

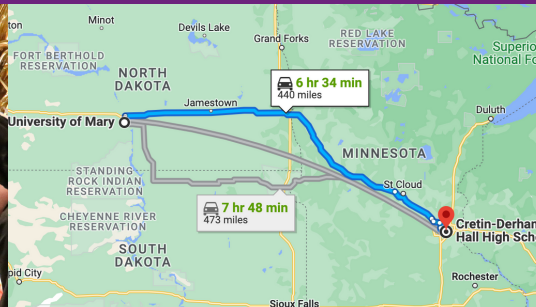
November 2023

# CDH MUSIC

*Monthly Newsletter*

Vol 4 Issue 1

*From the Cretin-Derham Hall Band Room*



## SAN DIEGO TOUR INFO

The band and choir are taking their biennial trip. Get signed up! Learn more here. p. 05

## CONCERTS & ACADEMICS

All the important information and updates for the upcoming Band performances, as well as student coursework. p. 03, 04

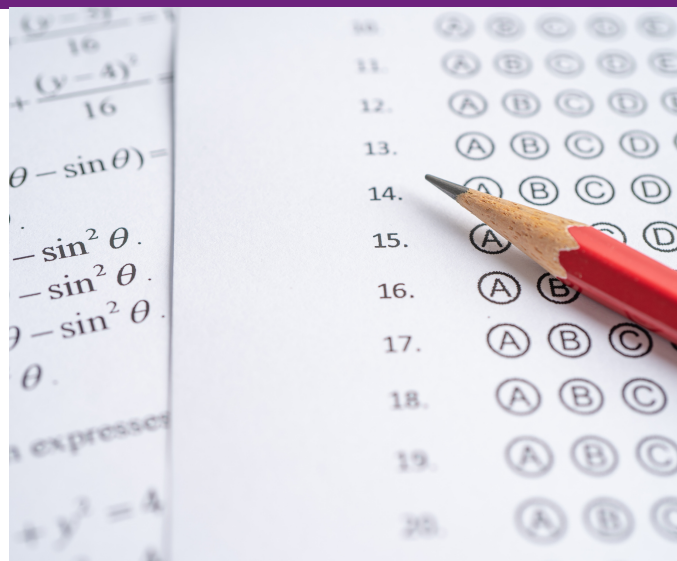
## WELCOME MS. INGALLS!

The CDH Band is hosting a special guest - we have a student teacher! More info below. p. 05

## FINALS & PRIORITIES

The end of the trimester places students under a great deal of pressure. Their lives are packed and busy, but music gives them a chance to step away from that, relax a bit, and build other important skills.

CONTINUED TO P. 02



# FINALS & PRIORITIES

As you may well have heard from your students, the trimester is rapidly coming to a close. And while students may keep it to themselves (perhaps not!), they are faced with finals, projects, performances, potential fall sports post-season games, and many other challenging tasks.

Finals Week is often riddled with grand ambitions and designs on academic success, and tremendous anxiety to reach that success. To be the class valedictorian is the dream of every high-achieving student (and parent). The idea of sacrificing sleep, friends, and experiences all in search of the almighty GPA is as American as apple pie.

You remember your class valedictorian, right? Seemingly perfect in everything. Just imagine the life they are leading now. Surely it is one filled with unimaginable success and luxury. Although, if you imagine a life better than yours, well, you just might be imagining wrong.

In his book *Barking Up the Wrong Tree*, author Eric Barker explores these academic darlings' life and legacy, and his findings were somewhat surprising. He found that while high school success is a strong predictor of college success, it is not necessarily a predictor of life success. Yes, valedictorians are reliable, consistent, and well educated, but out of the people he studied, he struggled to find extraordinary success. Meanwhile, lots of the "average" students he looked at thrived after high school and beyond the halls of academia.

Barker's research indicates that students who have a greater breadth of experiences and are forced to balance their many demands and passions tend to acquire the skillsets necessary to be successful - not just in school, but in life. Specifically, students who are forced to prioritize their time learn valuable life and survival skills.

