



Dear Educator,

This purpose of this letter is to request your support and permission for allowing one of your students and a member of the Oregon Crusaders Drum & Bugle Corps, early release from classes at the end of 2018 Spring Term.

The Oregon Crusaders is a non-profit youth performance group that tours and competes nationally with other groups during the summer, traveling over 10,000 miles. This is a very competitive and high-level performing team of 150 like-minded students who are passionate and dedicated to this activity. This unique educational program is intense, both physically and emotionally, and works to instill professionalism, discipline, focus, and a commitment to excellence throughout the summer.

In the Pacific Northwest, we are at a competitive disadvantage with other groups based in other areas of the country due to a later release from schools in the Spring. Most groups begin their summer rehearsals the week after Memorial Day. However, in the Pacific NW, most schools are not finished until mid-June.

This year, we are starting our summer rehearsals on the evening of June 1st, 2018. We are asking students to request early release, an option to take finals early, or whatever is required to enable them to start Oregon Crusaders rehearsals on June 1st. We acknowledge that our student's formal education is a priority and should always take precedence. We also understand that early release may not be possible in all cases however, we are asking for your support and cooperation in this matter, if at all possible, and to release them as soon as possible if not on June 1st. We have also been successful in proctoring tests for college students, if that is an option.

I also want to assure you that this is not a "Summer Vacation at Disneyland" program. In most cases, they will be working harder than they ever have in their lives, and willing to put their time and money into it. If you would like to learn more about the Oregon Crusaders and the drum corps activity, I recommend the following links:

<http://oregoncrusaders.org/>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/OregonCrusadersMedia>

<http://www.dci.org>

Please feel free to call or email me with any additional questions or concerns that you may have.

Thank you,

Michael Quillen

Executive Director

Oregon Crusaders

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