



SHS BAND BOOSTER NEWSLETTER

~ From Many, One ~

MAY 2021

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Eric Todd

Congratulations to the Class of 2021

On behalf of the entire Band Boosters organization, CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2021!

We're so proud of you and wish you all the very best in your future endeavors. And to the entire Schaumburg High School Band, another AWESOME JOB this year!!

In spite of the challenges you faced this school year, you still have something to be very proud of with the accomplishments you achieved. Your participation with virtual band performances, chamber recordings, an in-person musical and finally, the year-end Band Awards Concert were all great accomplishments. Keep up the hard work!

And to the Band Boosters, thank you for all of the support this past school year. I want to thank you for the great assistance with fundraising, committee participation and attending monthly meetings, which shows that Saxon Pride in each of you.

We look forward to many of you participating with the Band Boosters next school year. It will be great seeing the new uniforms on the field next fall as the band marches on and performs.

I wish you all a great summer!

From Many One!

Eric Todd



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From our Band Student President

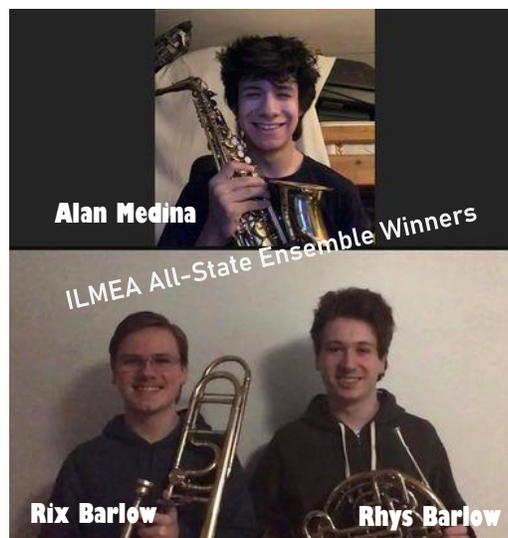
As we are approaching the final week for our seniors and the last two weeks of hybrid learning, the Schaumburg High School Band has brought forward unique ways to conclude our virtual concert rehearsals, jazz season, and many other memorable performances. We are very excited to present to you our accomplishments as we look back on how far we have come throughout the semester.

Throughout the first couple months of the semester, the four bands were hard at work with their chamber group recordings. During our class periods, small groups of ensemble members would collaborate and record their own selected pieces and present it to their class period. Our Jazz Bands were also working very hard during the first week of February because of this year's New Trier Jazz Festival. This virtual festival presented an opportunity for jazz students to participate in clinics and masterclasses with well renowned names such as Mike Reed, Victor Garcia, and Isaiah Spencer. While we were preparing for our virtual performances and recordings, selected band members were given the opportunity to play in the D211 Honor Band towards the end of February. Kevin Day, the composer of Honor Band's performed piece called Rocketship, graced the virtual presence for the Honor Band students as he answered questions about his life and his compositions. Every year D211 Honor Band members typically participate in a live concert, but this year we had everyone submit individual recordings for a final compilation of Rocketship. The end product was something the students are very proud of, thanks to our sound engineer Mr. John Towner who mastered the final recording.

Soon after wrapping up the D211 Honor Band rehearsals, the band hit the ground



running with many opportunities during the spring season. IHSA Solo and Ensemble consisted of virtual submissions in which numerous SHS Band students received a Division I rating for their wonderful performances. Band students also participated in the Independent Musicianship Project, which was modeled after a traditional audition. Students were able to practice an ILMEA etude and interact with others in their section for feedback and ways to improve their musicianship.



From our Band Student President continued...

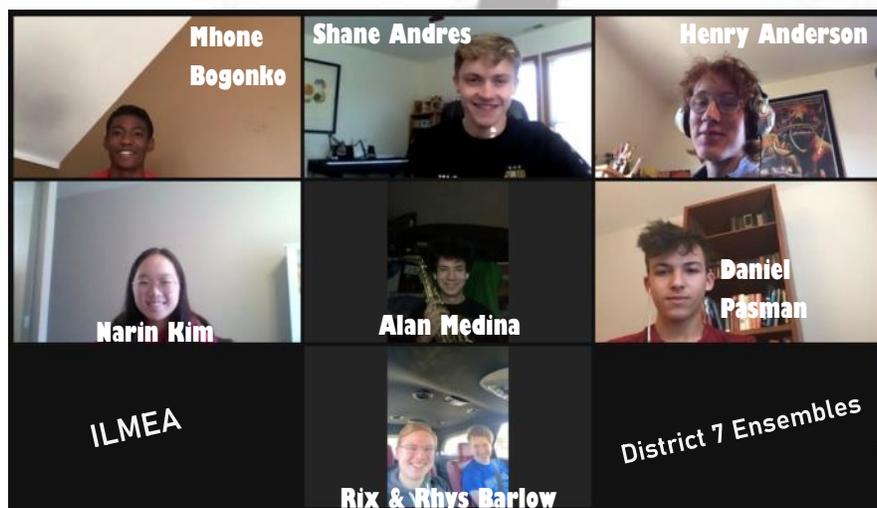
Towards the end of March, our All-State musicians participated in the Virtual All-State Festival, in which they received insight from masterclasses that catered to their instrument. This marked as a nice conclusion to all of our All-State musicians for their hard work and determination throughout the school year.

