

**HSE Royal Guardians  
Virtual Parent Meeting  
November 23, 2020 @7:00pm via Zoom**

Meeting was called to order by Audrey Torres, Director of Bands at 7:00pm.

- **Winter Concert Changes** – Fishers Health Department and HSE Administration have made the decision to livestream the December 9<sup>th</sup> Winter Band Concert on a YouTube Premier Channel to ensure the safest environment for students, staff and audience members. While this will not be the live performance audience opportunity we had hoped for, viewing the concerts online will allow more family and friends to watch and enjoy these hard working students. There is no cost, and a link will be sent out. The students' concert schedule still stands as previously communicated:

**Concert #1, 6:00-6:45pm Livestreamed**

Symphonic Band and Wind Symphony

**Concert #2, 7:30-8:15pm Livestreamed**

Concert Band and Wind Ensemble

There will be an additional opportunity to view the livestreamed broadcast later that week for those unable to attend. The rehearsal schedule that was previously emailed **has not changed**. It is particularly important that our ensembles can rehearse and prepare together.

- **Pep Band Update**- At this time, because pep band is not considered essential, they will not be permitted to perform at the games. The athletic department was extremely disappointed, as they really enjoy having the band support at the games, and they will be the first to let Mrs. Torres know when the band may participate.
- **Winter Ensembles Update**- Winter Percussion and Winter Guard are moving forward with plans and are committed to providing students with a positive experience regardless of how the season unfolds. Currently, state competitions (IHSCGA and IPA) are moving forward with their plans to have live performances with adjudication. We still do not know if spectators will be allowed. Quite possibly, it may just be a group performing in front of judges. WGI will be operating virtually.

Our approach to another season that is not guaranteed will be just like what we did with marching band. We will plan as if we will have a full competitive season and flex as needed. Directors' budgets have been approved; however, the fees are not 100% set until we have a better idea of numbers participating. A nonrefundable deposit (expect it to be \$150-200) will be due at the beginning of January. There are many expenses we incur at the beginning of a season that are necessary to get the ensembles going (design element, music, drill, costumes, and instructional staff). The deposit serves as a financial commitment and enables the ensembles to get started. Fees have been cut down due to WGI being 100% virtual and have been determined as follows:

**Winter Percussion**- \$650

(IPA live contests and WGI virtual contests)

**Winter Guard Open Class**- \$700 + \$50 for the jacket

(IHSCGA live contests and WGI virtual contests)

**JV Guard and Ensembles (flag, rifle, dance)**- \$600 +50 for the jacket

(WGI Virtual ensemble and solo contests and dance recitals)

If performance activities are canceled or we are completely shut down, the budget will be drastically reduced and those changes in fees will be communicated asap. While we cannot do anything about upfront costs, we can and will reduce fees accordingly if cancellations occur.

Parent Meetings for winter ensembles will be scheduled in January. Directors will provide season information to include fees, payment schedule and calendar. The nonrefundable deposit will be due at this time. Registration and payment can be completed on the website. **Important: All fees from the previous season must be paid in full by December 4, 2020 for the student to be allowed to participate in a winter ensemble.**

Meeting adjourned by Mrs. Torres at 7:30pm

- **Q & A- Mrs. Torres ended the meeting but invited parents to stay on to ask questions. Questions that popped up in the chat during/after the meeting:**

Q: When do students pick up their concert attire?

A: Mrs. Ferise has set up times after school to pick up. Mrs. Torres will get those details communicated soon.

Q: When are Percussion evaluations?

A: Mr. Coon has posted the calendar on "SLACK" (the percussion communication device). He has scheduled some clinics in December, but final evaluations will not take place until after break. The percussion calendar is on the website calendar as well.

Q: Can the students wear last year's tuxedo shirt?

A: Yes, they can wear last year's tux shirt if it still fits.

Q: Will we be able to get a recording to have for the future...memory keepsake?

A: Due to copyright issues, we are not allowed to record (keep) the live event. It will be livestreamed and then a replay of the livestream will occur an additional time, but then it will be gone.

Q: Can we send grandparents the link?

A: Yes, the link can be shared with family and friends.