



FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT • UMPS TEACHER REPORTS • 2020/2021

[SEPTEMBER](#): ALLIE / [OCTOBER](#): EMILY / [NOVEMBER](#): JOSH / [DECEMBER](#): JAMIE / [JANUARY](#): SAM
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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2020

UPCOMING MUSIC DEPARTMENT DATES/EVENTS

- **District administrators have put a hold on large-group gatherings (such as concerts) through at least November 1.** Music educators will be following district guidelines with regard to the prospect of future in-person events beyond that date and will communicate with families as soon as information is available.
 - Tentative **FHS Band** dates for 2020-2021:
 - Fall Jazz Concert: Tuesday, November 24
 - Winter Band Concert (Concert Band, Wind Ensemble): Tuesday, December 8
 - Winter Band Concert (Symphonic Band, Jazz): Wednesday, December 9
 - Jazz Cabaret: Saturday, February 6
 - WSMA District Solo & Ensemble Festival at Franklin High School: Saturday, March 13
 - WSMA State Solo & Ensemble Festival at UW-Parkside: Saturday, May 1
 - Spring Band Concert: Tuesday, May 11
 - Spring Jazz Concert: Thursday, May 20
 - Graduation: Sunday, June 6
 - There will not be any fall pep band performances. If there is a possibility for winter/basketball pep band, Mrs. Umhoefer & Mr. Werner will let families know ASAP.

DEPARTMENT NOTES (SUMMARY OF THE PAST MONTH AND HIGHLIGHT OF UPCOMING EVENTS)

- **BAND**
 - We have really enjoyed connecting with students in class this week, and have been impressed by how seriously students are embracing safety precautions throughout the school day. During their band classes, students will meet in **two socially-distant cohorts in rooms D210 and D216**, and we will only be playing instruments outside, weather permitting.
 - With a unique fall season upon us, Mr. Werner and Mrs. Umhoefer are excited about empowering students to own their musical goals and learning process as they **design the musical, visual, and collaborative aspects of their own marching arts presentation**. All marching band instruction will occur **during their assigned class periods**, and part of the student learning process will include **determining how they would like to share their musical learning with families and the community**.
 - Please refer to this recommended [band supply list](#) for the 2020-2021 school year. We ask that students review what they already have at home and supplement/re-stock as needed, aiming to have all supplies by the third week of school. Use of these individual materials will minimize the need for shared equipment in the music classroom and will support healthy performance practices, within and beyond this year.
 - **Question for UMPS:** If available, is there a way for students to use their UMPS account money for these supplies? Reimbursement with submission of a receipt?

- **CHOIR**



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- It has been great to see students in person! We are very excited to sing safely in person, holding all choir classes in the Saber Center.
- We are moving full-speed ahead with our brand new choral program design. We have 5 new curriculums and students will be receiving all Unit 1 and Unit 2 printed materials in class on either Tuesday, September 8 or Wednesday, September 9.
- All choir performances for S1 will be virtual and recorded during class time. All performances will go 'live' for students and families to view together at 7pm on the following dates.
 - Fall Choir Concert - Thursday, October 1
 - Franklin Choirs: On Broadway Concert - Thursday, November 12
 - Winter Concert combined with FPMS - Thursday, December 3
- If you have questions about any policies and procedures, please consult the [2020/2021 Choral Handbook](#).
- Please be sure that you have all required class materials by the first rehearsal next week. See Google Classroom or our choir handbook for a complete list of needed supplies.

