

Hey everyone,

Sorry it's taken me so long in getting this out. A lot has transpired since my last update. We had a very successful string of camps throughout Christmas break. The students were able to learn all of the music and drill for the first 2/3 of the show. We have the remaining music and drill already written, but it had not been passed out yet. As soon as the students reach a certain level with the music they already have learned, the music will be passed out.

It's extremely exciting to continue to see these students improve so much in such a short time. I'm positive that the school, parents and friends, and even IPA will be very surprised at the progress that has been made.

This upcoming month will be a very important month for the ensemble behind the scenes. We invested a significant amount of time in learning the show throughout December. Now that we have the notes in our heads, it is time for us to clean as much as possible. Besides that though, this is a month in which we'll need a lot of help from the parents in preparing to go out and compete in February. For any parents that would be willing to help with fitting and assigning uniforms, please contact me! I'd like to get that done within the next couple weeks. Also, if there are any parents that are good with tools, we'll need to be building the props before February hits. We need at least two weeks of practicing with the props being used. Lastly, if any parents are interested in chaperoning, please contact me. I need to know how many parents plan to go to the contests regularly to help out, so I can arrange for the correct amount of show shirts to be ready.

For fundraising, the students are doing a tremendous job. So far this season, we've raised around \$8,000.00 in just 2 and ½ months. This shows just how hard the students and parents have been working in making sure that this season happens. Thanks so much for that! As much as I would like to say that we get a break, it doesn't quite work that way. We still have about \$6,000.00 to raise. This last portion of funding will go towards the students concerning instruments, drum heads, mallets, a keyboard cart, fixing the drum mat cart, etc, etc. I know we're all tired of it, but we're getting very close to our goals for this season; let's push until we get exactly where we need to be!

It's been a great season thus far, and I look forward to continuing on. It's still a bit too early to tell exactly where we'll end up, but provided that the students continue the work they've started, I wouldn't be surprised if this is one of the most successful seasons the winter percussion program at North Harrison has ever seen (provided we keep up the great work!!!).

Thanks so much for all of your support. It means so much to the students and staff.

-Jeremy