

Hey everyone,

So we have a very important day this Saturday. We will be competing at Avon High School for the IPA State Prelims contest. This is the qualifying round for State Finals next week. With this being a qualifying round, it does mean that only the top groups will make it. With how this season has gone, we should be just fine for making next weekend.

Even though the drill and music has been taken care of for a few weeks, we're still in the process of tweaking a lot of things. We'll be adding in a lot of things to boost our general effect scores. I don't think that anyone will be prepared for what we have in store. From how well Tuesday night went, I can't wait to finish putting everything on the floor.

We only have three rehearsals left for the competitive season. We'll be rehearsing both this and next Friday night from 6 PM – 9 PM. I always hate changing rehearsal times, especially when it's a Friday night. We simply haven't been made the top priority when it comes to getting a gymnasium. That is one thing that we'll need to work on for next year. If we expect to continue to be competitive, we must have a gymnasium. That will also help in making the schedule more consistent.

We'll also be rehearsing next Tuesday from 6 PM – 9 PM. This gives us a total of nine hours left to prepare for State Finals. We have a lot to do, but we've been making great time. Once our competitive season ends, we'll still have one or two performances for community events. It won't be nearly as intense as what it has been though. We might have one or two rehearsals prior to each performance, just to make sure we put on a good show.

For the rest of the season, there is really only one more thing to address concerning the show design. The staff has been discussing incorporating color into the show for a few weeks now, and it appears as if we've finally reached a way to work things out. We will be needing students to pick up one shirt, one pair of shorts, and a pair of socks. This will not be out of the students' pocket. We will be reimbursing the purchases.

I'll be discussing things with the students in detail tomorrow at rehearsal. Each student has picked a color that they'll want to wear. If the student already owns a shirt of that color, then that shirt can be used. If it has writing on it, then it would need to be turned inside out. Each student will also need to have a pair of shorts the same color. It'd be great if the shade were the same, but it doesn't have to be. The shorts can't be short shorts; they need to be a decent length. The same idea applies to the socks, the same color needs to be there, but if the shade is slightly different, then that'll be okay. In terms of type of sock, whether they are ankle socks or knee high socks, it really doesn't matter.

In terms of prices, if the students already own a shirt that is the color they'd like, then by all means, use that shirt, or those shorts / socks. We'll be able to reimburse purchases up to the amount of \$20 per student. For the students to receive the money back, they will need to turn the receipt into the lock box in the band room. From the research the staff, and some of the parents, have done, \$20 should be more than enough to cover 100% of the expenses.

All of the clothing will need to be picked out by next Tuesday's rehearsal. **Only the students playing an instrument need to pick out colored clothing. The four prop movers will have something else to wear.** We'll need all of next week to rehearse with the new changes to be prepared for Finals. If you have any questions, feel free to let me know. Again, I'll be discussing this in great detail with the students at Friday's rehearsal.

I think this covers everything for this e-mail update. With us winding the season down, there will only be one or two more updates following this one.

As always, I'm so appreciative of all the work the students and parents have been willing to do to make this a successful season. This has been a great year, and I'm so proud of how far the program has come in such a short time.

Let me know if you have any questions whatsoever.

Thanks for reading!

-Jeremy