

May 22, 2009

Dear 2009 Band Members and Parents:

I hope your summer goes well and that you get a lot of R&R. In order to be ready for next year and our new marching season we need to look at summer schedules and get everyone on the same page. I am looking forward to an awesome and fun-filled marching band season. Once again, we are doing an entertaining and fun show but this year is especially exciting because we are having the music arranged especially for Wapakoneta Band. We will be doing a *Video Game Show* medley as our big show this year. Selections include: Chrono Cross, Zelda, Baldur's Gate, Halo, Gears of War, and Mortal Combat. We are still in the selection process for the other shows of the season. In preparation for band camp, many issues must be addressed. Please read the following carefully.

Band Camp Fees

Earlier this spring, everyone should have received a letter relating to band camp cost. The cost of camp this year is \$225 but the boosters are picking up \$25 for you so YOUR cost will be \$200. This amount needs to be paid in full before boarding the bus for band camp. This year we are starting our band pride card sales on July 29th so if you are in need of band camp funds you will have this opportunity to earn money for your account. **We do not want financial issues to get in the way of you son/daughter participating in our band program so please keep us informed if issues arise.** Please keep this in mind: if financial issues are present and you have made no effort to work on booster fundraisers it will be difficult for us to take the need for assistance seriously. Please assume your responsibility in this realm.

Camp Dates and Directions

The camp is at camp Wilson near Bellefontaine. We will leave on Sunday, August 9th and return on Friday, August 14th. Directions to camp are attached.

Group Band Picture

We take the group band picture and any individual pictures just before we leave for camp. An order form to purchase the pictures will be available later in the summer. **All band/guard members need to bring their winter uniform the day we leave for camp.** We will take the group and individual pictures and then have you change into your camp clothes. **GIVE YOUR WINTER UNIFORM TO YOUR PARENTS TO TAKE HOME** before we leave for camp.

Emergency Information

We will have two emergency cell phone numbers for parents/guardians to use in the case of an emergency. These phones **are not to be used** to call for non-emergency issues. These numbers will be made available at a later date.

Parent Night and Visitation

Our camp is a closed camp, meaning that no visitors are allowed for its duration. This is for the protection of the students and to make sure that we have no distractions keeping

us from reaching our goals for the week. The only exception to this is parent night on Thursday evening. **Parents are not to arrive until around 7:00 so as not to interfere with the first part of the evening rehearsal. Parents need to exit the camp no later than 8:30.** This will give us enough time to run both the pre-game and half-time shows and give you and your band member time to “hang out”. **Parent night is not designed for boyfriends/girlfriends, ex-band members, neighbors and the like. It is for parents, grand parents and siblings.** At 8:30, band members will need to begin preparing for the evening activities. Parents are encouraged to come and see the progress made in a few days of camp. You will be amazed!!

Items to Take to Camp

Please label all items and limit how much you bring. Your luggage is loaded on a separate school bus when traveling to and from Camp Wilson and it fills up pretty fast.

- Bedding
- Towels & wash clothes
- Soap as well as other toiletries (Deodorant PLEASE!!)
- Instrument/equipment (in good repair)
- Music
- Pencils (grab a handful from home)
- **Tennis Shoes** (to be worn at all marching rehearsals)
- Summer Uniform (to be worn for the Thursday night rehearsal/performance)
- Raincoat or poncho
- Lip care and SUNBLOCK
- Hats to protect you from the sun (especially you Mr. Wimmers!)
- All items of a personal nature
- Fanny pack/back pack for rehearsal stuff
- Swimsuit/towel/sport equipment
- Fans (not everyone needs one)
- Power strips and extension cords (not everyone needs one)
- Supply of quarters for vending machines
- Jacket or sweat shirt
- Loose fitting casual clothes (**School dress code is in effect**)
- Extra reeds, oil, grease, sticks etc.
- Appropriate shoes & socks
- Pajamas
- Insect repellent (to keep bugs off of you)
- Bug spray (to take care of possible bugs in your cabin)
- **Window Air Conditioners Not Allowed**

Be meticulous when packing. If you forget a necessity, chaperones go into town on a regular basis, so bring extra cash just in case you need to purchase something.

Staying Healthy/Safety Issues

The band camp fee includes housing and **three** meals a day. You may eat your fill at the meals so no one should go hungry. It is important that you eat healthy foods and drink

plenty of fluids because you will be marching in the sun and heat. You must eat with the group at all meals. You will not be allowed to skip meals or water breaks. The boosters provide plenty of fluids at breaks so be sure to drink it when available. If you have some sort of water bottle that does not get in the way of the rehearsal, you may fill it up and keep it on the field with you. **NOTE: The directors or chaperones do not know how you feel. If you are in a rehearsal and need fluids, YOU take the responsibility to go to the sidelines and get them. The directors only ask that you let them know what you are doing. Take care of yourself because no one knows your situation better than you. One more note: Do not misuse this privilege.**

