



Communications Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Advisory

Final Preparations Underway for Drumline's Trip to D.C.

McClellan, CA—The award-winning Grant Union High School Drumline is flying out on Thursday for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. They were selected to represent California in the 2015 National Independence Day Parade in Washington D.C. In all, 25 students and 10 chaperones will make the journey to D.C.

Drumline Director James Van Buren is exhausted. He's not only the director of the band, but he's the team mom too. With extra rehearsals, fundraisers, events, marching practice, interviews, travel arrangements, and a dinner for the chaperones to plan, he's been running non-stop. On Sunday he even made time to take one of the students to the mall, to buy their first pair of dress pants and a shirt for the trip.

"This has been an extremely challenging year for all of us," says Van Buren. "But it's like I tell the kids—in life there are no barriers, just potholes to step around. Keep your eye on the goal and stay focused through all of it."

WHO: Grant Drumline, Pacer staff, families and community

WHAT: Drumline Send-off to D.C.

WHEN: 6:30 a.m. Thursday, July 2, 2015

WHERE: Grant Union High School, 1400 Grand Avenue, Sacramento 95838

The National Independence Day Parade takes place at 11:45 a.m. (EST) on July 4th in Washington, D.C., on Constitution Avenue, before a street audience of hundreds of thousands of spectators.

In addition to marching in the parade, the group will also participate in a wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, and tour several national monuments, museums and memorials in the area. They're also awaiting a response from the Whitehouse to meet the President. The Drumline returns Sunday night.

Twin Rivers Unified School District serves approximately 28,000 preschool through adult education students in northern Sacramento County.

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