

New Family Survival

2020-21
EDITION

Welcome!

Welcome to the Bishop Watterson family!
This guide, a compilation of topics suggested by BWHS parents, is intended to provide friendly fill-in-the-gaps information and advice to new families on the ins and outs of daily life at Bishop Watterson.

Topics are listed in alphabetical order, followed by Athletics, Choir, and Band. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, please note that everything is subject to change.

Quick Advice from Parents:

- 1: This guide was created because parents said it was needed, so prove them right and use it wisely! Keep it handy so that when a question pops up you can pull out your trusted *Survival Guide* to look for guidance.
- 2: Become comfortable navigating the Bishop Watterson website, www.bishopwatterson.com. The Student Handbook can be found on the Student Life menu. The Curriculum Guide can be found by clicking on the *Academics* menu. A *Calendar* button can be found at the top of our homepage (desktop) and by clicking on the white V (mobile).
- 3: Read the *Watterson Wednesday News* e-mailed to parents every **Wednesday** and check the website regularly to find out what's happening. Check your spam folder if you don't see it and consider whitelisting @bwhs.org and @cdeducation.org emails.
- 4: Activities and other important information are announced at school and in the Daily Bulletin in PowerSchool for the students. If you have a specific question, start with your son or daughter. We trust they will relay information that is important to them (such as when spring musical auditions will be held, or "I need cash" to buy a t-shirt) directly to you, their loving parents and occasional taxi drivers.
- 5: If you still do not have the answer you are looking for, it might be time to call the school at (614) 268-8671 and then spread the correct information to other parents who have the same question.

The New Family
Survival Guide is NOT:

- ◆ BWHS policy
- ◆ the Student Handbook
- ◆ the Curriculum Guide
- ◆ the final word on anything



ABSENCES/SICK DAYS

We recommend you review the Attendance policy and the COVID-19 decision tree in the Student Handbook

If your child is sick, call the school between 7:30-8:30 a.m. each day.

Vacations during the school year are difficult for the student because of the amount of work missed, so they are not recommended and, in fact, are discouraged.

If your child needs to leave early, he/she must turn in a note in homeroom or directly to the office, signed by a parent stating what time they are to be dismissed, along with their student ID number. With the note, the student can sign out at the appropriate time.

Always include your child's ID # on notes. That little ID # makes the staff's job easier, and so does legible handwriting.

ADMINISTRATION

Bishop Watterson's administration consists of a Principal, Deacon Chris Campbell '77, and two Assistant Principals, Andrea Pore and Ryan Schwieterman '01, along with Assistant Administrator Abby Teeters and the Dean of Girls, Heather Law, and Dean of Boys, Vince Lombardo. You can find contact information for these, as well as our department directors and chaplain, on the website under *About, Administration*. We have a complete staff contact list on the *About* menu. Click *Faculty & Staff*.

ATHLETICS

See pages 10-11.

BACKPACKS/PURSES/SPORTS GEAR

Backpacks are not normally permitted to be carried between classes but will be permitted starting the 2020-21 school year as the students will have less access to their lockers.

Purses are normally permitted to be carried between classes.



BELL SCHEDULE

We have established bell schedules for the different learning plans for 2020-21. Please see the student handbook for the specifics.

BUSING

Students in the following school districts can receive busing to Bishop Watterson: Columbus*, Dublin, Hilliard and Worthington.

Links to the district sites can be found at bishopwatterson.com under *Student Life, Forms & Flyers*.

*Note that Columbus will provide service only if we have enough students riding the bus daily.

No Bus Service

If you live in a school district that does not provide busing it is possible you may be reimbursed for driving your child to school yourself. Call your local school district for information on this. Olentangy and Marysville, for instance, do not provide busing. Neither does Toledo, but that's probably not an issue. :)



Calamity Days

If your school district is closed but Bishop Watterson is open, you will need to arrange for alternate transportation to BWHS. Bishop Watterson follows the Diocese of Columbus for closing school. We use School Messenger to send voicemail messages to the phone numbers we have on file in the main office for each family. We also tweet the cancellation and post on facebook. In reality, the kids always seem to know first.

CALENDAR

Click the *Calendar* button in the header of the website on your desktop or the white V on mobile. Options are month, week, day and list view. The default view is by month. Details are available by hovering over an event or clicking on it. The calendar can be exported by clicking on the *"Export Monthly Events"* at the bottom.

