



June 28, 2018 (Summary for 2020 parade)

TO: Fred Meyer Junior Parade Bands
FROM: Jessica Metteer, Special Events Manager
RE: Junior Parade Participation

Thank you for your contributions over the years to the Fred Meyer Junior Parade! What began 100 years ago with just a few kids in NE Portland, and became an official Rose Festival event in the 1930's, has grown into the nation's oldest and largest children's parade. Today it continues to offer the children of our community a chance to celebrate their talents and have their turn in the spotlight. Thanks for helping to provide the children of Portland with this unique opportunity!

As we have been communicating over the past year through our band survey and invitations, 2018 was the final year of the every-other-year rotation for the Junior Parade.

In order to accommodate the large number of bands wishing to participate in this time-honored Portland tradition, and to provide the participants and spectators with the best possible experience, all elementary, middle, and junior high bands will be put on an every-third-year rotation in 2019.

Please note that along with this new rotation system come some new parameters regarding the category for marching bands. In order to create a system that is as fair and equitable as possible, we will consider any marching group producing music as a band. Also, bands are not selected based on performance standards in the new rotation schedule; therefore, we will no longer automatically re-invite the sweepstakes winner back for the following year.

Please see the attached schedule to find your school's place in our new rotation system. A tremendous amount of care and research has gone into creating this rotation, based on size, geography, and participation. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we undergo this systemic transition.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 503-227-2681 or jessicam@rosefestival.org.