- **ORCHESTRA**

- Bass stool request

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2020

UPCOMING MUSIC DEPARTMENT DATES/EVENTS

- **Fall Music Department Spirit-Wear** window closes on **October 6, 2020**
- **Virtual Choir Performance Release: October 19 at 7:00 pm.** Watch it on the Saber Roar Youtube Channel!
- **November UMPS Meeting Date:** WSMA medals will be distributed/mailed to all current and alumni families who placed orders
- **December UMPS Meeting Date:** Music Letters/Patches will be distributed/mailed to all current and alumni families who placed orders

DEPARTMENT NOTES (SUMMARY OF THE PAST MONTH AND HIGHLIGHT OF UPCOMING EVENTS)

- **BAND**

- Students in all three bands have been engaging with **design and performance elements of marching arts education**. Individually and in collaborative groups, students have selected their own music, analyzed scores as conductors, have proposed new pep band programming, and have begun reviewing and learning visual performance skills, with the aim of presenting a "mini marching show" by the end of first quarter.
- All students and families received a memo about the [FHS Bands: At-Home Learning Overview](#), and students currently learning at home have been incredibly communicative, responsive, and engaged.

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- Mrs. Umhoefer and Mr. Werner rolled out the first module of the [FHS Jazz Virtual Learning](#) course this afternoon. Please refer to Google Classroom for further details, and contact Mrs. Umhoefer & Mr. Werner with any questions.

● **CHOIR**

- We are happy to welcome Mr. Alex Chilsen to the choral department faculty; he is currently teaching the FPMS choirs.
- We're in the final stages of preparing our autumn performance. We will record our ensembles during the school day and release them as a virtual concert on the Saber Roar channel on Oct. 19..
 - Please remind your singers to wear concert black on their recording date (either Oct. 13 for B day ensembles or Oct. 14 for A day ensembles)
- All choir students have received instructions regarding at-home learning due to illness/quarantine in class and also via email. Information for daily work is found in a separate section of the choir agendas (found in Google Classroom.)

● **ORCHESTRA**

- We are grateful to be able to rehearse with our students as a group and are preparing for a recorded performance of some sort in December. The students have been working hard, both as musicians collaborating and as citizens of FHS to keep one another safe. We have a lot of students out in our ensembles, so we are starting to implement projects that could be done either at home or in person, at a pace that is sensitive to the student's needs.

ANY MUSIC DEPARTMENT FUNDING/VOLUNTEER REQUESTS

- [Pyware 3D software for Band](#)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2020

DEPARTMENT NOTES (SUMMARY OF THE PAST MONTH AND HIGHLIGHT OF UPCOMING EVENTS)

● **BAND**

- Congratulations to those students who participated in the **2020 WSMA Middle Level State Honors Band**. Each student "rehearsed" with a specialist on their instrument in a virtual environment in sectionals, as well as participating in a virtual ensemble with video submissions.
 - **2021 WSMA High State Honors Project audition registration is now open on the WSMA website and closes on December 4.** Auditions usually consist of an etude, scales, and a Class A solo. Mrs. Umhoefer and Mr. Werner encourage students to prepare for their February auditions as early as possible, and we are here to help with any questions or coaching.
- **Band students are wrapping up their quarter 1 marching design and performance unit this week.** Their video reflection, final solo performance, and systems analysis/action planning are **due by Wednesday, November 4, at**

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noon. We intend to capture video of students' large group performances during class on Friday, and we will be working in the coming weeks to edit and share video with families.

- **Next week, we will begin new, concert-related music and will start looking ahead to solo and ensemble music selection.** Since April 2020, Mrs. Umhoefer and Mr. Werner have actively advocated for and shared peer-reviewed music education research and examples of practice around COVID safety precautions for instrumentalists with administrators, and all decisions about where and when students play their wind instruments are made by FPS district leaders. Music teachers have been asked to direct all questions on this matter to Mr. Jonas, FHS Associate Principal.

- **CHOIR**

- Congratulations to all of our singers for producing a great Fall Informance! We are so proud of all of them and their hard work! We have closed the books on our Unit 1 work and are full steam ahead to Unit 2!
- We are in the middle of preparing our Broadway Concert (Look for our concert to go live on the Saber Roar on Thursday, November 19 at 7:00 pm!) In this unit, we are focusing on communicating meaning through our singing.
- Looking ahead, our December performance is scheduled to go live on Thursday, December 17 at 7:00pm

- **ORCHESTRA**

- Students are tearing through new music, and we're using this opportunity to read through literature that we normally might not get a chance to read through. Students have also been contributing to their portfolios with videos of self-selected literature. Perusal of Solo and Ensemble literature has also begun. Our bass students are happy to have the stools. Thank you to UMPS for providing them. Music students at FPMS have also been overjoyed to have the masks that were donated. Thank you again!