CASUAL DRESS DAYS

These will be announced at school with the specific requirements or themes. Please read the Student Handbook for more details.

Students may dress casually on their birthdays if it is not a Mass day.

CHARITABLE PROJECTS

Each year during the Thanksgiving-Christmas season we hold a food drive. In addition, the St. Vincent dePaul Club will hold a toiletries drive for the clients



of Holy Family Soup Kitchen. We have also had other drives in past years, including a toy drive.

In addition, Business Club activities such as bake sales, pancake breakfast, etc. raise funds for the Nationwide Children's Hospital Christine Wilson '01 Burn Unit, and students will also ask to take on projects as needs arise.

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic we do not know what, if any, of these events will take place during the 2020-21 school year.

Fill Up Fridays

During Lent, groups of juniors and seniors form teams to collect items such as food, toiletries or paper products for area charities. On designated Friday mornings the teams line up their vehicles in front of the school to see which team brought in the most items for the charity of the week.

Teams get together to choose themes for each week such as super heroes (Team Superman vs. Team Wonder Woman vs. Team Captain America), or Toy Story (Team Woody vs. Team Buzz vs. Team Jessie).

Teams create and display posters throughout the school to promote participation by all students. We share the information in Wednesday News as well.

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS COURSES

Bishop Watterson works with Columbus State Community College to provide College Credit Plus (CCP) courses for our students on the Bishop Watterson campus. More information can be found on our website, under Academics.

Students schedule the CCP courses for the following school year beginning in February during the regular scheduling process.

We recommend that interested parents and students attend the CCP meeting held at BWHS each January. In the meantime, you can view the 2019 meeting on the CCP page of our website.



COMMUNICATION

Every effort we make to communicate with parents and students is intended to make life at Bishop Watterson smooth for all of us ... students, staff and parents alike.

Emails

It's the 21st century and our email in-boxes are filled daily with everything ranging from personal commu-

nication to the latest sale at Kohl's or your favorite retailer. At Bishop Watterson we realize this is the way of life in 2020 and have made a concerted effort to consolidate our communication to parents. Instead of sending many emails about various topics, we send one weekly email with the many items our parents *need* to know as well as additional items you may *want* to know. We call this email the **Watterson Wednesday News** because it is available each **Wednesday**. We like to think of the Watterson Wednesday News as a team effort by the staff to keep you informed, so make reading this a Wednesday habit for your sake, and for the staff's sake! Grab your coffee on Wednesday morning and read the Watterson Wednesday News. In the event that you accidentally delete the email, we archive the most recent of these emails on our website under *About, Stay Informed*. If you do not see an email, please check your spam and other folders. Consider "whitelisting" @bwhs.org and @cdeducation.org domains with your email provider to avoid our emails getting pushed into other folders.

We occasionally send class-specific emails to parents as necessary. Freshman and senior parents are more likely to receive class-specific emails. Just like Watterson Wednesday News, these are sent on a need-to-know basis, so if it's in your inbox, you need to know!

With Teachers

The first step in getting questions answered is for your student to communicate directly with the teacher. If you then need to email, the teacher and staff email addresses can be found on *About* menu on the website. Click on *Faculty & Staff*.

Website

Our website is full of information! It contains the Student Handbook, Curriculum Guide, forms, and news items, among other things. If you have not yet had an opportunity, please familiarize yourself with this tool.

In-School Announcements

Announcements about club meetings, service opportunities and other items of interest to students can be found on the Daily Bulletin on the left column when you log into PowerSchool. We encourage students and parents to read this. We also place announcements on the TV screens in the cafeteria and in the chapel lobby

In addition, brief announcements are made after 7th period. This is when sports rainouts and the occasional casual dress day will be announced.



Social Media

Bishop Watterson has an active presence on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, where we share information of interest to our entire community of current parents and students, alumni, donors and past parents and friends. If you participate in any of these apps we encourage you to follow us! We do not recommend trying to communicate with the school through social media messaging. Call or emails to the appropriate staff member are the way to go.

COUNSELORS

We have three school counselors, college counselor and a counselor for Dominican Program students. If you need help or have a question you should reach out to your child’s assigned counselor who is designated by the first letter of your last name. The nice thing is that your student will most likely have the same counselor for four years.

