

Reminders for first year folks (and seasoned vets):

- HAVE FUN!! These are the days we aim for! Take it in! Be steadfast in your pursuit of excellence with your performance, and additionally enjoy the day!
- Competition days we normally have a rehearsal earlier in the day (will depend on performance times -later performance = later rehearsal)
- Sports often have meets in the mornings on Saturdays! Go to those and get back and join us when you can -carpool, etc. some literally drive to the performance from a match/meet, others can make it for the end of rehearsal. Just let Mr Wells know!
- After our rehearsal on competition days, students help load their instruments onto carts or trailers BEFORE going on break. Cat pack parents will help instruct them as well as section leaders.
- We usually have between 90 minutes and 2 hours for a break/lunch/etc. During this time students are free to go home and eat/change/etc. or are free to stay at the school and eat/change/etc.
- Upon returning from break most students wear their marching shoes (all black!) LONG BLACK SOCKS, and their bibbers (marching pants). Most also have their uniform tops hung neatly in their garment bags.
- Students will wait outside the bus until their bus captain is present to take attendance and to check all students have complete attire (like black socks).
- Students are not to eat on the bus.
- Students can bring a water bottle on the bus!
- Students with LONG hair need to pin ALL of it up inside the hat. We are judged on who uniform we are, so for example, bright colored hair hanging out to mid back will not look uniform.
- Similarly, big or bright jewelry needs to be removed during performances
- **Parents/spectators/(students too):**
 - Remember you represent US! Please ONLY positive comments when watching other bands. They work SO hard just like us! There is NO defense in marching band. If a band is amazing -YAY! Celebrate that! We know how much it takes to get there!
 - Please don't talk about placements or scores until you're back in your car :) We want to continue to be known as the amazing community that we are!
 - You may choose to attend just in time for our band, but truly it's way better to come early and watch as many bands as you can before us and after us. It will give you a better understanding of this activity!
 - You should only enter the seating area BETWEEN band performances. Unless it's an emergency, do not leave during any band's performance. Wait until they are done.
 - There is always a gate fee. Often it's \$10 for students/seniors and \$12 for adults. This may vary by a few dollars. Some have family caps, but not always.
 - Plan time for parking/walking. Often lots are BIG or no parking is available close to the gate -this depends on timing of crowds, etc.
 - The best places to watch a marching show are as high and as center as possible.
 - Wear your show shirts if you have them! See if you can sit by other Northview parents -look for the shirts!
 - PLEASE APPLAUD, SHOUT, WHOOP, during key or BIG moments of the show! If it's impactful, let us and those around you know! Don't go crazy, but this is also not a symphony concert where it's best not to shout -this is something in between. Respectfully silent, but make some noise for solos, big volume moments, colorguard tosses, etc! We are also judged on how we affect the audience! :)
 - PARENTS may take their student home after the performance! Please have your student give their bus captain a signed note before leaving Northview that you're taking them home. For liability reasons, parents may take only their students, not other students, NOR are other

friends or family allowed to take students home. Exceptions only with prior administration's approval.

- After the performance depending on the schedule, students may stay to watch a couple bands and awards, or go back to the bus first if there's a long time before awards, etc.
- Students -when going back to buses/trailers -promptly put away your instruments and hat/gloves/gauntlets so the Cat Pack Parents can pack the trailers quicker.
- Once back at school, it is often that the students will beat the equipment trailers. Please wait until they arrive and help unload all your equipment back into the school.

Okay..that's enough for now... If you have questions, let me know!

Future festival emails will NOT have this long of a list. But for those first timers it's nice to know a bit more! :)