In April, shortly following IHSA Solo and Ensemble, the pit orchestra for this year's musical "The Drowsy Chaperone" consisted of 17 talented students, who faced the challenge of playing alongside the cast members in a completely different setup compared to traditional musical performances. Our pit was required to wear personal protective equipment on their faces and instruments in order to safely rehearse in the classroom setting. Through a month of preparation, we were able to put on a show-stopping performance for our beloved family members and broadcast a professional recording to everyone from the comforts of their home.

The month of April leading up to May 17th was filled with in-class and virtual rehearsals across all four bands as we practiced our pieces for the annual Band Awards Concert. Since this was going to be our first and final live performance of the 2020-2021 school year, we put all of our effort into the preparation. We found a few opportunities to rehearse live with our bands during academic support hours. After our last week of in-person academic support hours, all four bands performed in the football stadium on the 17th. Expectedly, all four bands put on an emotional and magnificent

performance. During the night of the performance, our family members attended, including 500+ views of the official livestream. Following the bittersweet concert of our first and final opportunity to perform alongside the 2021 seniors, we concluded the year with a final sendoff for the senior. During academic support hours, students attended an in-person official send-off for the Seniors. Our amazing seniors gave gifts to underclassmen, along with their final advice for the upcoming school year.

This past semester, and quite frankly this whole year has been the most unique year for everybody. The Schaumburg High School band was able to persevere and enjoy each other's love and support through all the opportunities that were present for us, even if it was through a computer screen. We were able to achieve greatness through our own progress and accomplishments, and that's why I am so proud of every single member of this program. Our band directors, boosters, parents, and friends within the program have always been there for us through thick and thin, and we truly couldn't have done it without each other. As my time in the SHS Band program suddenly comes to an end, I reflect back on how valuable every moment is. I am fortunate to have called this program as a second home to me, and I am so grateful for every friend, interaction, and performance that I had during my time in high school. Thank you to everyone for building and being part of this beautiful community, and I wish you all the best of luck for the upcoming seasons.



FROM THE DIRECTORS' PODIUM...

We are excited to announce that the Saxon Marching Band 2021 halftime show, **Friday Night Lights**. The show will feature Come Out and Play by The Offspring, Come Together by The Beatles, and My Songs Know What You Did in the Dark (Light 'Em Up) by Fall Out Boy. We look forward to bringing this music to the field next fall!

As we approach summer, here are a few reminders and opportunities for students:

With summer comes the opportunity to participate in many great music camps. Ball State University (Bands of America), Elmhurst College, Northern Illinois University, Illinois State University, University of Illinois, and Birch Creek (in Door County, Wisconsin) are among the organizations that host great camps for concert band, jazz band, marching band, and percussion. Please consult a band director for more information regarding summer music camps. Many of these camps are offering in-person and/or virtual experiences for students this summer. The in-person camps are an excellent way to get a feel for many local college campuses and immerse yourself in music for a few days to a few weeks.

We are currently planning the following for the SMB summer schedule.

Sectionals will be held in-person July 19-22 (Monday through Thursday) from 1pm to



4pm (percussion 1pm to 5pm). Attendance at sectionals is highly recommended for all students to learn the music and marching fundamentals.

Uniform Fittings are scheduled to be held on Saturday, July 31st. More information will be sent out to families in July.

Band Camp will be held in person August 2-6 (Monday through Friday) from 3pm to 8:30pm. Attendance at band camp is required for all band members. Friday will feature our Parent Showcase where parents will have an opportunity to preview the show under the lights in the stadium!

Finally, we would like to thank all of our students, parents, boosters, private teachers, administrators, maintenance staff, and all others who have helped us throughout this incredibly challenging school year. The students made the absolutely most of the circumstances and are so proud of what they have accomplished. We wish the very best to our graduating seniors and their families and hope to see you at our alumni events in the future! For returners, we look to another great year together!