Counselors provide academic, personal, social and college/career support. We also have two Student Wellness Counselors and an Educational Psychologist.

Counselor Communication

- Students can make appointments with their counselors online by going to the School Counselors page of the *Academics* menu on our website.
- Counselors have a *Guidance News* section on the website under *Academics* and updates are noted in the Watterson Wednesday News.
- In addition, the Guidance Department has Twitter and Instagram accounts (@BWHSCounselors).
- Counselors also use Naviance to send emails and post communication with college-related reminders.
- Students are free to discuss college planning, academics or personal concerns with counselors at any time, and the counselors are glad when parents reach out so they can provide accurate information.
- A wealth of information can be found on our website by checking the Counseling Services list on the *Academics* menu.

Guidance Counselors

- A-G** Jennifer Sponseller, mrs.sponseller@bwhs.org
- H-O** Samantha Rosetti, ms.rosetti@bwhs.org
- P-Z** Jamie Kirby, mrs.kirby@bwhs.org

College Counselor: Patti Creighton, ms.creighton@bwhs.org

Dominican Program Counselor: Casey Teeters, cteeters@cducation.org

DANCES

Dances have been cancelled for the first semester of the 2020-21 school year due to the COVID-19 virus.



Cotillion, for juniors and seniors only, is usually held in January. **Prom**, for juniors and seniors only, is usually held in May.

A **Parent/Senior Dance** is held in May.

DRESS CODE

For the complete dress code, read the Student Handbook, found on our website on the *Student Life* menu.

You will see polo shirts and shorts on the boys during the warm weather (start of school until September 30 and May 1 until the end of school). During the rest of the school year boys wear uniform pants and oxford shirts with ties.

For girls, white blouses from the uniform provider can be worn during both the warm and cool seasons. Polos, permitted through September 30 and after May 1, require a specific embroidery from the uniform store.

The skirt length must be no shorter than four inches from the floor when kneeling. Don’t let the girls push the envelope on this one. Please help us enforce this rule!



Jumper buttons **MUST** be buttoned on the side.

Solid-colored socks or tights or both are worn, sweaters are considered cool (well, cool for now), and quarter zips are the new fav.

We begin the 2020-21 school year with a mask requirement.

Questions about uniforms can be directed to Dean of Girls Heather Law, hlaw@cducation.org.

EAGLE GALA

We normally hold the Eagle Gala in the spring.



This is the school's biggest fundraising event with proceeds going to tuition assistance and our Dominican Program which addresses learning differences and emotional wellness concerns. In 2020 we cancelled and later held an Eagle Gala Day of Giving which was very successful thanks to the generosity of the BWHS community.

EARLY RELEASE DAYS

Bishop Watterson has occasional early release days when the teachers have in-service meetings. On these days students are released at 1:45 p.m. and buses do run. These dates can be found on the website. Click on the calendar at the top. Students will also be released early during semester finals, at around 1:00 p.m.

FINALS

First and Third Quarter Finals

First and third-quarter final exams are administered over a five-day span during the regular class periods (45 minutes). Specific days are designated for different subject areas so that students do not have too many tests to take in one day.

First and Second Semester Finals

Semester finals are given over a four-day period and are 90 minutes in length. Normally, students take two exams each day, scheduled by class periods, and are dismissed at 1:00 p.m.

FUNDRAISING

There are **three components** of the Bishop Watterson overall fundraising strategy:

Annual Giving supports this year's operating budget. The tuition charged for a Bishop Watterson education is less than the actual cost of educating a student. That reality results in what Catholic high schools call the budget "gap."

Annual Giving is designated to fund the "gap."

Major Gifts support short-term capital projects. The purpose of major gifts for Catholic high schools is to fund **capital needs** such as facilities renovation and expansion, major technology upgrades, and endowment.

Planned Giving ensures long-term financial stability. A planned gift is any major gift, made during a person's lifetime or at death as part of a donor's overall financial and/or estate planning. Planned gifts are focused on ensuring the future financial stability of the school.

These fundraising efforts are coordinated through the Bishop Watterson Development Office.

GRANDPARENTS' DAY

Students can invite their grandparents to school for a morning during the spring when they can have breakfast, tour the school and attend a special Mass together. Students who do not have grandparents participating will attend classes as usual. This event was cancelled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 virus.

