

**Wheaton Warrenville South High School Tiger Marching Band (TMB)**  
**New Parent Guide to Marching Band**  
**Glossary of Terms**

**Tiger Marching Band-** This includes all the students- musicians and guard.

**Guard-** A group of students that instead of playing instruments they dance, use flags, rifles or other items in the show.

**Battery/drumline-** A group of students that play the drums and march. The drums are attached to harnesses that go over their shoulders. These students march in the show.

**Pit-** A group of students that play percussion instruments but do not march. The Pit is usually right in front of the drum major.

**Drum major-** This is the student or students that lead the TMB on the field during performances.

**Blacks-** This is what the musicians wear under their uniforms. It consists of the black show shirt that the student is given and black Tiger Marching Band athletic shorts.

**Uniforms-**

**Musicians-** This is what you will wear at the competitions and football games. You will be fitted for the jacket and the bibbers (they are like overalls with adjustable straps). Besides the jacket and bibbers, you will have gloves, shako (hat), gauntlets (they are Velcro pieces that go on the sleeves of the jacket) and shoes. The shoes and TMB shorts will be ordered when you are fitted.

**Guard-** Each year the guard has a uniform that the guard coach will assign them. It is something that goes with the theme of that year's show, so it changes each year.

**Tiger Marching Band Parents Association-** All parents are members of the TMB Parents Association. The meetings are typically held on the second Monday of the month at the high school at 7 p.m. We discuss ways to support the students and the band. We encourage everyone to attend.

**Spirit Wear-** Each year all the students in TMB are given a black show shirt. The design on the front correlates to the theme of the show. On the back are the dates the TMB will be performing throughout the season. In August, an order form will go home with the students. This order form is for anyone else that would like a show shirt or any other TMB clothing items. More information will be coming.

**Wheaton Warrenville South High School Tiger Marching Band (TMB)**  
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**Band Camps**

**What should students that play an instrument wear to band camp?**

Students should wear comfortable clothing and dressed for the weather. Usually it is very warm in the summer and the students will be outside most of the time. Students should wear comfortable gym shoes, as they will be on their feet almost the whole time. Girls, tank tops are fine, but spaghetti straps are not- this is a school sponsored activity.

**What should students in the guard wear?**

Students in the guard should wear body training practice attire. The colors should be BLACK or NAVY BLUE. Form fitting tank tops during the summer and form fitting long sleeve shirts for colder weather. Form fitting Yoga shorts or pants depending on the weather. Flexible tennis shoes, canvas shoes, high tops and flip flops are not allowed.

**What should students bring to camp?**

Students should bring a water bottle, food for sack lunch/dinner, and sunscreen. Since the students will be outside the majority of the time, please do not forget the sunscreen.

**What happens during band camp?**

The students will be practicing the music and the show. The practice location will vary (practice field, parking lot and football field) depending on the other activities going on at the high school. Sometimes the students practice in small groups based on their instrument, section or guard and then they all practice together.

# **Wheaton Warrenville South High School Tiger Marching Band (TMB) New Parent Guide to Marching Band**

## **Uniforms**

### **What do the students wear during competitions and football games?**

**Musicians-**Students will be fitted for their uniform during band camp in August. They will be fitted for the jacket and the bibbers (they are like overalls with adjustable straps). Besides the jacket and bibbers, students will have gloves, shako (hat), gauntlets (these are Velcro pieces that go on the sleeves of the jacket), black socks (above the ankle) and shoes. The shoes are marching band shoes that will be ordered at the time of the fitting along with the TMB black shorts. Also, each student is given a garment bag to keep the uniform in throughout the season. This is how they will transport the uniform to and from school. The shako, gauntlets, gloves and plumes are all kept together at school and will be loaded on the trucks.

**Guard-** Each year the guard has a uniform that the guard coach will assign them. It is something that goes with the theme of that year's show, so it changes each year but the cost is covered by the marching band. Some years there are a few little extras, like barrettes or specific make-up, which you will need to pay for. The exact details for each color guard season will be given to your daughter as the fall approaches

### **Do I have to pay for the uniform?**

**Musicians-**The uniform is already paid for in the band fees. The students will have to pay for the black athletic shorts (part of the blacks) and the shoes. These items will be ordered at the time of the fitting and then will be billed to the student later. When the items are delivered, they will be given to the student. Students are responsible for their purchasing their own black socks that go above the ankle.

