



Parent - WINTER PERCUSSION F.A.Q.

What is winter percussion?

Winter percussion is the percussion program's offering of ensemble between the months of November through March. Two ensembles are concert ensemble while one percussion ensemble actually moves similar to the drumline from marching band. The major differences are there are only percussionists and everything is hosted inside a gymnasium.

What is the difference between "movement" and "concert" groups?

Concert groups consist of instruments used in the "front ensembles" during marching band including keyboard instruments, timpani, stationary drums, drumset, hand drums, synthesizers etc.... They are stationary throughout the show. Movement groups use Keyboard instruments and marching battery. They perform drill, emotion, and dance on a tarp. This is very similar to Winter Guard.

What is IPA?

IPA stands for Indiana Percussion Association. This organization hosts and leads all contests for concert and movement groups, which we are performing in. They have many different classes to allow for fair competition. More information can be found at www.indianapercussion.com.

What is WGI?

Winter Guard International is the national guard and percussion circuit which hosts regional championships throughout the country and its national championship in Dayton OH mid April. We (MOVEMENT) will be attending the Indianapolis Super Regional Championship March 5-6. We are also anticipating on attending the National Championship in Dayton April 15-17

How much does it cost?

Movement is \$765, concert A is \$275, Concert World only is \$275; however concert World add-on to Movement is \$75. These fees cover instructional staff, music arrangements, show shirts, uniforms, transportation costs, contest fees and Unit membership fees, food, specialty instruments, choreography, performance tarps. Several other school we compete with charge fees in excess of \$1,200-\$1,500.

Will I be able to manage this along with school and homework?

Yes. Most of the staff not only participated in both, they actually took Advanced Placement courses and kept the same GPA. To participate with effort in both will require time management. This will prepare you for the real world and college. In addition, the staff takes academics very seriously.

Can parents help?

YES! Parents are the foundation to a successful ensemble. There are several opportunities for parents to be involved, including, chaperoning competitions, serving and/or donating food, prop building, equipment crew (loading & unloading the truck as well as moving props onto & off of the competition floor), uniform moms, & fundraising. When in CHARMS (found on the band website) click interests and you will be automatically included in our communications pertaining to that area.

If I have questions, whom should I contact?

Chad Kohler is the Director of Athletic Bands and Percussion at FHS ckohler@hse.k12.in.us If you have questions regarding communication or parent information contact Patti Williams @ pmwsmail@gmail.com or Robin Heasley @ robinheasley@gmail.com .

Finally, what will I get out of this experience?

Winter percussion will prepare you for school, work, and the rest of your life. In this ensemble, you will be taught leadership, time management, how to set personal goals, and how hard work will bring you success and happiness. The staff's first priority is providing a quality education for our students. We want you to have fun and want you to be proud of your achievements.

Competition Days:

- Feb 17 IPA (Indiana Percussion Association) invitational @ Franklin CentralHS
Concert A ONLY
- March 3 IPA invitational @ New Palestine Concert A ONLY
- March 10-11 WGI (Winter Guard International) Indiana Super Regional
Championship
MOVEMENT & Concert World ONLY @ Franklin Central HS
- March 24 IPA State Prelims @ Avon HS ALL THREE GROUPS
- April 7 IPA State Finals @ Indiana State University Avon HS ALL THREE GROUPS
- April 19-21 WGI World Percussion Championships MOVEMENT & Concert World ONLY

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WHAT DO COMPETITION DAYS LOOK LIKE?

1. They are long! Feed your kids a good breakfast, and pack them a sack lunch & plenty of water. For dinner they will be fed by parent volunteers. Watch for emails to come from Charms to see how you can help! The moment groups rehearse from about 9am-12Noon, then Concert A and World rehearse for an hour until 2, then we usually load the truck and leave for the contest which usually starts around 5pm and return home around 10pm. Concerts groups should have eaten before they arrive and the movement group will have a sack lunch when they aren't rehearsing during the concert rehearsal.

WHEN DO WE LEARN OF THE CONTEST ITINERARY?

2. Mr. Kohler will send out competition information Mondays of completion weeks which is when he gets final schedule from the contest sites.

WHERE CAN I ACCESS THE SCHEDULE?

3. The full calendar can be seen on the website, www.fishersband.org/calendar

WHAT'S THE COST FOR PARENTS TO ATTEND THE COMPETITIONS?

5. Cost for competitions is usually \$7-\$10 IPA events, WGI regionals and World Championships are between \$20 and \$65 at the upper end (If you chaperone or work with the crew your admission is free!) Look for fellow FHS Percussion Parents to sit in groups!

WHAT'S THE PERFORMANCE ORDER AT THE COMPETITION?

6. The order of performance is A Concert groups, Open Movement group, World Concert groups. The majority of competitions end around 9:00pm. The kids will unload and put the equipment away. It's a late night, but be prepared to be AMAZED!!! Moms, stuff a Kleenex in your sleeve, because watching your child do what they do in this program will create a few tears!!

Additional Notes for Parents:

Official Source of communication is from Chad Kohler, and the current Parent Liaison. For the 2017 season that is Robin Heasley (robinheasley@gmail.com)