WSMA MEDALS, SENIOR PLAQUES, MUSIC LETTERS

- Mrs. Umhoefer is in the process of sorting WSMA medals for the 2020 season, starting with last year's graduating class. Senior plaques are ready to go and will be mailed to the Class of 2020. Music letters should be available for distribution in early December, and Mrs. Umhoefer will contact students/families who ordered patches when their order is ready for pick-up/mailing.
- Mrs. Umhoefer wanted to express that she takes full responsibility for the delay in getting these items to families, and she apologizes for the impact this lengthy processing time has had on students. If there is anything she can do to rectify the situation, aside from getting items to families as soon as possible, she invites families to contact her at allison.umhoefer@franklin.k12.wi.us.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2020

UPCOMING MUSIC DEPARTMENT DATES/EVENTS





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DEPARTMENT NOTES (SUMMARY OF THE PAST MONTH AND HIGHLIGHT OF UPCOMING EVENTS)

- **BAND**
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- **CHOIR**
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- **ORCHESTRA**
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ANY MUSIC DEPARTMENT FUNDING/VOLUNTEER REQUESTS

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2021

UPCOMING MUSIC DEPARTMENT DATES/EVENTS

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DEPARTMENT NOTES (SUMMARY OF THE PAST MONTH AND HIGHLIGHT OF UPCOMING EVENTS)

- **BAND**
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- **CHOIR**
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- **ORCHESTRA**
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ANY MUSIC DEPARTMENT FUNDING/VOLUNTEER REQUESTS

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2021

UPCOMING MUSIC DEPARTMENT DATES/EVENTS

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DEPARTMENT NOTES (SUMMARY OF THE PAST MONTH AND HIGHLIGHT OF UPCOMING EVENTS)

- **BAND**
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- **CHOIR**
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- **ORCHESTRA**
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ANY MUSIC DEPARTMENT FUNDING/VOLUNTEER REQUESTS

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THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 2021

UPCOMING MUSIC DEPARTMENT DATES/EVENTS

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DEPARTMENT NOTES (SUMMARY OF THE PAST MONTH AND HIGHLIGHT OF UPCOMING EVENTS)

- **BAND**
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- **CHOIR**
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- **ORCHESTRA**
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ANY MUSIC DEPARTMENT FUNDING/VOLUNTEER REQUESTS

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MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2021

UPCOMING MUSIC DEPARTMENT DATES/EVENTS

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DEPARTMENT NOTES (SUMMARY OF THE PAST MONTH AND HIGHLIGHT OF UPCOMING EVENTS)

- **BAND**
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- **CHOIR**
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- **ORCHESTRA**
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ANY MUSIC DEPARTMENT FUNDING/VOLUNTEER REQUESTS

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THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021

UPCOMING MUSIC DEPARTMENT DATES/EVENTS

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DEPARTMENT NOTES (SUMMARY OF THE PAST MONTH AND HIGHLIGHT OF UPCOMING EVENTS)

- **BAND**
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- **CHOIR**
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- **ORCHESTRA**
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ANY MUSIC DEPARTMENT FUNDING/VOLUNTEER REQUESTS

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THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2021

UPCOMING MUSIC DEPARTMENT DATES/EVENTS

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DEPARTMENT NOTES (SUMMARY OF THE PAST MONTH AND HIGHLIGHT OF UPCOMING EVENTS)

- **BAND**
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- **CHOIR**
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- **ORCHESTRA**
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ANY MUSIC DEPARTMENT FUNDING/VOLUNTEER REQUESTS

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