**Guard-** The basic uniform will be paid for in your dues. There may be additional costs with hair accessories, costume accessories and make-up. This may vary each year based on the uniform selected.

### **Who is responsible for the uniform?**

**The students are responsible for all pieces of the uniform for both musicians and guard members.** Parent volunteers will transport the shako, gauntlets, gloves and plumes and make sure these are ready for the football games and competitions. However, the students need to take the responsibility of bringing these items back to the truck to be collected and transported back to WWSHS. Once at school the student needs put them in the shako cabinet. The uniform should be stored in the garment bag and brought to school in the garment bag. If it has been raining, please let the uniform dry before storing it in the garment bag.

### **What happens if the uniform gets dirty?**

It is the responsibility of the student/family to clean the uniforms during the season. Information will be sent in an email as to which dry cleaners to use. Do not machine wash the uniforms.

### **What happens if we lose part of the uniform?**

Please contact the parent volunteer in charge of uniforms right away. Someone may have found the item or it may have gone home with another student. Please write your student's name inside

their shoes with a silver sharpie marker, that way if they get misplaced it will be easy to track down its owner.

**Do the students wear the uniform to school for competition days and football games?**

No, students will wear their blacks and bring their uniform in their garment bag. If it is too cold for just the blacks, the band director will let them know what to wear over their blacks, like jeans or athletic pants.

**Where do students change into their uniforms?**

For football games, the students will change at the high school and then march out to the field together in their uniforms. For competition days they will change on the bus. That is why they wear the blacks under their clothes and uniforms. Guard students change at WWSHS prior to getting on the bus

**Wheaton Warrenville South High School Tiger Marching Band (TMB)**  
**New Parent Guide to Marching Band**  
**Football Game Performances**

**When should students arrive at school?**

The band director and/or guard director will send an e-mail to everyone with the arrival time.

**Should my student wear their uniform to school?**

No, students should wear their blacks. If it is colder, they can wear their blacks under their street clothes. The students should have the entire uniform that they are responsible for in their garment bag (shoes, socks, jacket, and bibbers). Students in the guard should wear their practice attire.

**Where will my student change into their uniform?**

For football games, the students will change at the high school and then march out to the field together in their uniforms. Students in the guard have a classroom of their own to change and do makeup or whatever they need for their part in the show.

**What should the students bring with them?**

They may want to bring food in a sack dinner to eat before the game.

**How much time does the band play at football games?**

The TMB plays for the football players when they come onto the field, then they play in front of the stands before the game to get the crowd engaged. When the game starts they play in the stands at the end towards the concession stand. During half-time the band performs on the field.

**Do they play for the entire game?**

That decision is up to the band director.

**What happens when the students are done playing?**

The TMB will all march together back to the band room to put away their instruments, flags, rifles, and anything else that needs to be put away. Once everything is put away they are released and can either go home or back to the game if it is not over.

# **Wheaton Warrenville South High School Tiger Marching Band (TMB)**

## **New Parent Guide to Marching Band**

### **Competition Days**

#### **What time should the students arrive at school for competitions?**

That will depend on the location of the competition and how much practice the band director would like to do prior to leaving. The band director will send an e-mail to everyone letting them know the schedule for the day.

#### **What does a competition day look like?**

The band director will send an e-mail with the specific details for each competition day but here is a general outline:

- Students arrive in clothes appropriate for the weather with their blacks underneath. These will be the clothes that they change into after they perform and watch the rest of the schools perform.
- Students will practice.
- Students are served a meal by parent volunteers at WWSHS prior to leaving for the competition. (Sometimes the meal is served on location.)
- Students load the truck with the instruments and whatever they need for the performance.
- Students will leave for competition by bus.
- Students change on the buses.
- Once the band arrives, the truck is unloaded.
- They go to their assigned practice locations.
- TMB performs their show.
- TMB goes back to the buses and truck, to load and change.
- TMB students go to the stands to watch the other bands perform. They can also go to the concession stand if they are hungry.
- After the awards, the students go back to the buses and head for WWSHS.
- At WWS they unload the truck and buses, then they are released to go home.

