**Land of Band**

**3 More Weeks!**

We are down to our last 3 weeks and our final performances. I highly encourage you to attend these final performances and enjoy these last few moments with this organization as it is made up right now. Eventually, students will leave and new students will arrive, changing the dynamic of the band. Let’s celebrate by doing what we do best and that’s to perform!!!

We have the Jazz Master Concert and Spring Concert coming up. I am looking forward to making some great music on both of these events.

And don’t forget about the **Band Banquet!!!**
I truly hope that all of you attend!

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**Jazz Master Concert**
Friday June 1, 7p
Performing Arts Center
General Admission: $10
**Tickets are available from any EDHS jazz student.**

Join us in the PYLUSD PAC for our “7th Annual Jazz Master Concert” where we will feature all three of our Jazz Bands with legendary studio musician and master percussionist Emil Richards!

Emil is 86 years young and is still working as a freelance musician in Los Angeles. He most recently recorded on the “Incredibles 2” sound track. However, his biography is ridiculous. He recorded on the original theme song to the “Flintstones” in 1965, has toured with Frank Sinatra, Frank Zappa, and George Harrison, just to name a few.

This will be a great concert and one that will be remembered. Don’t miss it!!

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**Spring Concert**
Tuesday, June 5
7pm, Performing Arts Center
General Admission: $5

Join us on our final major performance of the year.

This concert will feature the…

Wind Ensemble
Symphonic Band
Percussion Ensemble

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**Google Classroom and Remind 101**

All members of Concert Bands should now be subscribed and linked to the Wind Ensemble or Symphonic Band Google Classroom and Remind 101. If you are not subscribed to them, do so now! Scroll down for the codes.

We will continue to develop ways to use Google Classroom to benefit the program.

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**Practice Tips**

Every week, I will be adding practice tips to this list. Please check it out and apply them to your practice routine.

1. Make time to practice.

* Practicing should be part of your daily homework routine.

2. Create a good Practice Environment!

* Create a good practice environment that will allow you to be productive. Use a music stand, sit in a good chair, have a tuner and metronome, and focus!

3. Create a Practice Routine!

* Establish a good practice routine, like what we do in class. Start with long tones, play some velocity exercises, then some articulation exercises.
* Spend a few minutes on “maintenance practice”. Meaning, go over skills that need to be kept up on a consistent basis such as arpeggios, lip slurs (brass), etc.
* Most importantly, PRACTICE SECTIONS IN YOUR MUSIC THAT YOU STRUGGLE WITH! Work on these things at home so that you can contribute more to your performance ensemble!

4. Record Yourself!

* Record yourself playing your instrument, go back and watch the video or listen to the recording, and give yourself some feedback! You will hear things that sound better than you expected them to be and things that aren’t as good as you think they are! Use these recordings to help guide your improvement.

5. Practice with a friend or two!

* Get together with other people in the band and practice together. Come up with ways to make playing your instrument fun!
	+ Perform for each other and give feedback.
	+ See who can sustain a single note the longest with only one breath.
	+ See who can get through their major scales the fastest with the least mistakes.
	+ Be creative, come up with your own ideas, and share them with us!
* Get together with other instruments from your band and play your music together! You can create your own smaller ensembles and play through your music. You will begin to hear how your part fits with everyone else and will encourage you to have your part down!

6. Find a recording or video online of the piece you are working on!

* Most of the music we play has been performed before. Go to youtube and look up your piece! Find different ensembles playing it and listen!! You can also play along.
* Go to jwpepper.com and search for your piece. Most of these compositions have recordings on this website.

7. Break. Things. Down!!!

* Take difficult “licks” slow and break them down. Take one count at a time MULTIPLE TIMES SLOWLY! Then add counts and gradually speed them up until you exceed the intended tempo, then slow it back down to the actual tempo.
* This is tedious and somewhat annoying, but super helpful!

8. Analyze your music!

* Take small phrases and analyze it. Figure out what the rhythmic counts are and count them out loud. For example, figure out if the notes are on the downbeat vs. upbeat, “e’s and a’s” of the 16th note variations, etc. Then sing/clap/play rhythms to a metronome.
* Go through your music and really understand how the accidentals fit into the line that you are playing and practice them “slowly”, repeating many times.

