

Hello Band Students and Parents!

Our 2021 season will be starting soon. The Winter Winds, Winter Percussion, and Winter Guard will all be traveling to contests in February. Our full competition schedule is listed below. The contest itineraries will be available as soon as the Indiana High School Color Guard Association (IHSCGA) and the Indiana Percussion Association (IPA) circuits make the schedule available. These itineraries will be available in the band room, on the [Brigade's Facebook page](#), [the Brigade website](#), the [SV Band Booster Facebook page](#), on the Remind messaging service, the High School Band Google Classroom page, and via Skyward.

As mentioned last week, we have struggled in 2020 and 2021 with fundraisers and concessions. The pandemic has been tough on raising money for the band. Currently, the band account has a little over \$1,000. Normally, it never falls below \$10,000. We have exhausted a great deal of funds trying to provide the students a performance outlet this winter. In addition, fundraising possibilities have been limited and concessions sales have been slow for the band boosters.

We have prepared three "marching shows" for the winter guard, winter percussion, and winter winds. Each of these groups have drill, equipment, music, staff, props, etc... While we feel confident we have enough resources to make these three ensembles successful this year, we are very worried about having funds for the 2021 marching season.

We need to do really well with our strawberry fundraiser. This project will run until February 15th. At that time, please submit all orders and payment. Delivery will be February 21st. We need to raise \$5,000 - \$6,000 with this project. Also, please send in your \$40 "Fair Share". We lowered this for the 2020-21 season in an effort to help families during this tough and unusual time.

We do appreciate and thank all of our volunteers. Many of you help in multiple ways over the course of the year (e.g. chaperoning, box parents, semi drivers, concession volunteers, decorating, loading and unloading, etc...) We could not do what we do without you. Thank you for your help!

We will have a need for some adult help at winter competitions. This will most likely be limited to loading and unloading, semi driving, and getting on and off the competition floor. We will need two separate groups since the color guard will travel to different locations than the percussion and winds. There will be a sign up sheet soon. Due to COVID restrictions, we will not be utilizing box parents or chaperones this season. However, parents are able to travel to competitions and attend. We will be performing and then leaving immediately after we load up.

Thank you all for your understanding and support. The Brigade will make our return to competition in February. The students are doing really well! They are excited about getting to perform.

[COVID-19 Protocol for IPA contests](#)

[IHSCGA Website](#)

[Blackhawk Brigade Calendar](#)

#### 2021 Winter Ensemble Contest Schedule

- Guard will travel to separate contests.
- Winter Winds & Percussion will travel together. There is one Winds only event and one Percussion Only event. All Winter Winds & Percussion students will attend every IPA event. Each group will function as the "pit crew" for the other ensemble.
- Spring Break is around IPA and IHSCGA State Finals. Plan around these events just like we do Fall Break during marching season.
- Winds and Percussion state finals are before spring break.
- Color guard state finals are after spring break. The Winter Guard may have to practice the Thursday and Friday before state finals if they qualify. We will not know until the guard attains a qualifying score at one of their contests.

Date	Event
2/6/21	IHSCGA Franklin Central - Guard Only
2/13/21	IPA Franklin Central - Percussion Only
2/20/21	IPA Decatur Central - Winds & Percussion
	IHSCGA Terre Haute South - Guard
2/27/21	IPA Greenfield Central - Winds & Percussion
3/6/21	IPA Greenfield Central - Winds Only
3/13/21	IPA State Prelims Pendleton Heights - Winds & Percussion
	IHSCGA Northview - Guard
3/20/21	IPA State Finals Avon - Winds & Percussion (Plan accordingly - THIS IS WEEKEND BEFORE SPRING BREAK)
	IHSCGA - Plainfield - Guard (Plan accordingly - THIS IS WEEKEND BEFORE SPRING BREAK)
3/27/21	IHSCGA State Finals - Guard Only (Plan accordingly - THIS IS AFTER SPRING BREAK) Guard must first qualify!