



**WEST AURORA HIGH SCHOOL**



## **BLACKHAWK MARCHING BAND 2017-2018**

Dear Blackhawk Marching Band Members & Parents,

Welcome to the **2017-2018** edition of the **West Aurora High School Blackhawk Marching Band!** You are now an indispensable member of a fun, hard-working, and exciting band as well as a part of a very special family that derives its strength from its diverse and energetic membership. Please be ready to rehearse and perform to the best of your ability and cooperate with the Instructional Staff and Student Leadership Team in order to continue our strong tradition of performance excellence. With your talent and drive, we are certain to have a great year and produce a top-notch performing group.

This year's marching band show is entitled *The Magic of Disney* and will feature selections for both the halftime show and Varsity Poms from various Disney movies and television shows. This includes *The Incredibles*, *High School Musical*, *The Jungle Book*, *The Lion King*, and *Star Wars* among others.

The West Aurora Blackhawk Marching Band Mini-Camp is rapidly approaching. The dates are as follows:

May	30	Tuesday	ALL Student Leadership	12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	Band Room/BFH
May	31	Wednesday	<b>ALL NEW MEMBERS + SL</b>	12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	Band Room/BFH
June	1	Thursday	<b>ALL NEW MEMBERS + SL</b>	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Band Room/RFH/BHS
			FULL MARCHING BAND	1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.	Band Room/RFH/BHS
June	2	Friday	FULL MARCHING BAND	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	Band Room/RFH/BHS

*Drumline will be set by the end of Mini-Camp*

### **What is Mini-Camp?**

The West Aurora Blackhawk Band Mini-Camp is a mandatory camp designed to give us a head start on the 2017-2018 season. School-owned instruments and equipment will be issued to those students who need them for the marching season. Additionally, music will be dispersed and rehearsed and marching technique will be taught so you can continue to work on all of that material over the summer. Learning and memorizing your music and working on your marching technique will go a long way to us being ready to get our shows on the field in August! Sound files are available for listening and play along at [wabands.org](http://wabands.org)

### **What can I do to prepare for Mini-Camp?**

As members of this organization, it is important to remember that in order to be our best in performance we must give our best in rehearsal. YOU have the ability and primary responsibility for developing your own skill set and making a positive contribution to the

ensemble. Be prepared to learn! What you put into your performance is what you will get out of it. Come with an open mind and be willing to try new things! West Aurora School District 129 provides us with the necessary funding, equipment, and facilities for our band program. The WAHS Band Boosters provide additional funding and support for activities related to all bands. We have the responsibility to our entire community to produce the best possible group for those investments. Please respect our staff, equipment, school traditions, and each other by preparing yourself to work hard and listen.

We must always do what is best for the welfare of the entire ensemble. Being a member of a marching band is a selfless endeavor. The commitment you make to the Blackhawk Marching Band primarily involves a commitment to each other. We are all in this together and must work cooperatively and collaboratively to produce performances that will WOW our fans! You are not a participant in the Blackhawk Band – YOU ARE A CONTRIBUTOR! Mutual respect is a key component to our success. Remember, we have a long season ahead of us!

### **What do I need to bring to MINI-BAND CAMP?**

Students will need to bring to camp (MANDATORY):

- Instrument & Music
- Several Pencils
- Wear cool, comfortable clothes
- Rain Gear
- Comfortable Gym Shoes & Socks (absolutely no sandals or flip flops - no exceptions! You will be sent home to change if you wear flip flops)
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen (for body and lips)
- Water Bottle (NO EXCEPTIONS)  
DRINKING WATER IS MANDATORY!
- Bug Spray
- **Hydrate and eat before and after rehearsals**
- Mind and Body

***\*\*ALL MEMBERS: Please bring a sack lunch for rehearsal on Friday, June 2. All new members and student leadership should bring a lunch for rehearsal on Thursday, June 1.\*\****

---

### **Percussion Auditions**

**Percussionists:** Please come to mini-camp prepared to audition for placement in the drumline on Friday, June 2. All material covered in your workshops and during Mini Camp will be used in the audition process.

We look forward to the year ahead – GET EXCITED!!

All Best,

Dr. Rod Schueller  
Director

John Sierakowski  
Associate Director

Patty Sampson  
Assistant Director