

NOTE #1: PLEASE read carefully - there are some new procedures in here (1st away game & home show)

NOTE #2: Congratulations for your spectacular performance at the Yamaha Cup! We have a LOT yet to do, so continue to work hard to make the show better each week. You set the bar pretty high on Saturday!

NOTE #3: Reminder: you will have time between the end of rehearsal and your time to report to warmup, but you are not allowed to leave the premises! You are expected to eat your dinner at the snack shack. You are also expected to watch a few bands warmup and/or perform. I'm looking forward to seeing two other shows I wrote this year - Voorhees (2A) and Point Pleasant Boro (3A). Upperclass folks - sorry, but you probably aren't going to be able to watch West Milford. Kinda cool that they came to our show, though!

NOTE #4: Speaking of kinda cool: after our amazing performance, instead of walking off the field, we walk to the track, carefully ground our equipment, and watch the awards ceremony from there. Many of us will be involved in the presentation of the trophies, so it makes sense for us to just stay put. Also, the best part of our awards ceremony is that the drumlines from many (most) of the schools get together to play the USSBA cadence as the drum majors head out to the field. It's a very cool tradition, and it started here a long time ago when the percussion guy from Immaculata (Dan Bonham - he still works there!) wrote that cadence with the intent to have Somerville and Immaculata play it together. He shares it with anyone who asks, so there will be at least a few other schools joining in (including PPBoro, whose director is a SHS alum!)

NOTE #5: It probably won't get really cold this weekend, but....it will soon enough. It's better to layer up on the inside - think under armor, thermal underwear, long sleeve shirts. You can wear big Varsity jackets over the top of your uni....but not while you're performing. Watch the Weather Channel and plan ahead.

NOTE #6: We perform a "judged exhibition" on Saturday, which means we will get a score, but we are not competing. I will announce and post our score late that night, and will add it to the season recap.

#### **Thursday, October 7 - rehearsal day (and begin loading day)**

2:20 Normal school day ends

5:30 Rehearsal begins.

8:30 Rehearsal ends. We will be loading the props and podiums into the big truck and trailer tonight.

Some parental units will be here to help, but your assistance would make this task easier. **ALSO: All wind players NOT currently in a band class will load their equipment to the bins** at the end of rehearsal.

#### **Friday, October 8 - Pburg game day!**

7:30 Normal school day begins. Hang your uni in the green room as you arrive this morning. Wear your show shirt today! Check the weather channel....it might get a little chilly tonight! If you are not in a band class, and you didn't load your instrument in a bin on Thursday night, please do so at this time.

8:10 **MB members in the Wind Ensemble will load bins at the end of period 1.**

11:20 **MB members in the Symphonic Band will load bins at the end of period 5.**

2:20 Normal school day ends. Find a way to eat a meal NOW - we don't have a lot of time today, so be sure to have a plan for after school.

3:00 Pit rolls equipment into big truck.

3:15 Section leaders/student leaders report to load battery, bins, and sound into small truck.

3:30 EVERYONE report and immediately change into bottoms and prepare for a long bus ride.

4:05 BBBB. Departure at 4:15

5:15 Arrival at Pburg. We will take a few minutes to figure out where everything goes as we've never been here before! At away games, we usually find a safe place near the visiting bleachers for us to bring our cases, then report to the truck for h/g/g (we usually store them on top of our cases during the rest of the game). This should be fun - this is the second year for their turf field and their home stands are gigantic!

6:35 THE BEST PERFORMANCE OF YOUR LIFE (THUS FAR)!!!! As stated earlier, you set the bar pretty high last weekend - work hard, have fun, and perform your best! After we come off the field, we try to move as quickly as we can to get in the bleachers on time. No matter what you are doing, as soon as you hear the announcement for the Pburg band to play the banner, STOP WHATEVER IT IS THAT YOU ARE DOING, face the flag, and be quiet. After the banner, you may resume. I'm hoping we are able to come over to the home side to watch the Pburg band - they compete, but usually in a different circuit. I don't know if there is cookie salad. Be ready to follow some verbal directions. After the game, we march back to the trucks, put everything away, head to the buses, and head for home.

10:42 Arrival at SHS! We are unloading the bins, sound, pit, and battery upon arrival! Just roll everything to the auditorium lobby and leave it there until tomorrow. Thank you and good night!

....the weekend continues....

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9 - HOME SHOW DAY!!!**

12:30 Rehearsal begins! There are many distractions today - we need to FOCUS and get better. (One other note about the home show - you never know who is going to be in the stands. Some judges arrive early to watch the host rehearse. Some bands arrive early and their staff comes in to check it out. Point is: it's in our best interest to rehearse really, really well today).

3:30 Rehearsal ends. Push props and podiums on to track. Return instruments and equipment to the music area. Special note: be careful with your personal items today - there might be strangers in and around the area looking for restrooms. Keep your valuables, including backpacks, hidden (or at home). The Junior/Senior Winds Ensemble will immediately change into full uni, including h/g/g, in order to play the banner to open the show. EVERYONE ELSE will eat dinner at the snack shack and watch at least one band from the back stands or the side. Watching another band warm up is kind of fun, too.

4:15 Junior/Senior Winds Ensemble is in the band room, in full uni (h/g/g) with music stands and flip folders, ready to play through the banner once before heading outside to open the show! Be on time!

4:25 Junior/Senior Winds Ensemble plays the Star-Spangled Banner to begin the show!

4:30 The first band enters the field. The 40th annual home show has begun!

6:00 Winds in the band room, full uni (including h/g/g), instrument together and ready to go (BUT DO NOT PLAY)!! **NOTE: Percussion and guard will have a different reporting time and location to meet. Be sure you know at the end of rehearsal where you need to be, when you need to be there, and what you are supposed to have with you.**

6:45 At gate, ready to go. Remember - in order to do your best show, you must focus NOW.

**7:00 THE BEST PERFORMANCE OF YOUR LIFE (THUS FAR)!!!!!!** Work hard, have fun, be great, and enjoy the home crowd! Following our amazing performance, winds and guard will line up on the track, ground our equipment, and be ready to participate in the awards ceremony. Pit will push equipment to the track. Battery will march back over by the barn to join the other drumlines to play the cadence. Enjoy! When every awards has been announced, and the show is over, we have a lot to do. First, put your stuff away (including h/g/g), put your equipment where it belongs, change out of your uni, and come back to the field. Please listen to the SHSMBA folks as they ask for our help. (sometimes there's food to eat, too!) The staff will be in critique (we're going in at the very end) so please help where you can. When we're done, you can head out. THANK YOU SO MUCH for all the help you can provide at the end of the show.

**Sneak peek into next week:** Half day Monday 10/11 (in service day), rehearsal 5:30-8:30 Tuesday and Thursday, no football game Friday 10/15 (they are away at St. Joe's on Saturday), competition at Hillsborough on Saturday 10/16.

**40th annual Somerville Pioneer Band Festival**

4:25	Bernards	Group 1A
4:45	Voorhees	1A
5:00	South Hunterdon Regional	1A
5:15	Northern Valley/Old Tappan	2A
5:30	Immaculata	2 Open
5:45	INTERMISSION	
6:15	Point Pleasant Borough	3A
6:30	West Milford	3A
6:45	Hunterdon Central	5A
<b>7:00</b>	<b>SOMERVILLE</b>	<b>4A</b>
7:15	Awards ceremony/critique	