From Many, One.

Vinnie Inendino & Anthony Graffeo



Dates to Remember

Sectionals

(in-person)

July 19-22 (Monday thru Thursday)

Uniform Fittings

July 31 (details to come in July)

Band Camp

(in-person)

August 2-6 (Monday thru Friday) from 3pm to 8:30pm

Band Boosters Board of Directors

saxonbandboosters@gmail.com



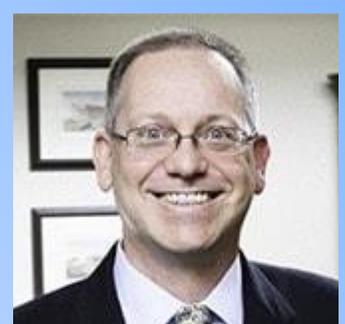
Eric Todd
President



Alan Grimm
Vice President

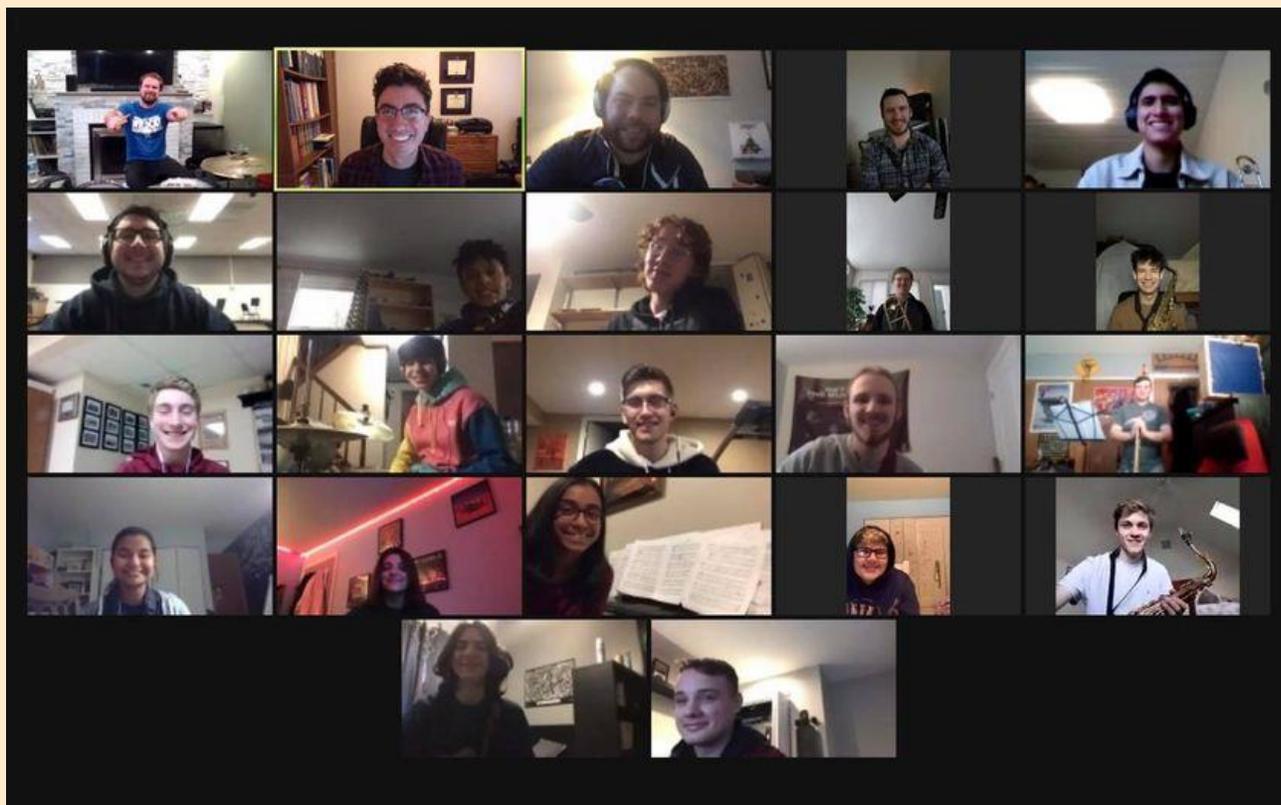


Mary Wishnew
Secretary



Dan Albreth
Treasurer

GALLERY



Jazz Ensemble and Alumni at the annual Winter Break Alumni Rehearsal.



Band members in the pit orchestra rehearse for this year's musical, "The Drowsy Chaperone."

~ From Many, One ~



GALLERY



Rehearsal for the 2021 Band Awards Concert.



Performance at the 2021 Band Awards Concert

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