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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, learning the layout of the school, and experiencing a little bit of high school life before the first day of school!

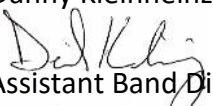
In the Wahawk Band, we strive to build a culture of family, excellence, and learning. Our motto is "Excellence is the constant pursuit of perfection," and we strive to achieve that together. No one comes into the band program knowing everything they need to know and that's the way it should be. Everyone 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. 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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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. This summer we will be sending out part assignments for marching band, posting recordings of the show, and posting updates for camp.

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 band camp, 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.

If you own your instrument, the summer is a great time to take it in for cleaning and maintenance. It is imperative that students have an instrument that is in good working condition at the start of the school year. Regular maintenance and cleaning can save money in the long run, similar to an oil change for your car. You'll pay less for periodic maintenance than major repairs later. Instruments can be taken to Grady Instrument Service, West Music, or Tenor Madness. Make sure you tell the repair shop when you'll need it back.

Marching Band Summer Dates

Marching band rehearsals will start during the first week of August this year. Students who do not attend band camp will be put at a severe disadvantage and may not be able to participate fully in our show. Below are the summer rehearsals we have, plus a few other events. All of these events will take place at West High School, except for the picnic.

Freshmen Orientation

Friday, August 4: 9:00am – Noon

Full Band Camp

August 7-11, 14-18: 9:00am – Noon (Everyone)

Noon – 1:30pm Lunch (On Own)

1:30pm – 4:30pm (Percussion & Winds)

6:00pm – 9:00pm (Color Guard)

Band Registration

August 12: 6:00 – 8:00pm

Band Picnic (Byrnes Park)

August 18: 6:00pm – Dark

The 6:00pm – 9:00pm Color Guard rehearsal is cancelled this night.

Night Rehearsals

August 21-23: 6:00pm – 9:00pm

What You'll Need For Band Camp

We will be outside a lot during band camp, so please plan accordingly. This summer, go outside and do something physical so you are comfortable being in the sun. When you come to camp, **bring water, sunscreen, sunglasses, and a hat. Always wear tennis shoes.** If you show up in sandals, you will be sent home. This is for your own safety when marching. Here are a few items you should bring with you to band camp:

1" 3-ring binder – All of your music will go in this binder, including the pep band music for the bleachers.

Plastic sheet protectors – You'll put your music in the sheet protectors so it doesn't rip out of the binder. You'll probably need around 50 sheet protectors.

A small notebook – You will need this the first week of camp. Here are some examples of small notebooks that would work well. Make sure it is spiral-bound.



School Year Calendar (Marching Band Only)

This letter only includes dates for the marching band season. All other dates can be viewed on our website (www.wahawkbands.com).

During the marching band season, rehearsals start during the “0” hour at 7:00 am. New this year: students will receive academic credit for marching band! This also means the school attendance policy will be used for these rehearsals, meaning students will be counted tardy if they are late. If rides may be an issue, please let us know and we can help to find one.

We hold one night rehearsal a week on Monday night from 6:00pm – 9:00pm. Students must attend these as they are where we get the bulk of our work done. There will be occasional weeks where we will move the rehearsal to Tuesday night to facilitate Orchestra and Choir concerts or Mondays when there is no school. These can be found on the calendar on the band website.

Performances

Friday, September 8 – Home Football Game

Friday, September 15 – Home Football Game (Homecoming)

Saturday, September 23 – Linn-Mar Marching Invitational

Friday, September 29 – Home Football Game

Saturday, September 30 – Bands Across the Prairie, 5 Seasons Marching Invitational

Friday, October 6 – Home Football Game

Saturday, October 7 – IHSMA State Contest & Valleyfest Showdown