Dear Newton Band Students and Parents,

As another season winds toward its close, I'm excited to be writing this letter to provide details for 2026 OMEA State Finals! This season has been a great one, achieving straight Superior ratings at EVERY CONTEST—that's amazing!—and I hope you had a chance to experience it with the students, staff, and myself.

At the conclusion of the competition season we have one last performance, **OMEA State Finals on Sunday, November 1 at Piqua High School** stadium. This performance will be the culmination of hundreds of hours of rehearsal and practice since July, and I cannot stress enough how important it is for everyone to be in good health and mindset. Please take care of yourself all week, wash your hands, eat good quality meals, drink plenty of water, and get *lots... of... sleep*!

Our OMEA Finals performance is at 4:00pm, followed immediately by awards at 4:15. I would encourage spectators to arrive as early as 12:30 to catch other performances by the many talented students from around the region who qualified for State. Prices are set similar to past years in which parking was $5 cash per car, and tickets are $10 adults, $7 students/seniors, children under 5 are free. We perform best when we hear our fans in the stands—I hope you're able to attend and cheer for every loud moment, every company front, every soloist, and every windy flag toss.

I want to thank everyone for a great season and for supporting your band students, especially Ryan & Becky Christman, Mike Flora, Amy Fullenkamp, Kristina Peele, Jenn & Jeremy Ovenshire, Carmen Marchal, Heidi Butts, Stephanie Ballard, Alyssia Serey, and NaTasha Angle for helping on our Pit Crew. Also welcome to first-time "parent Hall of Fame" inductees Jenn & Jeremy Ovenshire as well as NaTasha Angle for helping with every competition! Our success very much depends on the involvement of parents, and we couldn't do it without everyone who signed up to help throughout the season! I hope to see you all at State Finals on Sunday, and as always, feel free to contact me if you have any questions. **Don't forget that we have the Halloween parade on Thursday evening 10/29 as well. The parade will begin at 8:00pm, students will need to report at 7:00 for rehearsal, and dress up in fun costumes that are march-able and play-able.**

Musically Yours,

Kevin Taylor
Director of Bands, Newton

P.S. We will be celebrating our season with a team meal at Fazoli's after the performance; be sure to bring cash or card!

Itinerary: November 1, 2026
Site: PIQUA HIGH SCHOOL
1 INDIAN DRIVE, PIQUA, OH

Performance Uniform*: Full. NHSMB t-shirts, athletic shorts, long black socks. Students will dress at Newton.* ***Hot hands personal warmers may be desired.***

1:00pm: Call time for run through in uniforms
1:40pm: Polish instruments, show hair, & load
2:00pm: Depart for Piqua High School
2:25pm: Arrival at Piqua. Students assemble instruments and prepare in the lot.
2:50pm: Students depart to warm-up. Pit crew finish assembly of props, then depart for entry gate.
4:00pm: PERFORM, GO BAND!
*After performance we will stand (in uniform and with instruments) at the fence as awards are announced right after Newton performs! *
4:15pm: Awards
4:35pm: Depart for Fazolis
6:00pm: Depart Fazolis toward Newton
6:15pm: Arrival at Newton. Unload trailer equipment and uniforms, then students will be dismissed.

Director's Notes:

Music	***Visual***
Cool music. Nice sound. Now don't ease up, put the exclamation point on our season.	*Cool show. Now don't settle for just done, leave the field saying "done right."*

Entrance: From side 2** (pit, guard, props side 1)
Exit: To side 2 front, then around the track and out the gate