HANDBOOK

The Student Handbook can be found on the website on the *Student Life* menu.



LAPTOPS

See Technology.

LIBRARY HOURS

7:30 a.m. – 3:20 p.m.

LUNCH

Cafeteria service is provided by Mustard Seed Catering. A hot main dish is offered each day, along with a wrap and sandwich of the day, salads and varying items such as yogurt parfaits and fruit salad. A weekly menu is posted on the website under *Student Life*. **The cafeteria is closed on semester final exam days and some early dismissal days.** Students can pack a lunch on those days. National Honor Society sometimes sells pizza, which is announced in school before the early dismissal day.

MEETINGS

All parent meetings for 2020-21 will be virtual. Watch Watterson Wednesday News for specifics as we work out this schedule.



OFFICE HOURS

School year

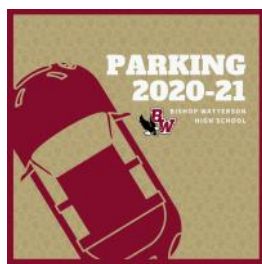
7:30 a.m.-3:20 p.m. Monday through Friday. Hours vary during the summer break. Check the website for summer hours. The *Calendar* button can be found at the top of the screen (on phone click on white V at the top).

POWERSCHOOL

PowerSchool Unified Classroom is our online system which provides 24/7 access to grades, assignments, report cards and the Daily Bulletin, among other things.

PARKING/PICK-UP

Parking spaces are reserved for juniors and seniors. Every student who wants to park at BWHS, even if not every day, must get a pass. The application process will be shared in Wednesday News in late spring.



Picking Up Students After School: Please help us set a tone of common sense and courtesy.

Due to bus congestion, we ask parents to arrive after 3:15 p.m. As you may have noticed, Bishop Watterson is in a neighborhood and that means we have neighbors. **Please do not park or stop on the east side of Foster, in front of the neighbors' homes.** Cars who stop on this side, regardless of whether they are blocking a driveway, will most definitely be in the way for north-bound drivers on Foster.

If you are picking your child up after an activity and are waiting in line at the south entrance, please pull forward against the curb or park in the lot.

In addition, the City of Columbus has made Cooke Road in front of the BWHS main entrance a no-stopping zone.

SCHOLARSHIPS

There are numerous scholarship opportunities available from the school. The list, requirements and deadlines are on the website under *Admissions*. We also have a Student Work Program, which can be found under *Student Life, Forms & Flyers*.

SCHOOL BOARD

The pastor at each feeder parish appoints a representative to serve as BWHS School Board member for a term of two years. The School Board President is appointed by the Principal. Quarterly meetings are held in the school library. The School Board is an advisory group of individuals that serve as liaisons with their parish communities.

SOPHOMORE SERVICE PROGRAM

Only sophomores are required to complete a service project; however, all students are strongly encouraged to do service in their communities throughout their four years at Bishop Watterson.

Sophomores must complete the Sophomore Service Training Program (SSTP). Our Service Coordinator visits the freshman Theology classes during fourth quarter to explain the program and inform students of projects that must be applied for before the next school year begins. The SSTP must be done during the school year. It CANNOT be completed during the summer prior.

The number of hours required for the SSTP will vary based on the site chosen by the student.

SERVICE HOURS

Service records are kept for all students. Students who complete service hours should turn in the service record form to the Service Director in the Theology office. The forms are available on the website under Student Life, Forms & Flyers

It is important to keep a record of service hours because they can be helpful when applying for scholarships, grants and awards.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the National Honor Society must have 35 hours of recorded service in addition to the SSTP. For complete information on eligibility and requirements for NHS, see the Student Handbook.

Service Director Karissa Bowman maintains a calendar of service opportunities which can be found on the website under Student Life, Faith & Service, Service.



SPIRITUAL INVOLVEMENT

In a normal school year, parents are welcome to attend all-school Masses and Eucharistic Adoration. For the musically inclined students who would like to participate in the Mass, BWHS has a Worship Band. To get involved, your student should talk to Mrs. Beth Simmonds in the Campus Ministry office. There are also opportunities to altar serve, lector, or serve as a Eucharistic Minister.

