**Land of Band**  
   
**March Madness finally ends… in May!**  
   
Finally, after 10 straight weeks of performances, competitions, and gigs, we finally have found ourselves with a few free weekends from band and color guard! Although we have done a lot, done it well, and had fun doing it, it’s nice to take a breather. However, now it’s time to start thinking about next year!  
   
**Please read on for more information regarding…**  
   
*Results from Reno Jazz Festival/WGASC Champs*  
   
*Fall Member Rehearsal on Monday, May 7*  
   
*Booster Meeting Info*  
   
*Jazz/Percussion/Color Guard Auditions*  
   
   
   
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**Monday**  
**Fall Member Rehearsal**  
May 7, 6p-8p  
Sign-in begins at 5:30p  
   
Join us in the Band Room for our annual “Fall Member Rehearsal” where we will get our first glimpse of next year’s band. We will play through some warm-ups, talk about next fall, and more importantly welcome all of our new members!  
   
This is a very important night for us, as we will attempt to get an accurate number of instrumentation so that we can start to design the field show!  
   
**Band Council Candidates**  
   
All students who are interested in a Band Council position must go to Google Classroom and download the Section Leader application.  
   
Fill it out, follow the instructions, turn it in on time.  
   
Band Council Candidate Meeting: Lunch, Monday May 7  
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**Tuesday**  
   
**Booster Meeting**  
   
**Attention All Boosters!**  
   
Please attend the Booster meeting this Tuesday evening, 7:30p.  
   
I have a lot of information to discuss with our booster organization regarding next school year. Please attend to hear all about it and to ask your questions.

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| **Winter Guard**   **WGASC Championships**   On Sunday, April 22, the Varsity Winter Guard competed at WGASC Championships.   Congratulations to our Winter Guard for completing their first ever SoCal Undefeated Season and earning the Gold Medal in Scholastic Open!   Due to their success this year, they will now be promoted to “World Class” where they will compete at the highest level both locally and nationally!   **Fall Color Guard Auditions**   Clinics and Auditions for next year’s Color Guard will begin on May 15. Please spread the word!   May 14: Parent Meeting – 6p in the Band Room May 15: Clinic, after school May 16: Clinic, after school May 17: Auditions, after school |
| **Percussion**   Clinics and auditions are quickly approaching. A more detailed schedule for clinics, auditions, and summer rehearsals will be handed out on Monday night. This process is crucial to the success of the group so please make accommodations to be there!   **Clinics** Monday, May 7 – 6p-9p with Full Band Monday, May 14 – 3p-6p, Returning Members Only Wednesday, May 16 – 4p-6p Monday, May 21 – 4p-6p **Auditions (Sign Up)** Wednesday May 23rd |
| **Jazz Bands**   **Reno Jazz Festival**   Jazz 1 and 2 had another great weekend at the Reno Jazz Festival! Both Bands and Combos had great performances and performed to capacity crowds! It was a fun trip overall.   **Reno Results** Both Combos Excellent Rating   Jazz 2 Unanimous Superior Rating, 4th place (15 groups) Apprentice Band Division   Jazz 1 Unanimous Superior Rating 5th Place (21 groups) AAA Division   **Jazz Auditions**   Jazz Auditions will take place on May 21, 22, and 23 during class, Periods 1 – 4.   Requirements for the jazz audition will be passed out and discussed in class.   Next up…   Jazz Master Concert featuring Emil Richards June 1, 7p PYLUSD Performing Arts Center |

   
**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=9b00b69488&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!

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**Google Classroom and Remind 101**  
   
All members of Concert Band should be subscribed to their ensemble’s Google Classroom and Remind 101. If you haven’t done so already, subscribe now!!

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Group** | **Google Classroom Code** | **Remind 101** **(text code to 81010)** |
| Wind Ensemble | 364e58 | @eldowe |
| Symphonic Band | z3ww4xg | @eldosb |

   
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Upcoming Events   
(this does not include weekly rehearsals)

Fall Member Rehearsal               May 7 – Everyone  
Booster Meeting                         May 8  
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  
0 period – Wind Ensemble in Band Room  
Symphonic Band in Theater  
Color Guard with Staff  
Evening: Fall Member Rehearsal  
Tuesday  
0 period – Wind Ensemble in Theater  
Symphonic Band in Band Room  
Color Guard with Staff  
Evening: Booster Meeting  
Wednesday  
0 period – Wind Ensemble in Band Room  
Symphonic Band in Theater  
Color Guard with Staff  
Thursday  
0 period – All Band in Band Room  
Color Guard with Staff  
Friday  
0 period – All Band in Band Room  
Color Guard with Staff  
  
  
  
Thanks,  
Samson

**BAND BANQUET IS COMING SOON!!!**  
  
**on Friday, June 8, 2018  
at the Phoenix Club in Anaheim**!    
  
Click below for the  
[Ticket Order Form](https://eldoradoband.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=a2cf9ba99e9fb137bf4b114ee&id=5394242a2e&e=7dc0227750)  
  
**The deadline to purchase tickets for the event is June 1st**.  Please help your planning volunteers by submitting your ticket orders early!  
  
If you believe you have a balance in your account that you can use toward your banquet ticket purchase, but aren't sure how much, please email [finsec@eldoradoband.com](mailto:finsec@eldoradoband.com?subject=Account%20Balance%20for%20Banquet) 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!

**BOOSTER  MEETING TOMORROW!**  
  
Join us for the Booster Meeting  
**tomorrow, May 8th at   
7:30pm  
in the band room**.  
  
We look forward to seeing you there!

**TIME MARCHES ON...**

**SENIOR PARENTS!!!**  
  
It is that time of year for proud parents of graduating seniors to select photos of your son or daughter for the end of year EDHS Marching Band & Color Guard slideshow.  
Please select a minimum of five pictures, preferably digital and in high resolution, as candidates for the slideshow.  
  
Ideally, pictures include ages of development (baby, toddler, grade school, and teen) along with a portrait photo in EDHS Marching Band or Color Guard uniform, if available.  
   
**PHOTOS ARE PAST DUE**!  Photos are due in the black box or preferably scanned and emailed to [photo@eldoradoband.com](mailto:photo@eldoradoband.com). Please submit your photos ASAP if you haven't already!

**QUARTERMANIA**

Quartermania was held this past Saturday and was a great success.  Everyone had a lot of fun, enjoyed breakfast and conversation and many went home with a gift card or two or three.  As an organization, we raised over $1,600 in 90 minutes and definitely set up the opportunity for future Quartermania events.   
  
Super Vendors: Starlight Theater (Cinema City), Heavenly Foot Spa (Near Kohls), Laser Quest (Fullerton) , Del Taco (Placentia) Laser Island (Placentia), Alpha Nails (Rose Drive) and Craftsman donated gift certificates in support of youth and music!  THANK YOU local businesses for your generous contribution to the event.  
  
Thank you to all our parent and student helpers, especially **Brenda Emrick**, our host, without whom this event would not have been possible.

**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.). More info to come!

**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=aa5a5ee6ba&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=5ac8129511&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=b35b28e51d&e=7dc0227750) and Amazon donates to El Dorado High School Band Boosters Inc.