

Hello Irish Guard Family:

October 22, 2011 FOOTHILL BAND REVIEW

What a beautiful day!! This is an emotional band review because it has been the final one for the last two years - including this one. Yes...we host a band review on October 29th; yet, we do not compete - we perform. We know that the adjudicating is very subjective. It is opinion based. So, with that in mind...we (Mr. Everts/Judges) have differing opinions. What I do know is that our students did the best that each one could. I felt that the response from the parents and the students was very positive. To base how the day goes based solely on the results is one's opinion. My opinion...the results are part of the day.

I choose to look at the forest rather than the trees:

DHS band students (not just siblings) were there to help/support Wells Middle School at 8:15am

DHS band/guard students and parents loaded the trailer and got changed into their uniforms without the 'supervision' of their teacher

106 DHS students or 6% of the DHS student body was able to meet at a school and get ready to perform

106 DHS students then returned to the high school to have a three hour rehearsal

Parents were are then able to FEED 6% of the school in a timely manner and then get them back to FOOTHILL High School

6% of the school was then on the Foothill High School field giving a performance that was FOUR POINTS (400 points out of a 1000)

BETTER THAN DEL MAR!! While other schools are "earning" scores in that division (Granite Bay High School - 22 hours a week rehearsal time & Lynbrook High School - Performing Arts Magnet School) that are no where near the improvement of our four points between their performances.

And then up on the hill, there he was.... ready to shake hands/give a high five/shoulder hug.... MR. BERTELSON was there.... to greet his former students following a VERY STRONG PERFORMANCE!!

And then.....the awards ceremony ended somewhere close to 11:25pm and 6% of the DHS STUDENT BODY then returned to the high school to unload the trailer with many getting home after MIDNIGHT.

So, one's perception is their reality. The reality for me is the placement - according to the judges - of the band/guard is part of the day. That part of the day will NEVER be the albatross around my neck and therefore, I will teach the students to not allow their opinions to be "the" part of the day. Just as one test should not judge that one student's overall work...one competition or two or three will never judge my students' overall work.

To parents/students/staff: thank you very much for all you did this year. To think that Marching Season is over?? Hard to believe...OOOOps...it's really not. It is now our turn to build empathy for others by hosting our FIRST EVER Field Show Competition. EXCITING!

OCTOBER 29, 2011

FIRST ANNUAL (we hope :) DUBLIN HIGH SCHOOL IRISH GUARD INVITATIONAL FIELD SHOW... If you are interested in helping...please visit the www.dhsirishguard.org website (we hope to have the list posted later today) and see where you strength can help our students. (You can also email Mrs. Mary Kelly who is coordinating all the signups at mkellydublin@aol.com). WE are doing our very best to allow the students to enjoy the day by not helping. Also, they are going to perform. **We do expect the students - as GREAT HOSTS - to be at the show from 3:30pm (hour before the show starts) till the final trophy is given.**

OCTOBER 30

Is going to be clean-up and we are going to start clean-up at 10am. I am fully aware that many of you celebrate your faith at this time. Please know that I respect that 'celebration' and expect only those who choose/can be there to be there.

NOVEMBER 7, 2011

For the last two school years, we brought back the 'tradition' of taking a FORMAL picture of IRISH GUARD and other groups within the GROUP. November 7th is a Monday night rehearsal. We selected November 7th because...the other Monday nights are/were needed for rehearsal and we were unaware of any conflicts (since Monday nights are our usual night for rehearsal). Well, November 7th is the first day of WINTER SPORTS tryouts. I have contacted Mr. McHugh (DHS ATHLETIC DIRECTOR) to have his support in notifying the coaches of the 12 students trying for a WINTER SPORT. Mr. McHugh will notify the coaches that those students have band/guard that evening. We will take the picture at 7pm. As soon as the picture is done those 12 students (if they need to) will be done by 7:15pm and leave to return to their tryout. The rehearsal on November 7 will be dedicated to the picture.

AGAPE (referring to unconditional, self-sacrificing, giving love to all-both friend and enemy. <http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org>)

Mr. Everts

Music Teacher, Dublin High School

Founder, BAND TOGETHER (Student Leadership Seminars)