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Welcome to the Wahawk Band Program!

Dear Band Families,

Let us be the first to welcome you to the Wahawk Band Program and Family! We are very excited to be a part of the next four years of your high school life. The transition from middle school to high school can seem daunting at first but your student will have the benefit of making over 175 friends with the other students in the Wahawk Band.

In the Wahawk Band, we strive to build a culture of family, excellence, and learning. Our motto is "Excellence is the constant pursuit of perfection," and we strive to achieve that together. No one comes into the band program knowing everything they need to know and that's the way it should be. Everyone is expected to make mistakes and they are also expected to learn from those mistakes. When one person gets better it is to the benefit of everyone. The reason that we push these ideas is because band and music are different than any other activity that people can do. Everyone is always playing, participating, and contributing. There is no bench, no back-ups, and no substitutes, meaning that every student and their contributions are important to our success!

The other idea that we push is having fun! Mr. Kleinheinz always says, "It is fun to be good." Obviously when the music and performances are good it is a lot of fun to be a part of. It instills a great sense of pride and confidence in students, parents, band staff, and the directors to be associated with the Wahawk Band. The other part of the fun is our band family. Students and parents will create and strengthen bonds of friendship that will last beyond these next four years. Everything is more fun when you like the people you are participating with!

Again, welcome to the West High Band Family! The West High Bands have traditionally been one of the most successful things at West High, and we are excited for you to be a part of that success! We are going to have a lot of fun over the next four years!

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Waterloo West High School

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Sources of Information

Mr. Kleinheinz (kleinheinzd@waterlooschools.org)

Mr. Prichard (prichardm@waterlooschools.org)

Instrumental Music Office Phone: 319-433-2721

Band Website: www.wahawkbands.com

Band Facebook: www.facebook.com/wahawkbands

Band Twitter: Follow us @WahawkBands

The best place to get information about the band is on our website. We post everything there. You can find our calendar (up-to-date for next year already), a link to join our mailing list, current fundraisers, information about our booster program, plus postings of videos and recordings of our performances.

Please visit the website and join our mailing list to keep up with all of the summer updates and keep informed about all of the happenings in the band.

If you have more pressing questions, please e-mail Mr. Kleinheinz or Mr. Prichard or try calling the Instrumental Music Office. E-mail would be best, because we are not always in our office to receive phone calls.

Instrument Rentals

We have instruments available for baritone/euphonium, tuba/sousaphone, bari sax, bass clarinet, bassoon, and oboe. We do have some of the other instruments available and will work to find instruments that are needed if we do not have them. We charge a rental fee of \$50/year for each instrument used. This is used to help offset the cost of repairs and cleaning.

To help us be ready for the first day of school, please let us know if you will need to rent a school instrument. You can email Mr. Prichard (prichardm@waterlooschools.org) or call the band office and leave a message (433-2721). Make sure to tell us what instrument you will need to rent.

We strongly encourage ownership of instruments. We have found that students take better care of their own instruments and are generally more committed to playing if they play their own instruments.

It's not too late to join the Wahawk Marching Band!

Marching band is optional for freshman band students, but we highly encourage students to join this fun group. It is a great way to meet the older students in band and get acclimated to the high school. Nearly every older student tells us that they enjoy marching band more than they thought they would. If you'd like to join the Wahawk Marching Band or have questions about marching band, please email Mr. Kleinheinz immediately. We are sending our roster to our marching band drill writer on June 15, so we need to have the roster finalized at that point. You can email or call if you have any questions about marching band.