



Blackshirt Bands Summer Newsletter 2009

www.blackshirtbands.org

Get the latest news as it happens! Sign-up for e-announcements & visit the web-site frequently.

Uniforms

ALL Band students must come in for uniform fittings. Fittings will be from 9 am - 1 pm on **Aug 3** for grades 11/12 and **Aug 4** for grades 9/10. If you have not already signed up, someone will be calling you to set-up a time.

We are in need of volunteers to help with fittings. If you can help during the times listed above, please contact Ms. Wehmeier or Mrs. White. A BIG thank you to Mrs. White for continuing as our uniform chair!

Your marching band uniform will be kept at school and your concert uniform will be kept at home. The end of year cleaning fees for BOTH uniforms are now included in the course fees. By making this change, we are able to reduce our cleaning fees, reduce the number of checks you have to write to the band, and eliminate your trip to the dry-cleaners at the end of the year.

Marching Band Camp

Mon, Aug 3: 1-9 and Tue, Aug 4: 1-9

Camp is for all Marching Band & SWAP students

What to bring:

- instrument
- 3-ring binder w/plastic protector sheets
- a water bottle
- sunblock
- wear sneakers - No Flip-flops
- wear comfortable clothes - No Jeans

On Monday Night, we will provide a pizza dinner in the cafeteria. Tuesday night is the cookout and pool party. Please contact Mrs. Pugh (262-542-4667) to sign-up for a dish to pass and/or to volunteer to grill or serve food.

Families are invited to a special "End of Camp" Performance at 4:45 at South on Tuesday.

Summer Fundraising Opportunities

Just because we're on summer break doesn't mean we won't continue to offer opportunities for students to continue to earn money for their ISAs!

- Skeet Shooting Competition, Aug 1 and 2

In 2 days, families can earn as much as \$200!

Students and/or parents are allowed to work at this event. Contact Mr. Kammerer or Mrs. Westphal 542-0127 for more details.

- Scrip – all summer – www.glscrip.com

Scrip continues to be the easiest way to earn money for your account. The stores, restaurants, etc. that you already shop at pay you to shop at their stores! Some families earn several hundred dollars a year through this program. Check out the band web-site for more information.

Remember, ISA money can be used to pay band fees or towards your Australia trip.

Annual Family Cookout and Pool Party

Who: Members of the Marching Blackshirts and their families

When: Tuesday, August 4 at 6:00 pm

Where: Buchner Park

Join us for an evening of fun as we relax and have fun to celebrate the end of camp.

We rent Buchner pool for the night, so after we finish dinner, the pool is all ours!

Please contact Mrs. Pugh to sign-up for a dish to pass and/or to volunteer to grill or serve food.
262-542-4667



Mr. Kammerer gkammere@waukesha.k12.wi.us
262.970.2780

Ms. Wehmeier swehmeie@waukesha.k12.wi.us
262.970.3778

Email is the best way to contact us over summer

Band Fees

Fees are an unfortunate reality in Waukesha Schools. The good news is that we have made changes to our fee structure that makes things both cheaper and more convenient. All fees are now combined into one fee that can be paid with a single check as part of registration. If families need a payment plan, that can be set-up through the school office. As always, ISA money can be used to pay some or all of your course fees.

- Concert Band Fee - \$55 (now includes both end of year cleaning fees, see p. 1)
- Marching Band Fee - \$130

In previous years, this fee has been an average of \$190. This year, we are traveling more miles, to more events, and sleeping at a resort instead of on a gym floor for our overnight trip. 2009-10 Marching Band fees include:

- 3 trips on coach buses for a season total of 792 miles
- Admission to a Badger game for Band Day, plus tailgating at lunch
- Overnight at the Kalahari Waterpark
- Performance and park pass at Navy Pier, Chicago
- Competing at the Cranfest Parade
- Camp Meals and other events
- SWAP - \$185 (combines the two previous fees) In previous years, this was an average of \$230, plus additional cleaning fees.

Thanks to everyone that volunteers at events like the Homecoming Chili Feed and March Fest. If it wasn't for these events, all band fees would be much higher.

Marching Show Details Released!

Plans for an exciting, challenging marching program are nearly complete. Music and drill are on order and will focus on our musical strengths while maintaining our marching reputation.

Program Opener: Estancia is an "in your face", blow down the stands original in the style of a high powered Spanish blockbuster. Energy, entertainment value and playability will make this a great piece to perform. * Note – Bring your chops with you for this one!

Bounty Hunter: Contemporary music from a new video game theme show. Lots of drill possibilities and powerful music will be found in this new piece.

Thriller: Colorguard feature for standstill and special performances.

Bohemian Rhapsody: For special performances.

PIT CREW

We're looking for some parent volunteers to serve on the pit crew for marching band. You would help get the percussion equipment on and off the field at our half time shows, March Fest, and at our Navy Pier performance. Contact Mr. Hamm if you can help.

What's going on with marching band?

In response to feedback we received from students and parents, we made the decision to move away from competitive field show competitions for 2009. As a result, we have been able to drastically reduce fees and the hours of outside rehearsals while still maintaining a quality program that offers some unique opportunities.

During half-time and at March Fest, we will be performing brief shows that we learn during our 2-day camp and in class. We will also be performing in various forms at the Navy Pier, with the Badger Band at a UW football game, and at a Halloween concert for Waukesha Elementary students. We will be competing in the state's largest parade competition at Cranfest.

Our new marching band direction is inline with what almost every school (96%) in the state of Wisconsin calls marching band, including some of the best band programs in the state. We're in very good company.

Save the Date

We have a comprehensive year-long schedule that is published on the web site, www.blackshirtbands.org which covers the entire year. Though there will be a few dates yet to fill in, we have given our best effort to provide students with the means to plan accordingly. Please utilize the site for information and check for updates regularly. We will do our best to keep the information current and interesting.

Summer Marching Percussion: Monday/Tuesday – July 20/21, 1:00-5:00pm All Percussionists & Pit

Marching Band Camp: Monday/Tuesday-Aug. 3/4, 1:00 – 9:00pm

Mandatory Parent Meetings for ALL Band Parents
Grades 10-12: 7:00pm Monday, September 14
Grade 9: 7:00pm Tuesday, September 15

March Fest: September 26, 2009

Chili Feed: October 9, 2009