More Safety Issues

We will have at least one, probably two, registered nurses at camp so if there are medical problems that arise be sure to address the issue immediately. Don't wait until it becomes a problem. If there are issues the nurse needs to be aware of in advance of camp be sure to place the information on the enclosed medical form (*you may go on the band web site at wapakband.org and fill out the form and print electronically. This is preferred as it is more easily read*). Prior to attending camp, the nurse will review the medical forms. **ALL MEDICAL FORMS NEED TO BE TURNED IN TO THE DIRECTORS NO LATER THAN THE FIRST DAY OF MUSIC CAMP. PLEASE BE DILIGENT AND TAKE CARE OF THIS TASK ASAP AS IT IS FOR THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF YOUR STUDENT!!!** If this is not taken care of BEFORE we leave for camp, your student will not be able to attend.

Miscellaneous

Lakes: All lakes are off limits at all times. This is something that will be taken very seriously. Anyone who is near the water will immediately lose all free-time privileges and will be required to spend all free-time with chaperones or counselors. If a second offense occurs, the student will be sent home. The only exception to this rule is the supervised free time in the afternoons when there is a lifeguard present. The only water you are allowed to be around at that time is the designated swimming area. Students will not be allowed to canoe or kayak. This is an issue that the board of education has expressed concerns about and if you get me in "hot water" YOU will be in "hot water".

Activities: There are plenty of activities available for students to participate in (e.g., volleyball, putt putt golf, a climbing wall, tennis, giant "skydiving swing"). The climbing wall will be used on a "sign-up" basis. There is no way we can all get a turn on the wall in any given afternoon so if you think you desire this activity be sure to get your name on the sheet on the band office window. If there are vacancies on any given afternoon, you may sign up more than once. This will be a closely supervised activity and is not to be started until chaperones and camp staff is present. There is a big chair swing (like the rip chord at Cedar Point). Participation on this activity will be handled the same as the climbing wall.

Dress Code: Our dress code is the same as the high schools. All shirts must have sleeves (no spaghetti straps, tanks, etc.). If you plan on going swimming please be sure your suits are modest in nature. **We want a "G" rated camp not a "G" string.** Use good judgment. A good rule to follow is this: If what you are wearing were called "underwear"

rather than a “swimsuit”, would you still wear it in public. If not, then please bring something else to swim in. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Cabin Inspection: Every morning when you are doing fundamentals the chaperones will inspect your cabins. They will be checking for made beds (neatly), clothes picked up and general all-around cleanliness. The floor (1st floor/second floor) of the cabin that has the tidiest area gets to leave the morning marching rehearsal and go to lunch 10 minutes before the rest of the band. The messiest floor of the cabins has 10 minutes added on to their morning rehearsal and will work on fundamentals with our camp counselors. At certain times during the week we will have marching competitions and playing competitions. The winners of these competitions will receive special rewards also.

I believe I have covered all the information you will need to get through band camp successfully. If you have any questions feel free to give me a call at 419-739-5220 or e-mail me at hillkl@wapak.org.

Musically,

Mr. Klayton Hilleary
Director of bands
Wapakoneta City Schools

PS. Those of you who participate in a fall sport, if desired, (due to an overloaded schedule or scheduling conflicts with you sport) may use the school fall sport exclusion. In the band handbook it states the following: All band members must participate in marching band unless they are involved in a fall sport (**sponsored by Wapakoneta City Schools**) that poses a major conflict with the bands summer/fall rehearsals and performances. This is an option that **may** be used but obviously those who are involved year round have a better chance of advancement in the organization and will excel at a faster rate. If you feel you have **other** extenuating circumstances (beyond the sports conflict) you may present your case to the directors and they will consider your request.

2009 Band Camp Itinerary

Sunday, August 9, 2009

- 1:00 p.m. Everyone arrives at the middle school to load busses and take group and individual band pictures (**Bring your WINTER uniform**)
- 2:30 p.m. Leave for Camp Wilson (**Send winter uniform home with parents**)
- 3:30 p.m. Arrive at camp/unload/put belongings cabin (we will unpack later)
- 4:00 p.m. Rehearsal on the field (bring charts/music/pencil to all rehearsals)
- 6:00 p.m.** Dinner
- 7-9 p.m. Marching Rehearsal (with instruments)
- 9-10 p.m. Unpack and get situated in cabins/shower, etc.
- 10 p.m. Taps (lights out, **GO TO SLEEP**)

Monday, August 10, 2009

- 5:30 a.m. Reveille
- 6:30 a.m. Marching fundamentals/pre-game/big show on the field (cabin inspection)
- 8:15 a.m.** Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Marching rehearsal (with instruments)
- Noon Lunch
- 12:45 p.m. Sectionals (Be at designated area ready to rehearse by 1:00)
- 2:00 p.m. Free time (activities if desired/Sign-ups coming later)
- 3:00 p.m.** Free time (swimming/ activities are finished)
- 4:15 p.m. Full Band/ Marching Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m.** Dinner
- 6:45-8:30** Marching Rehearsal (with instruments)
- 8:30 p.m. bunk decorating/Seniors report to dining hall to work on skits
- 10:00 p.m. Get ready for bed
- 10:30 p.m. Taps (lights out/ go to sleep)