9. Repetition is key! Repetition is key!

* Once you practice something and it finally sounds good, repeat it multiple times! Set a goal to play something correctly 5 times in row. If you make a mistake, start the count over!
* “Don’t practice until you get it right, practice until you can’t get it wrong!”

10. [Take 5 minutes to watch this video](https://eldoradoband.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=a2cf9ba99e9fb137bf4b114ee&id=48db9671eb&e=7dc0227750)

* After you’ve watched it, reflect on the information, and reflect on how you practice.
* I just might make this into a Google Classroom Assignment….

11. Don’t get discouraged!

* Often times, practicing reveals many things about our playing that isn’t very good or needs immediate improvement. That’s ok!  That’s what practicing is for! Some of the greatest athletes take the off-season to develop skills, to learn more about their game, and to work on things that they want to improve upon. Musicians do the same thing!
* Always say to yourself, “I can do that better.” Play something, find a way to make it better, and keep repeating it until it improves. Once you feel satisfied, move on to the next thing. Repeat!

12. Get a Method Book for your instrument!

* If you don’t have one already, get a method book that focuses on your instrument! These books will have exercises and etudes that were designed for YOU!
* I still have my method books from my high school and college years and STILL read and work out of them.
* Just Google (your instrument) Method Books and a TON of them will magically appear.
* Even though the beginning might seem basic, go through it anyways and continue on through the book!
* Now come up to me and say the code word “Syncopation”…

13. Take private lessons or get a music tutor!

* The BEST way to improve on your instrument is to get someone to HELP YOU!
* The best option is to get a private teacher. There are many professional musicians and college music majors in our area who are willing and able to teach you privately. Their rates vary depending on their experience level, but you can easily find someone. Need help finding someone? Ask us!
* OR find an older member of the program and practice with them, ask them questions, get their help! They can tutor you!
* These lessons do not have to be weekly (although that is the best). You can take a lesson or be tutored once every two weeks. Anything and everything helps.
* If you’ve read this, go up to Wesley Gilman and shake his hand and say, “I heard Samson schooled you on the dance floor…” (referring to his dance moves at prom)

14. Practice for the Gig!!!

* Here’s the reason why we push practicing fundamentals at the beginning of the year or way before the gig or concert… so you can focus on the material for the gig before the gig!!!
* If you’ve waited until now to start practicing scales, playing long tone, playing to a tuner, then you are way behind! Yes, that stuff is always good to practice but that should have already been practiced!
* At this point, you should be working on repertoire for the concerts. Whether it’s for the Wind Ensemble/Symphonic Band concert or the Jazz Master Concert, focus on things that you can improve upon for the concert!

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Upcoming Events
(this does not include weekly rehearsals)

Jazz Master Concert                   June 1 – Jazz Bands
Spring Concert                           June 5 – Concert Bands
Band Banquet                            June 8 – Everyone
Graduation                               June 13 – Jazz 2

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**Here’s what’s up for this week…**
Monday
No School
Tuesday
0 period – Wind Ensemble in Theater
Symphonic Band in Band Room
Color Guard with Staff
Wednesday
0 period – Wind Ensemble in Band Room
Symphonic Band in Theater
Color Guard with Staff
Thursday
0 period – Wind Ensemble in Band Room
Symphonic Band in Theater
Color Guard with Staff
Friday
0 period – Wind Ensemble in Band Room
Symphonic Band in Theater
Color Guard with Staff

**BAND BANQUET -**
**CHANGE TO PREVIOUS TICKET PURCHASE PROCEDURE**

**Band Banquet will be held**
**on Friday, June 8, 2018**
**at the Phoenix Club in Anaheim**!

**The deadline to purchase tickets  and order videos for the event is THIS FRIDAY, June 1st**.  In the past, we have accepted ticket purchases at the door.  However, last year, there were so many door tickets purchased that there was a problem finding seats for everyone.  Some students who had prepurchased tickets but arrived later than others ended up being squeezed in uncomfortably at the tables, which certainly wasn't very fair to them.

