

In order to get an early start on things (like checking out uniforms, distributing school horns, and playing through the music for next year's show) **we are once again holding the pre-season marching band "camp" the week of August 2nd.** Here's the deal—we need the time to work on the fundamentals of marching, *especially for those that have never marched before. Since we didn't march halftime drill last year, there will be two classes that need to learn these fundamentals.* We can't do it all during the time we have during the school day--this is especially true given that our first performance comes the first week of September. These practices are essential for our success as a marching band. Technically, I am not allowed to require these rehearsals, but I need to **strongly encourage everyone** to show up on every day that they are assigned to rehearse. Would you expect the football team to do well if half the team doesn't show up for practice? Would you expect the volleyball team to do well if they don't know the fundamentals of the game? Marching band is a physical activity that requires skill and practice in order to do it well. For an example of what really good marching bands look like, check out this link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSemPy13KVo>

Enclosed you will find a schedule that includes some practice times for section leaders, percussionists, and next year's freshmen (as well as everyone else). If you are in town and available to make these practices, you are **strongly encouraged** to do so. Equipment and uniforms will be issued at the listed times as well as music handed out and refreshments served at the end of each day. **It is very important for you to come get fitted for a uniform on the assigned day if you want to make sure you have a uniform that fits.** We will save a lot of time, be able to concentrate on the fundamental things, and generally avoid the "crunch time" that always happens right before our first performance.

MUSIC FOR NEXT YEAR IS POSTED ON GOOGLE CLASSROOM. Please take some time this summer to read through it so that we are better prepared. Our first home game is September 3rd!

Here are some other things you need to check on/ keep in mind:

1. Do you have a flip folder and a lyre? If you don't, the school has some available for you to use.
2. Check to see that your shoes still fit. If they don't, you may want to sell them to an upcoming freshman and order a new pair.
3. Incoming freshmen- In order to assure a uniform appearance, we all wear the same shoe designed for marching bands. The cost of the shoes is \$32.00. I will place the order as soon as all shoe sizes are in and the money has been received. The sooner, the better. The first freshman rehearsal day (August 3rd) would be a good day to take care of this. There may be some recent graduates of WHS that may sell you their shoes if you can find the right size. If there is a problem with purchasing these shoes, let me know as soon as possible. Something can always be worked out.

4. We will be purchasing new band t-shirts this year. I am checking with the Music Boosters about helping to cover some of the cost of these. We will look to keep the cost somewhere between \$5 and \$10. Please sign up here with your name and needed shirt size--[link to Google Form for T-Shirt sizes](#). We will use this shirt as a secondary uniform when it is too hot and we will also use these during basketball games.

5. Make sure you have all the reeds and slide/ valve oil you need. When you show up on the first day, be sure that you have your horn and that it works.

Please read through the schedule and please e-mail me (richmond@usd320.com) if you have any questions. Rehearsals will take place at the HS in the HS Band room and the practice field right out back. You can also find more marching band information (including links to sound files of next year's show music) on the marching band page of the band's website at wamegobands.org.

	Monday August 2nd	Tuesday August 3rd	Wednesday August 4th	Thursday August 5th	Friday August 6th
8:00-9: 45 a.m.	Section Leaders: Equipment & Music Marching Rehearsal & Fundamentals	Freshmen: Handbook Equipment & Music Marching introduction	Everyone EXCEPT Freshmen & Sect. ldrs.: Handbook Equipment & Music Review marching basics	Everyone: Marching Fundamentals and block marching/ parade work	Percussion & Color Guard only
10:00 a.m.- noon	Section Leaders: Leadership development Uniform fitting	Freshmen & Section Leaders: Marching review Drill reading *Jr. and Sr. uniform fittings at noon	Everyone (including Freshmen & S.L's.): Marching review *Soph. uniform fittings at noon	Everyone: Marching review Run stands tunes Run show music *Freshman uniform fittings at noon	XXXXXXXXXX
1:30-3: 00 p.m.	Music Rehearsal Section Leaders only	Music Rehearsal Freshmen & SL's only	Music & Memorization Rehearsal- all	Music & Memorization Rehearsal- all	XXXXXXXXXX
7:00-8: 30 p.m.	All Percussion: Equipment assignment & adjustment Warm-ups & cadence	All Percussion: Warm-ups Cadence Read show music	XXXXXXXXXX	Marching Band Fun Night- games and activities will be scheduled...	XXXXXXXXXX

Reminders:

1. Bring/ drink lots of water. We will be going outside for the marching sessions.
2. Wear comfortable clothing and even more comfortable shoes. I don't recommend sandals or flip flops.
3. Percussionists- If you are percussion section leader, please be here the mornings of August 2nd and 3rd and at 10:00 the morning of August 4th.
4. Drum Majors- Your presence and leadership are necessary. Please make arrangements to be here every day."

Common Questions:

1. All rehearsals will be at the HS. We will meet in the HS Band room to start each day.
2. Monday's morning and afternoon sessions are for section leaders only.
3. Tuesday rehearsals are only for section leaders and freshmen.