



WAUKEGAN HIGH SCHOOL

Band Program

Mr. David Grayson & Mr. Michael Kennedy, Band Directors

Mrs. Lori Massimo, K-12 Fine Arts Coordinator

Office Phone: (224) 303-3073 Email: dgrayson@wps60.org & mkenedy@wps60.org

This is your chance to join the award-winning **Waukegan High School Bulldog Marching Band!**

Dear Current and Future Waukegan HS Band Students and Families,

We would like to take a moment and welcome all of you to the Waukegan High School Bands! We are very excited to have you be a part of the upcoming 2024-2025 school year and participating in the WHS Band Program. Established in 1916, this is the 108th year that our band will be performing for the community and has developed an outstanding reputation for superior performance and tremendous musicality. One of the many great things about being a part of the WHS Band Program is joining the Bulldog Marching Band and building friendships that will last a lifetime!

The Bulldog Marching Band is a source of great pride for WHS! It represents the spirit, enthusiasm, and traditions of our school! Membership in the Bulldog Marching Band (BMB) is not a requirement of the WHS Band Program, but ALL high school music students are strongly encouraged to participate, and the majority do. Being a member of the BMB allows students to build an instant network of friends that they will have throughout their high school career. This season we will continue to build upon the successes of last year where we placed 2nd at two major Chicago Area Marching Competitions. We have a very exciting show planned! We welcome you to be a part of the 2024 Edition of the Bulldog Marching Band and you can Sign-Up below! Don't miss this opportunity as an incoming Freshman!

Reserve your spot and Sign-Up for the BMB here:

<https://forms.gle/DKgETpbJ3xnRFkWo6>

Thank You,

David Grayson & Michael Kennedy, Band Directors

Email: dgrayson@wps60.org & mkenedy@wps60.org


Phone: (224) 303-3073

Students & Parents; Like, Follow, & Subscribe to us below:

Band Website: www.waukeganbands.weebly.com

 Facebook: facebook.com/waukeganhsbands

 Instagram: [@waukeganhsbands](https://www.instagram.com/waukeganhsbands)

 Twitter: [@whsbands](https://twitter.com/whsbands)

 YouTube: youtube.com/c/davidgrayson



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS/GENERAL INFO.

What costs are involved in participating in the BMB?

Each student member of the Bulldog Marching Band pays a \$100 activity fee each year. **This fee is due Wednesday, May 15, 2024** for all Returning Members. The fee is to cover an assortment of expenses throughout the season, including equipment, apparel, transportation, festival entry fees, music, awards given at the BMB Banquet and dry cleaning of uniforms. Each student will get FREE merchandise and other items and opportunities because of this fee. We do our best to operate on a very modest budget so that every interested student may participate in the BMB and we collect this fee right away to try to avoid asking for money throughout the season.

What if I can't afford these fees?

If this is the case, please talk to the directors! We do not want money to be the reason why a student does not participate. We will do everything we can to help in these situations. A payment plan can be agreed upon that fits your budget. Again, PLEASE talk to the directors if this applies to you! We can always make something work for you so participation in the BMB can still happen.

What if I don't own my own instrument?

We will do everything we can to provide you with a high-quality school-owned instrument. In the WHS Bands program, we encourage each student to own their instrument, but in the case where a student needs to rent an instrument from the school district, the rental fee for the school year is \$60 (the 'instrument user' fee for percussionists is \$30). Please notify the directors of any instrument needs you have so that we can plan ahead to help you. This fee must be paid at Summer Band Camp in July/August.

Is everyone expected to be at every event?

YES! Each and every member is an important part of the band and a vital part of the field show and is expected to attend every rehearsal and performance. Work, family vacations or non-emergency appointments are not a reason to miss any rehearsals. Students missing rehearsals or performances may become in danger of losing their PE waiver and/or performing status in the BMB.

Are good grades required to be in the marching band?

YES! The Bulldog Marching Band is required to follow the eligibility guidelines that District #60 has for all after-school activities. We will do our best to support you to perform to the best of your abilities, both on the field and in the classroom, throughout the marching season. Random grade checks can be performed to monitor students' progress in all classes, and if a student is failing any course, suspension from performance will be considered.

When does the BMB meet to rehearse and perform?

The Bulldog Marching Band has a few summer requirements (Mini Camp, the Independence Day Parade, & the main Band Camp). We meet during the school year generally on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays after the school day (4pm-6:30pm) to rehearse throughout the season. The BMB has a few required Saturday Marching Competitions where the students have the opportunity to travel and compete. The BMB also performs at all home Football Games, the Homecoming Parade, and other performances throughout the season. These events and rehearsals are required to be in the group. No one sits on the bench in band, so every member plays a vital role to the team and its success.



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BMB SUMMER 2024 SCHEDULE

Schedule is very fluid and subject to change!!!

April 29 (Mon)	Drum Major Clinic – Day 1	3:30pm-4:30pm
May 6 (Mon)	Drum Major Clinic – Day 2 <i>WHS-Brookside Campus – Band Room (E101)</i>	3:30pm-4:30pm
May 7 (Tue)	Percussion & Color Guard Try-Outs – Day 1 <i>WHS-Brookside Campus – Band Room (E101) – Door 10</i>	4:00pm-5:00pm
May 8 (Wed)	BMB Student Leadership Staff Interviews – Day 1 <i>WHS-Brookside Campus – Band Room (E101)</i>	4:00pm-TBA
May 9 (Thur)	Percussion & Color Guard Try-Outs – Day 2 BMB Student Leadership Staff Interviews – Day 2 <i>WHS-Brookside Campus – Band Room (E101) – Door 10</i>	4:00pm-5:00pm 4:00pm-TBA
May 10 (Fri)	Drum Major Try-Outs <i>WHS-Brookside Campus – Band Room (E101)</i>	4:00pm-TBA
May 15 (Wed)	2024 BMB Intent Form and \$100 Fee Due https://forms.gle/DKgETpbJ3xnRFkWo6	
Jun 20 (Thurs)	BMB Mini Camp	4:00pm-6:00pm
Jun 25 (Tue)	BMB Mini Camp	4:00pm-6:00pm
Jun 27 (Thurs)	BMB Mini Camp <i>WHS-Brookside Campus – Band Room (E101) – Door 10</i>	4:00pm-6:00pm
June 30 (Sun)	Waukegan Independence Day Parade <i>WHS-Brookside Campus – Band Room (E101) – Door 10 & Downtown Waukegan</i>	9:00am-3:00pm
July 22 (Mon)	Student Leadership, Percussion, & Color Guard <u>ONLY</u>	9:00am-5:00pm

2024 BMB Band Camp

July 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31	<u>ALL BMB STUDENTS</u>	9:00am-5:00pm
August 1, 2, 5, 6	<u>ALL BMB STUDENTS</u>	9:00am-5:00pm

WHS-Brookside Campus – Band Room (E101) – Door 10 & WHS Outside Fields

We learn the bulk of our competitive marching field show during Band Camp along with what we need for the rest of the season. Attendance is mandatory at Band Camp.

August 2 (Fri)	BMB Parent Season Preview <i>Location – To-Be-Announced (WHS)</i>	5:00pm
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If you are unable to make any of the rehearsals or performances, please communicate that as soon as possible with Mr. Grayson, dgrayson@wps60.org. Often times we can make something work so you can still be a member of the Bulldog Marching Band. We would love to see every student join in the 2024 BMB!