



*North Andover Public
Schools
Music Department*

Justin D. Smalley
Director of Bands

Dear NAHS Scarlet Knight Band and Color Guard Members and Parents,

I hope you and your families are having a safe and enjoyable summer. I wanted to follow up and give some updates since my last letter. Many parents and students have been asking about the announcement of leadership positions for the 2020-2021 academic year. I have received several essays from students who hope to serve the band in a leadership role. After review of these letters, I will create ballots for each position, and students will vote on their individual section leaders as well as the executive board positions. I hope we can have an announcement by the end of August or early September. I appreciate your patience throughout this process.

The safety of students, staff and families is our highest priority. Due to COVID-19, the CDC and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health have very strict guidelines for singing and the playing of musical instruments in groups. At this time, the Commonwealth and the CDC require anyone playing a musical instrument to be 10 feet apart from another player at all times and 25 feet away from any spectator. The Commonwealth also suggests small cohorts of 10 students to 2 staff members. All students and staff members must wear a mask when they are not playing their instruments. There is to be no sharing of instruments, sticks, mallets, flags or any other piece of equipment. All instruments and uniforms should be cleaned on a regular basis. (This should be a common practice outside of a pandemic!) While these guidelines and restrictions are very fluid and could change as time goes on, my intent in sharing this information is to illustrate the magnitude of this undertaking at this time. Please know that we consider all of these factors when making our decisions, while also acknowledging the commitment of students and families to the organization.

Again, the health and safety of the NAHS Scarlet Knight Band and Color Guard is the number one priority. Be well!

Best regards,
Justin (Mr. Smalley)

Sincerely,
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