

## PLYMOUTH-CANTON EDUCATIONAL PARK

Canton High School • 8415 Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48187 • (734)416-2850  
Plymouth High School • 8400 Beck Road, Canton, MI 48187 • (734) 582-5500  
Salem High School • 46181 Joy Road, Canton, MI 48187 • (734) 416-7800



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COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
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Dear P-CEP Band Families,

We would like to extend sincere thanks to each and every one of you for your participation, valuable contributions, and continued support of the P-CEP Band Program. The success and growth of our program would not be possible without the time, energy, and support that so many individuals dedicate, making a meaningful difference in our band program and community. We are deeply grateful for everyone's commitment and effort in supporting music education.

The P-CEP Band Program boasts a distinguished, nearly 70-year tradition, offering a unique range of ensembles, including concert bands, marching band, jazz band, indoor percussion, and winter guard—one of only a handful in the country to offer such a variety. We are also proud of our commitment to supporting younger students in grades K–8 with cadet and junior varsity programming, fostering a love of music and performance at an early age.

As we look ahead to next year, we are thrilled to anticipate what may be a record number of students participating in the P-CEP Band Program. We have seen tremendous growth in enrollment across our band classes and co-curricular ensembles, reflecting the enthusiasm and dedication of our students and community. It is incredibly exciting to see this momentum continue, and we look forward to welcoming even more students into the P-CEP Band family as our program continues to grow and thrive.

In preparation for the next school year, we would like to share **three important updates** to all band families:

**First, and most excitingly, we are thrilled to announce that the P-CEP Band Program will be traveling to Disney World in Orlando, Florida next spring!**

The P-CEP Band most recently traveled to Walt Disney World in 2023, and it was an unforgettable experience for everyone involved. We would again like to offer *all* band students some of the most extraordinary performance opportunities that simply cannot be replicated anywhere else—even for those who have already visited the “Most Magical Place on Earth.”

While many of the details are still being finalized and will continue to be developed throughout the spring, we wanted to share this exciting news as early as possible so that students and families can start making plans for the upcoming school year. At this time, we anticipate that the trip will take place in May of 2027, after state and AP testing has concluded and prior to the graduation of the Class of 2027.

We will be hosting an informational meeting in the coming weeks to share more detailed information, including anticipated travel dates, estimated costs, performance opportunities, and trip details. We are incredibly excited about this opportunity and look forward to sharing more soon!

As we continue to welcome more students into the PCEP Band Family, we remain committed to evaluating our program offerings and enhancing the overall experience for our students and families. The opportunity to travel with the PCEP Band program to Orlando is truly exciting, and we are mindful of the significant financial commitment that such trips require. Thanks to the dedication of our *incredible* booster organization, we are able to provide financial support that helps make participation in all of our band programs significantly more accessible. While this support makes a meaningful difference, we understand that some families may still face challenges in accessing these enriching opportunities, and we remain committed to exploring ways to broaden access for all students.

**Second, the PCEP Marching Band will be taking a year off from attending the BOA Grand National Championships and Away Band Camp during the 2026-2027 school year.** We anticipate that this change will *drastically decrease each family's financial commitment for marching band by up to 50%*, lowering the expected season tuition from ~\$1,950 to approximately \$800 - \$950.

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Participation in the co-curricular band programs, especially the PCEP Marching Band, requires a significant financial contribution. For the past 20+ years, the Directors and Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters have managed to keep tuition consistent, due to successful fundraising and community engagement efforts. Despite the countless hours spent pouring over budgets and developing creative cost cutting measures, tuition continues to be a financial burden that prohibits many eager, talented, and hardworking students from participating.

To be clear, these changes to the PCEP marching band season will not impact the opportunity our students will have for a very rewarding, engaging, and high-quality competitive marching band experience. We have already started discussions about ways to make our band camp week at PHS full of special and memorable activities for students -- though it will occur a bit closer to home this year! With this year's updated school calendar, this adjustment also allows for a smoother transition into the start of the year, including schedule pickup and other start-of-year responsibilities.

The remainder of the marching band season will look very similar - students will perform at BOA Toledo, MCBA local competitions, and will conclude the season with State Prelims and Finals. We are also excited to share plans for our 2026 production soon, which will continue to carry the distinctive "Plymouth" touch. While the show design and educational team remain intact, we are hopeful that the reduced cost of participation will allow more families to be involved, further enhancing the ensemble's achievement and success.

**Third, we will premiere a new scholarship program.** This will make participation even more attainable while continuing to provide a rewarding and engaging experience for all students. We are anticipating that this change will allow for more families to feel that all band programs are more accessible, while also increasing the possibility of participation in both co-curricular ensemble offerings and the spring Disney trip.

We invite prospective new members and parents who may be interested in joining the 2026 P-CEP Marching Band next season to attend an informational meeting on Monday, March 16th at 7pm in the PCEP Band Room at Plymouth High School. During this meeting, families can learn more about schedules, performance opportunities, general financial information, and more.

While this news may understandably be disappointing to some, we remain committed to finding ways to offer as many high quality experiences to our record-number of PCEP Band students as possible. We are confident that these new opportunities for the upcoming school year will positively impact the participation of students and families in PCEP Band program offerings, while also significantly reducing the financial stress of adding on these experiences.

We are genuinely excited for this upcoming school year for all of our PCEP Band students. Our concert ensembles have demonstrated remarkable growth, which has in turn led to tremendous quality and growth of our co-curricular programs.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to an exciting and rewarding 2026–2027 school year!

Sincerely,

Mr. Wells, Mr. Rodriguez, and Mrs. Weller  
P-CEP Band Directors