

Wheaton Warrenville South High School Tiger Marching Band
Parent Guide to Marching Band
Frequently Asked Questions
August Band Camp

What is Band Camp?

Band Camp takes place for one week in August before school begins. During the week of August 17 – 21, the band rehearses Monday 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 1 P.M. to 9 P.M. and Friday 9 A.M. to 6 P.M. Please refer to www.tigermb.com for up-dates. Students will practice rain or shine, so dressing appropriately is important. Please come prepared with:

- Appropriate clothing. Wear layers if the forecast calls for both cool and warm weather at the same rehearsal. Remember that school dress codes apply.
- Tennis shoes. Everyone, including color guard, is expected to wear tennis shoes. No flip-flops!
- Shorts or loose-fitting pants. Avoid jeans as they retain sweat and inhibit movement.
- A big jug of water or Gatorade.
- A healthy lunch. **Students may not leave campus for lunch.**

Snack. Please remember to provide a healthy snack for your student.

- Sun protection. Wear sunscreen and bring more to re-apply during the day. A hat and sunglasses are also appropriate.

Band Camp is where the band will learn the drill (movement during the show) and begin putting drill and music together. It is an amazing week where the band bonds and a show is born!

Band Camp is both exciting and overwhelming for a new marcher. Help them to be organized and prepared for the experience, and be extra supportive during the Camp. Once they get through Camp, they'll be veterans!

Is my child expected to be at every rehearsal?

Yes! Each child is an important part of the band and a vital part of the show and is expected to attend every rehearsal. Work, family vacations or non-emergency appointments are not a reason to miss any part of band camp.

What happens if my child misses a rehearsal?

When one person is missing during marching practice, the problem is amplified many times over. It is simply impossible to learn to march a show if there are "holes" instead of bodies on the practice field. Those students who are at practice can't figure out where to go because the people their drill relates to are missing and the people who are missing don't know where to go when they return. Everybody loses.

If your child MUST miss rehearsal or part of a rehearsal, have your child explain the situation in advance to Mr. Scimeca. All absences must be reported to Mr. Scimeca at vscimeca@cusd200.org. Your student also will need to connect with his or her section leader or a drum major to make up what was missed during the absence.

What About Freshman Orientation during the week of Band Camp Week?

Freshman/New Student Orientation will not be an issue this year. It is from 9-11 and band camp on Tues., Aug. 18th is from 1-9.

How does weather affect the rehearsal schedule?

Rehearsals are never canceled due to inclement weather. The band usually will not rehearse outdoors in the rain, unless it is just drizzle or intermittent light rain. In the event of steady rain, they will rehearse indoors and go out at the first opportunity. Students should dress for the weather, whether hot or cold. Not having the proper attire is not a satisfactory reason for having a poor rehearsal. Students should wear sturdy athletic shoes, preferably cross-trainers or running shoes and socks for rehearsals. (No loose fitting shoes.) Again, caps, sunglasses and sun block are recommended. There will always be water at rehearsal, and in extreme cases of cold or heat the rehearsal format may be altered, but the rehearsals are never canceled.

UNIFORMS

What is included in “the uniform” and when/how do we get one?

Marching uniforms consist of the following:

- Black bibber pants
- Jacket
- Gauntlets
- Gloves (except for pit and percussion)
- Shakos and plumes (kept at the school)
- Raincoats (kept at the school)

Color guard member’s uniforms are separate and usually include:

- Uniform
- Gloves
- Shoes
- Accessories

Mr. Scimeca will be assigning the fitting schedules for the band member’s uniforms. These scheduled fittings will be taking place on band camp days before band camp starts. Please watch for an email to come from Mr. Scimeca with the times for the fittings. These uniforms are loaned to you for the season and you are responsible for the dry cleaning. **The color guard is not included in these fittings. Marcus takes care of ordering the uniforms for the guard. He will let the guard know when they will receive their uniforms and when to try them on.**

Your band student will be fitted for a hat (called a “shako”) which will be kept at school in a specific cubby hole in the hat racks. The plumes are kept with the shakos.

Parent volunteers will also measure your student (not color guard members) for a set of “blacks”. These items are required at an extra cost and will be billed to you:

Black T-shirt - show shirt (one provided to student at no charge) if not a plain black shirt

Black shorts- approx. \$20

Black marching shoes- approx. \$30.30 plus shipping

“Blacks” include the black t-shirt and shorts listed above. They will also fit him or her for marching gloves. These items will be ordered for you and delivered to your child to keep forever. The cost of the “blacks” for the 2008 season was around \$45. Your child will also be fitted with black marching shoes. Unless your child outgrows the blacks or shoes, this is a one-time expense.

You will need to provide your child with black socks. They should be good, well-padded, supportive socks. Think black athletic sock, not black dress hose. Please make sure they cover the ankles.

Marcus will let the color guard members know what to wear under their uniforms. The members will have to purchase these items (unless they already have what is needed). Marcus also takes care of any gloves, shoes and hair accessories for the members.

Anything else I need to know about the uniform?

Any alterations will need to be made before the first performance. Bibber pants will need to be hemmed. They should be hemmed at an angle (longer in the back) with no break in the front. There are specific hemming instructions on the TMB website.

If you are a non-sewer, never fear! Sewing volunteers will be available on specific rehearsal evenings that will be announced. They will hem for a small fee that will be given back to the TMB.

PICTURES

How can I get pictures of the band?

Yearbook pictures for the marching band will be taken on Friday, August 21st at noon. TMB members should bring their full uniforms for that picture. More information will follow and an order form will be sent home with your student prior to the picture taking. Also, an opportunity to order a photo CD of candid photos throughout the season will be available for purchase at the TMB Awards Night in November.

Band parents should be aware that at local and state competitions professional quality pictures of the entire marching band and individual sections are taken and made available for purchase. Many families find that these pictures are better quality than the yearbook

Absences are to be reported directly to:	Vic Scimeca vscimeca@custd200.org
To Up-date Food Allergy Information or Medication Use Information	MaryBeth Collins 630-393-4332 mebmik@yahoo.com
To Report a Change of Address, Phone or E-mail	Phil Hollyer 630-260-3797 phollyer@ameritech.net
To Inquire About Volunteer Needs	Andrea Jones Brock stay tuned for contact info.
Questions about the TMB Parent Association or any other General Concerns or Questions	Dave Cripe 630-690-9313 cripecrew@comcast.net
To Make a Fee Payment or Arrange a Payment Plan	Kathy Potts 630-221-1328 k_m_potts@sbcglobal.net
Questions about WWSHS Policies or Financial Considerations	PHIL BRITTON 630-784-7207 pbritton@cusd200.org

Additional information available on www.tigermb.com