

Percussion: You're done with year one! What's next?



Congratulations! We are proud of you and your progress over this past year. Next year, band at Redwood will be an exciting and even more fun, more challenging, and continuously worthwhile experience. To give you an idea of what to plan for, take note of the following highlights and schedule for percussion and band next year.

Highlights:

- **At least three formal concerts** (Winter, Pancake Breakfast, Spring) and *two school assemblies* over the year
- **Percussion-specific performances and events**, including two marching percussion competitions, a percussion ensemble performance in March, and honoring our fallen veterans during Saratoga's Memorial Day ceremonies

Schedule:

Percussion consists of morning full band class daily, and Sectional/Ensembles on Mondays and Fridays in the afternoon in which we have our percussion coaches work with you on specifics of the craft, marching routines, and unique percussion ensembles for performance, festival, and competition. Both are essential in rehearsing different aspects of our group and make great music at a high level of performance. Additionally, all percussionists participate in marching band as a part of band curriculum in the Fall. Please be sure to set these times aside as you plan your student's schedules next school year!

- **Full band class, either A Period, Monday-Friday, 7:25-8:10 or Period 1**
- **Sectional/Ensembles: Mondays & Fridays, 3:15-4:15**
- **Marching band in the Fall: normally two A Period meetings a week**

As with all band students, being involved in the program is a significant commitment of time, but one that is invaluable and memorable.

Now that you have the basics down, it is strongly suggested that you continue refining your craft and improve through private lessons. These are absolutely worth the investment and pays dividends exponentially as you continue in your musical studies. Consult our website for references, or send us an email for help!

Other performance opportunities to consider:

Choir: Being able to sing better directly affects your ability to play and perform more expressively! We meet on Tuesdays from 3:15-4:00, and Thursdays from 7:15-8:30 PM.

Jazz Band is a fantastic and fun addition to your music education and open to students beginning in the 7th grade. We need saxes, trumpets, trombones, pianists, string bassists, and percussionists! Percussionists are often auditioned since the needs of percussion are so few. If you are interested, it is highly recommended that you study drum set in addition to your concert percussion techniques.

We look forward to having you back with us for the 2012-2013 school year. Keep up the great work, keep practicing, and see you soon!

Questions?

Contact Mr. Jow at jjow@saratogausd.org,
or reference redwoodmusic.weebly.com