For the students, confessions are heard several times each school year. They can visit the chapel during study hall, lunch or Theology class on these days.

TECHNOLOGY

Cell Phones

Cell phones must be turned off and remain in the locker during the school day. If a student is found using a cell phone or with a cell phone in his/her possession during school hours, a fine will be issued. See the Student Handbook for more information.



Laptops

All students will be issued a school-owned tablet PC for both home and school use, along with a protective case. Students can go to room 118 before school, during study hall and after school for help with tablet issues. The technology lab is open from 7:30-3:30 on regular schedule days.

Fines are issued for lost or damaged equipment.

Students have the option to either take the tablet home for the summer or have it stored at school.

DyKnow Classroom Management

Bishop Watterson utilizes Dyknow Classroom Management Software for more efficient online testing, as well as ensuring that students stay on-task during their class time. DyKnow provides teachers and administrators with tools to measure popular websites and applications, and helps them guide student choices during class.

Your student's teachers and administrators have access to monitor school-owned and managed student devices during the school day with DyKnow. Teachers see an image of each student's screen and the website or application the student is using. After class, teachers can access reports showing students' website history and app usage, including how often and for how long each website or app was accessed.

TUITION

Tuition rates and payment options can be found on the website under Admissions, Tuition.

On your bill you will notice the Building Facility Fee of \$200/student and a Technology Fee of \$100/student. The facility fee has been and will continue to be used for current and long-term building projects and maintenance. The technology fee covers the many elements involved in keeping our school current in this area, including equipment, software and wifi.

Students' tuition must be up to date in order to take semester finals in December and paid in full in order to take end-of-year finals.

Please read the Student Handbook for more details.



ATHLETICS

BWAA

The Bishop Watterson Athletic Association forms and payments can be completed through our website. Choose Final Forms on the Athletics menu. Fees vary by sport ranging from \$200-400 with a family maximum of \$1,000 per school year. The fees list can be found on our website by going to the Athletics menu and clicking on Bishop Watterson Athletic Association.

FINAL FORMS

All forms must be completed before sports tryouts begin. <https://www.bishopwatterson.com/athletics/final-forms/>

CONTACT

If you have a question not covered in this document, the entire list of head coaches can be found on the website under Athletics. You can also contact Athletic Director Doug Etgen, detgen@cdeducation.org

SCHEDULES

Sport schedules are currently found on our website by clicking on Athletics then Eagle Sports.

STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

Strength and Conditioning Coach Brian Mong is a Bishop Watterson Class of 2000 graduate. He graduated from Ashland University in 2005 with a B.S. in Sports Medicine and has worked as our strength and conditioning coach since 2009.

Coach Mong helps create strength and conditioning programs for our athletes and is available to help each Bishop Watterson student achieve his/her conditioning goals.

EAGLE WEIGHT ROOM

Hours of Operation

While school is in session:

3:15– 7:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. During the fall sports season Friday hours become 3:15–5:00 p.m. with limited exceptions. During the winter season, Saturday hours might become available.

Teams may have designated times during the school and summer sessions. Head coaches will make that information available to athletes via team e-mail lists.

Summer Hours:

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Monday, Wednesday and Thursday

SPORTS MEDICINE

Our Sports Medicine program is headed by Certified Athletic Trainer Erick Boucher. He serves as the first step in diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation for our student-athletes and our team physicians: Dr. Doug DiOrio '86 and Dr. Ray Pongonis.

Mr. Boucher graduated from Ohio University with a B.S. in Athletic Training and has been at Bishop Watterson since 2005. He also facilitates our student sports medicine program, in which Bishop Watterson students can learn the ins and outs of the sports medicine world.

Hours of Operation

While school is in session:

12:30 p.m. – end of the day's activities. As game schedules vary daily, Coach Boucher may be off campus at game sites beginning as early as 4:00 p.m.

Summer Hours:

Wednesdays 2:00–5:00 p.m. or by appointment by e-mailing eboucher@cdeducation.org.

Advantages of Utilizing BWHS Sports Medicine

Using the Bishop Watterson Sports Medicine Team has several advantages:

- Fast access to team physicians for further diagnosis or treatment
- On-site rehabilitation opportunities, limiting school absences
- Expedited communication for secondary insurance

You are always free to use your own physicians, but we do ask that you keep us informed so we know what is going on with your child.