Tuesday, August 11, 2009

- 5:30 a.m. Reveille
- 6:30 a.m. Marching fundamentals on the field (cabin inspection)
- 8:15 a.m.** Breakfast (no returning to the cabins)
- 9:00 a.m. Marching rehearsal (with instruments)
- Noon Lunch
- 12:45 p.m. Sectionals (Be at designated area ready to rehearse by 1:00)
- 2:00 p.m. Free time (activities if desired/Sign-ups coming later)
- 3:00 p.m.** Free time (swimming/ activities are finished)
- 4:15 p.m. Full Band/ Marching Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m.** Dinner
- 6:45-8:30** Marching Rehearsal (with instruments)
- 9:00 p.m. Social Night/ Activity TBA
- 10:00 p.m. Get ready for bed
- 10:30 p.m. Taps (lights out/ go to sleep)

Wednesday, August 12, 2009

5:30 a.m. Reveille
6:30 a.m. Marching fundamentals on the field (cabin inspection)
8:15 a.m. Breakfast (no returning to the cabins)
9:00 a.m. Marching rehearsal (with instruments)
Noon Lunch
12:45 p.m. Sectionals (Be at designated area ready to rehearse by 1:00)
2:00 p.m. Free time (activities if desired/Sign-ups coming later)
3:00 p.m. Free time (swimming/ activities are finished)
4:15 p.m. Full Band/ Marching Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Dinner
6:45-8:30 Marching Rehearsal (with instruments)
9:00 p.m. Skit night (keep skits "G" rated please (seniors have one hour)
10:00 p.m. Get ready for bed
10:30 p.m. Taps (lights out/ go to sleep)

Thursday, August 13, 2009

5:30 a.m. Reveille
6:30 a.m. Marching fundamentals on the field (cabin inspection)
8:15 a.m. Breakfast (no returning to the cabins)
9:00 a.m. Marching rehearsal (with instruments)
Noon Lunch
12:45 p.m. Sectionals (Be at designated area ready to rehearse by 1:00)
2:00 p.m. Free time (activities if desired/Sign-ups coming later)
3:00 p.m. Free time (swimming/ activities are finished)
4:15 p.m. Full Band/ Marching Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Dinner/Cook out – **council ring**
7:00-8:30 Marching Rehearsal (with instruments)/ Parent Night: Parents are welcome and encouraged to watch this rehearsal (Parents need to arrive at camp no sooner than 7:30 pm and must exit the camp no later than 8:30)
9:00-10:30 Candle lighting ceremony
10:30-11:00 Get ready for bed
11:00 p.m. Taps (lights out, that also means go to sleep)

Friday, August 14, 2009

6:00 a.m. Reveille
7:00 a.m. Marching fundamentals on the field (cabin inspection)
8:15 a.m. Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Marching rehearsal (with instruments)
11:00 a.m. Pack and clean cabins/Get all your items out of the cabin to loading area
Noon Lunch/Awards/cabin inspection
1:00 p.m. Load busses
1:30 p.m. Leave for home
2:30 p.m. Arrive at Wapakoneta, unload and go home

Traditions

Over the years, there have been certain traditions that have developed within the organization. Some sensitive individuals find these traditions bothersome and would rather not participate. If your son/daughter wishes to not participate then please sign the form below and return it to the directors no later than Friday of music camp. **If your son/daughter opts out of any year of the items listed below they will not be allowed to participate when they become seniors in the organization.** All the items listed below are done in a spirit of fun and camaraderie.

The following is a list of band camp traditions carried out by our seniors to honor their eight-year commitment they have given to the band:

1. At meals, the seniors may call a certain class, section, counselors, directors, or chaperones to collect their dishes and place everything in the appropriate receptacles. This is spread-out over different groups or classes throughout the week.
2. During marching rehearsal, we have what is called minute drills. This is where the band has to be absolutely still for one minute while at attention. At the end of some meals seniors may call up a class and have them do minute drills while they make funny faces and do other things to make them move. No contact is to be made with students during this exercise.
3. On Thursday night the seniors decorate the director's podium with shaving cream and saran wrap and some toilet paper. They leave messages on the field for directors, sections, or individuals. Instead of having the Friday "before breakfast" rehearsal the freshman through Junior classes "check out" the job the seniors did and clean up the field so we can continue the rest of the morning rehearsal.

If this is something that you would rather not have your child participate in please sign the form at the bottom and return to the directors before the end of music camp.

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I wish for my band member (student's name) _____

to be excused from the activities listed above.

Parents Name (Print) _____

Parents Name (Signature) _____