**In order to avoid something like that happening again this year,**

**THERE WILL BE NO TICKETS SOLD ON THE DAY OF THE BANQUET.**

**The final ticket number will be submitted to the club on June 1st.**

(Video orders received after June 1st will be fulfilled after the banquet.)

Please help your planning volunteers by submitting your ticket orders early!
Click below for the
[Ticket Order Form](https://eldoradoband.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=a2cf9ba99e9fb137bf4b114ee&id=641c57b5ef&e=7dc0227750)

If you believe you have a balance in your account that you can use toward your banquet purchase, but aren't sure how much, please login to your Charms account or email finance@eldoradoband.com and request an account balance for your student.

For our new band members out there, the Band Banquet is an event that all students and their families alike will not want to miss - it a great time for the students to be recognized for their participation, reminisce with friends about the past year, eat some good food and say good-bye to our seniors, among other things.  Don't miss out on this fun evening and help us keep planning under control by purchasing your tickets early!

**WAYS AND MEANS REPORT**

      **Fundraising Products**

Ways & Means plans to put various Band & Color Guard fundraising products on the band website (i.e., Booster Wear, Bling Spirit Shirts, See's Candy order form, Perfectly Posh etc.).

**Band Booster Products/ Merchandise will be featured on Spring Concert 6/5/18
Come join the fun with great music & opportunities drawings of Band spirit wear, bags, blankets, plush items & more!!**

**ONGOING FUNDRAISING EVENTS**

**Scrip:**(Individual Student Account Fundraiser)

The El Dorado Band Boosters are pleased to offer a great fundraising program to help students **raise funds** **for their individual accounts**. Profits from this program will first be used for any unpaid Marching Season Fair Share Donations for Band and Color Guard. Funds can then be used for Winterguard, Winter Drumline, Jazz Band, or next year’s Marching Season Fair Share Donations. Seniors who have paid all of their Fair Share Donations can use their profits for end of year extras, such as Banquet Tickets, Yearbooks and DVDs.

ABOUT UNITED SCRIP
UnitedScrip is a program that allows band supporters to purchase gift cards from hundreds of retailers and restaurants including Amazon, Best Buy, iTunes, Arco, Albertsons, Macy’s, Wendy’s, Subway and more. Supporters get to spend 100% of the amount they paid for the gift card. The retailer pays the band a percentage of each gift card sold. The percentage varies from retailer to retailer, but ranges from 1% to 50%. Family and friends can help out by either ordering gift cards directly from you (they pay you, then you write one check for entire order), or they may set up accounts online, being sure to **specify that they are a supporter of your student**, and pay with their credit card.

**Scrip order deadline**will continue  on the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

**For details about how to place an order, click**[here](https://eldoradoband.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=a2cf9ba99e9fb137bf4b114ee&id=a9040ec056&e=7dc0227750)**.**
Scroll down to the Scrip section and look for "How to Purchase".

This is a great way to earn funds for your student's account - remind your friends and family that in addition to buying gift cards as gifts for birthdays and holidays, the gift cards can also be used for their everyday purchases at grocery stores, gas stations, Target, etc. And restaurant gift cards can be very nice to have handy for those nights that no one wants to cook.
Happy Ordering!

**Help A Hawk:**(Individual Student Account or General Fund Fundraiser)
Great **Tax Deductible** means to support the El Dorado Band Boosters, a non-profit 501(c)(3) booster parent organization. If you or know of any individual, business & or corporation  looking to support a worthwhile, meaningful organization and at the same time benefit from a tax deduction, please send this "[Help A Hawk El Dorado Band Brochure](https://eldoradoband.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=a2cf9ba99e9fb137bf4b114ee&id=74e09eb6ca&e=7dc0227750)"

**AmazonSmile: (General Fund Fundraiser)**
Need to shop for gifts, decorations, or household items? Don't forget to select our booster organization as the recipient for a financial donation. Use the Amazon Smile holiday at [smile.amazon.com/ch/33-0858888](https://eldoradoband.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=a2cf9ba99e9fb137bf4b114ee&id=9cedaaacd8&e=7dc0227750) and Amazon donates to El Dorado High School Band Boosters Inc.