TRANSPORTATION

Bishop Watterson does not provide bus transportation to sporting events and practices. Parents are responsible for getting athletes where they need to be.



CHOIR

STEP 1

Men's Chorus, Women's Chorus

A single-semester, entry-level course, open to students in Grades 9-12. These ensembles will help students develop proper vocal and choral technique as well as focus on developing the basics of music literacy, theory and historical knowledge. These ensembles also serve as preparatory courses for Mixed Choir and Concert Choir. Outside of class requirements include dress rehearsals and performances as well as participation with various choral department fundraising activities.

Handbell Choir I

A single-semester ensemble open to all students interested in learning to play the handbells. No prior experience is necessary. All

skills needed to participate will be taught during the class. This course will focus on developing the skills needed to play in a handbell ensemble as well as



developing the basics of music literacy and theory. One rehearsal and one performance requirement outside of the school day are required, as well as participation with various choral department fundraising activities.

STEP 2

Mixed Choir

An intermediate-level ensemble, open to all students who have had at least one semester in Men's or Women's Chorus or were placed by audition freshman year. The course can be taken as a full-year course or for a single semester. This ensemble will focus on building a combined choir sound as well as continue to reinforce proper vocal technique and develop music literacy, theory and historical knowledge. This ensemble serves as a preparatory course for Concert Choir. Outside of class requirements include dress rehearsals and performances as well as participation with various choral department fundraising activities.

Handbell Choir II

A single-semester ensemble open to all students interested in continuing their participation in the handbell choir. Prerequisite of one semester of Handbells I is required. Students will continue to work on improving their playing technique as well as playing music selections at a higher level. One rehearsal and one performance requirement outside of the school day.

Step 3

Concert Choir

An auditioned, full-year course for students in grades 10-12 who have participated in at least one semester of another choir and have placed by audition. This course continues to advance proper vocal and choral technique through sight reading and ear training. Additional out-of-school performance opportunities include contests/festivals, music tours and possible trips. There is a course fee to cover uniform costs.



other choir and have placed by audition. This course continues to advance proper vocal and choral technique through sight reading and ear training. Additional out-of-school performance opportunities include contests/festivals, music tours and possible trips. There is a course fee to cover uniform costs.

Non-Graded, After-School Choir

Gold Standard A Cappella Choir

An auditioned, elite ensemble with no class prerequisite for men and women in grades 9-12. Rehearsals are held after school one day per week through the first semester. There are multiple performance requirements outside of school during the holiday and spring seasons, in addition to music tours and school concert performances.





BAND



MARCHING BAND

- Graded course/Co-curricular which meets every day during school and after school
- After school schedule:
- All band members Monday and Thursday until 4:00 p.m. (will move to 4:30 if permitted)
- Brass sectionals Tuesday until 4:00 p.m.
- Woodwind sectionals Wednesday until 4:00 p.m.
- Percussion sectionals Tuesday and Wednesday until 4:00 p.m. (will move to 4:30 if permitted)
- Schedule is subject to change (may change due to the plan we are on)
- The band will attend a festival or two this year due to all contests being cancelled, as well as a community performance. All held in October.
- The fees for marching band will be determined. There may not be fees this year.
-

CONCERT BAND

- Graded course which meets every day during second semester
- Students do not audition for concert band but may need to audition for seating placement.
- The concert band performs at least two concerts per year and usually the district contest in March. This is of course tentative.

- There is a concert band uniform which is provided by the band boosters.
- Students do not need to be a part of the marching band to join concert band, but participation in both groups is encouraged.

JAZZ BAND

- Non-graded, second-semester ensemble
- Auditions are held only for the rhythm section of the band (piano, guitar, bass, drums).
- Students do not need to be a part of any of the other bands to join jazz band.
- The jazz band performs at events in the spring including two concerts, Arts Festival, Jazz Dinner fundraiser, music tour. All performances are tentative.

NON-GRADED ENSEMBLES

The following ensembles are non-graded and are open to all band students:

- Pep Band: performs at most boys' home basketball games. TBA
- Pit Orchestra: performs for the spring musical. TBA
- Small ensembles: performs at OMEA Solo & Ensemble contest in the winter. This most likely will be an done in a virtual format this year.

