching uniforms (the red, white and blue ones) and will be worn throughout their entire time in the program unless they would like to order new ones.

Parade Shirts:

Parade shirts are being ordered for our new members of the Patriot Band & Guard. Each new member will receive a free shirt to wear throughout their time in the program. These shirts are also popular amongst band parents and family members, and you are more than welcome to purchase one for yourself to wear to events. We will be sending out an order form soon to do so.

Masks:

The state has issued an order that all students and staff wear masks while inside the building. We are awaiting administrative guidance on what this means for the program and how it will effect our classes. Once we have an answer, we will provide it.

Once again, we are extremely thankful for how flexible you have been over the past week. We are in uncharted waters and things continue to change every week. Giving our students some resemblance of a marching season in a safe way is our #1 priority right now. If you have any suggestions, comments or concerns, please email either of us.

Thank you!
Mr. Cramer and Mr. Russell