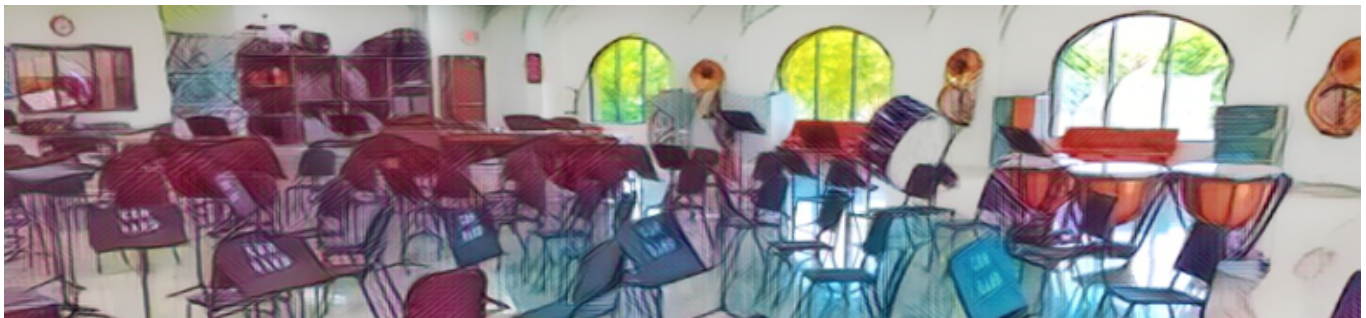
This is yet another reason why participating in music is important for your child. Students involved in music face greater demands on their time and acquire skills necessary to be successful after their academic careers have concluded. By participating in music, students are not preparing for a life as professional musicians - they are preparing for a life in every profession.

Yes, hope and ambition are alive for every child, especially those involved in music.

Please know that my door is always open as we partner together to provide a nurturing and educational environment for your child. I am always just a phone call or email away.

Sincerely,

Mr. Zahler  
(651) 696-3314 | [nzahler@c-dh.org](mailto:nzahler@c-dh.org)





# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Band Performances

### CDH Christmas Concert

Concert Band, Concert Choir, Jazz Band

*Monday, December 18th @ 7:00 PM - CDH Lilian Theatre*

- The CDH Band & Choir cordially invite you to the annual CDH Christmas Concert. Featuring festive and reverent music from the Concert Band, Jazz Band, and Concert Choir, it will be an exciting send-off into the Christmas season and Winter Break.

### SEC Music Festival

Concert Band, Concert Choir

*Monday, February 5th @ All Day PM - Forest Lake High School (Field Trip)*

- The CDH Band and Choir will travel to Forest Lake High School for the entirety of the day to attend the SEC Music Festival. Students should bring their concert uniform, a bag lunch, and a change of clothes.
- Please note: this year, the SEC has moved the Honor Ensemble Concert to the evening of Sunday the 4th. This is a change from past practice.

### Midwinter Concert

Concert Band, CDH Choir, Jazz Band

*Monday, February 26th @ 7:00 PM - CDH Lilian Theatre*

- The CDH Band & Choir invite you to the CDH Midwinter Concert. In concurrence with the SEC Festival & MSHSL Music Contest, the concert will feature high-level literature and core wind ensemble and jazz repertoire.

## DATE CHANGE

Due to a clerical error in the CDH calendar, which has since been rectified, **the final Band Pops Concert date has been changed.** The concert will now occur while seniors are still attending classes! and has been updated from May 22nd to May 14th.

### Pops Concert:

**Tues, May 14 - 7PM - Theater**

## HONORS PROJECT

Students who are enrolled in the Honors section of band deepen their understand of music through various enrichment projects and performances.

Each Honors band student completes 1-2 honors projects (each trimester). These projects are due two weeks before the end of the trimester. Guidelines are available digitally and on the band room bulletin board.

## SEC HONORS

Students participating in the SEC Honors Band or Orchestra have additional events they are required to attend.

Nov 12 - 6:30 PM - Stillwater HS

Jan 21 - 1 PM - Stillwater HS

Feb 4 - Noon - Forest Lake HS

# ACADEMIC UPDATE

As we wrap up Trimester 1, check with your student to ensure they're up to date on all their academic work.

For Band, so far:

- 4 twenty-minute Lessons per Trimester
  - Students who take lessons with an outside instructor are exempt for lessons #2-4, and should submit the documentation.
- 5 Pep Band Games.
- 1 Pep Fest performance.
- 2 ROTC event performances (Diamond Promotions & Fall Review)
- Fall Concert (Nov 2)
- Various small assignments on Google Classroom.
- Honors Projects (for Honors credit students only, due 2 weeks prior to end of tri).