#### **What if my student has specific food allergies or is a vegetarian?**

On the registration paperwork it asks if a student has any allergies or is a vegetarian. Also, contact the person in charge of the meals for the students and discuss any special food needs of the student.

#### **Should my student wear the uniform to school?**

No, students should wear their blacks either just the blacks if the weather is warmer or under clothes if it is colder. The students should have the entire uniform that they are responsible for in their garment bag (shoes, socks, jacket, bibbers and gloves). Students in the guard should wear their practice attire and bring their uniform and anything else they need.

#### **What should my student bring with them to a competition day?**

The band director will send out an e-mail listing items that the students may want to bring. These could include snacks or a sack lunch and money for the concession stand if they want.

Water will be provided for the students, but they may want to bring a bottle of water for the practice time prior to leaving WWSHS.

### **What happens if a student gets ill during the competition day?**

Parent volunteers chaperone the students on the buses and at the location of the competition. If a student is ill they should contact the parent chaperone right away. The medical information that was provided on the medical information sheet will be used to assist the student with their medical needs. If the information on the medical form changes please make sure the chaperone coordinator is aware of any changes.

### **As a parent what is my role on competition day?**

Parents play a huge role on competition days. There are many ways that parents can volunteer during the day as chaperones, serving the meal, as part of the crew that helps with the equipment and going to the competitions to watch the TMB show.

If you are planning to go to the competition make sure to bring money to buy tickets to get in. The tickets have cost \$10.00 in the past. Each competition is different in the pricing. Some tickets are for the whole afternoon and evening and some are for a portion of the day with the evening finals a separate ticket. This information will come out with the band directors notes. Programs will be available to purchase at the entrance gate. The programs list the schools that will be performing and information about their show, information about the judges and the scoring of the competition.

The competition may say that it starts at 1:30 p.m.; however our band may not perform until 5:00 p.m. Competitions are highly structured by time, so it is important to pay attention to what time TMB will perform. If TMB is to perform at 5:00 p.m. do not wait until the last minute to get to the competition. Please allow time for parking, walking to the stadium, purchasing tickets and getting to the stands.

Once in the stands, parents usually sit together to cheer on the TMB. Please wear black and orange or a TMB show shirt if you purchased one.

### **How are marching band competitions scored? What should I look for as an audience member?**

This information will be in the program for each competition, but in general the evaluation is in the following six categories:

#### **Music-**

1. Music Performance Individual (woodwinds, brass, percussion). On-field judges walk around the field as the band performs to make comments and give a score based on how well each individual plays.
2. Music Performance Ensemble (tone quality, intonation, accuracy and definitions, musicality)

#### **Visual-**

1. Visual Performance Individual (accuracy and definition, quality of technique)

2. Visual Performance Ensemble (evaluating “what” is being performed and “how” it is being performed)

**General Effect-**

1. Music General Effect (judges rate the effectiveness of musical repertoire and musical performance)
2. Visual General Effect (effectiveness and performance of the visual repertoire)

**Why doesn't TMB always compete against the same schools?**

TMB does not always compete against the same schools from weekend to weekend because each competition classifies the bands slightly different. Some competitions classify the competing bands by the size of the high school and others classify the band by the size of the band.

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**Awards Night**

**What is awards night?**

At the conclusion of each season, an awards night is held at the high school for all TMB students and their families. A video highlighting the season is shown and a special tribute to seniors.

Each band member will receive patches according to their year in school; freshmen receive their numerals, sophomores, juniors and seniors receive their letters increasing in size each year they are in the band. First time band members will also receive an ISU Marching Band Championship patch.

It is a fun evening to acknowledge what the students have worked for and accomplished all season.

**What do we do with the numbers and patches?**

Some students might want to purchase of a letterman jacket to display their numbers, letters, and patches. Letter jackets can be purchased at Sports Fan in the Danada West shopping center. Sports Fan can provide a list of tailors that will sew on the patches.