## BAND HANDBOOK

The Band Handbook functions as the syllabus for Concert and Beginning Band classes at CDH.

Your student should have brought it home for you to read and sign the attached agreement form.

If you need a copy, [I have attached it here](#) digitally.

The agreement form was the band students' first piece of homework, and should be turned in ASAP.

# BAND GRADING, MADE EASY

Band grades are divided into three weighted categories. For Trimester 1, here is the rundown of the categories, and the point values within each category.

- 40% - Performances/Projects
  - Diamond Promotions - 5 pts
  - Fall Review - 5 pts
  - Fall Concert - 40 pts
  - Pep Band
    - 3 of 4 Football Games - 30 pts
    - 1 of 1 Volleyball Game - 10 pts
- 30% - In-School Work
  - 4 Lessons - 40 pts
- 30% - Out-of-School Work
  - Introduction Google Form - 5 pts
  - Practice Video #1 (El Relicario) - 10 pts
  - Concert Reflection - 30 pts
  - Honors Project - 30 pts [Honors Credit Students Only]

## Brief Explanations of Band Assignments

### Lessons

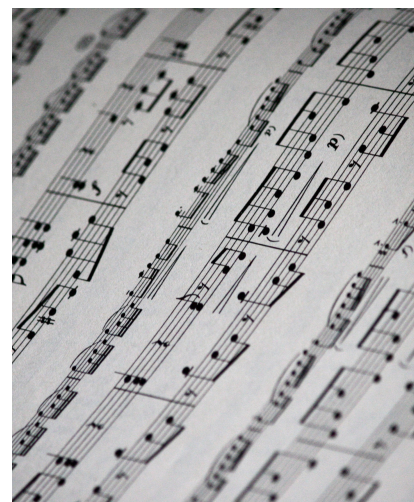
- Students complete four, 25 minute, 1-on-1 lessons with the band teacher per trimester.
- These lessons take place during the school day, and students will be excused from pre-determined class periods to attend the lessons.
- Students who take private lessons with outside professionals on their instrument are eligible to apply for in-school lesson credit.

### Pep Band

- Students perform at the first half of various sporting events for credit.
- Students are given a list of games the band will perform at, and are required to attend at least 75% of the games, rounded up (they may skip 25% of the games).

### Practice Videos

- Students will complete video self-recordings of themselves practicing various music and upload them to google classroom. For these videos, students are graded on execution.







# SAN DIEGO 2024

Here is the link to our tour website for sign-up: <https://tri.ps/vKm3M>

We recommend that when students register, they do it with a parent by their side, to be sure that information is correct and that initial payment can be completed.

To register your student, select “Student Quad Occupancy” from the drop down on the right. Then, you will need to provide some basic information about the student and finally add a payment method and complete the first \$100 payment. At this point, the student is registered for the tour!

OUR DEADLINE FOR STUDENTS TO REGISTER FOR TOUR IS NOVEMBER 10th.

The Tour Total Cost is currently at \$1595, and the current Payment Schedule is set as follows:

- Nov 10: \$450
- Dec 1: \$595
- Jan 10: \$550

If your student would like to go on the trip, but may potentially need financial assistance in order to do so, please email Mr. Zahler or Ms. Schuster prior to November 10th (or as soon as possible).

While this trip is not required, it is highly encouraged. We do need to reach a certain threshold of students to be able to go. Ensemble tours have been without a doubt some of the most memorable and formative experiences of my life, and I believe with conviction that this tour will be that for your student, too! As always, please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions!



## WELCOME, MS. I!

This fall, the CDH Band has the distinct privilege of hosting a special guest. Ms. AnnaMarie Ingalls is a graduate of the University of Mary in Bismarck, ND. For the remainder of 2023, Ms. Ingalls will be completing her secondary music student teaching placement at Cretin-Derham Hall. She is from a small farming town in Northern Iowa, and has completed missionary work in Minneapolis and Los Angeles.

Ms. Ingalls loves to spend time with her many nieces and nephews. Her favorite activities include being outside, painting, and reading a good book. She is especially excited to begin rehearsing repertoire for the upcoming Christmas concert.

We are excited to have AnnaMarie as a part of our band for the next few weeks!