



***Wakefield High School Warrior  
Marching Band & Color Guard***

Dear WHS Marching Band & Color Guard Members and Parents,

To all the veteran parents and students- Welcome back to the Wakefield Warrior Marching Band. To the new parents and students- Welcome to the tradition, excellence and *pride* of the Wakefield High School Warrior Marching Band. My name is Tom Bankert and I am the High School Band Director and very excited to begin my fifth year as the director of the Warrior Marching Band.

This mailing should give you all the information you need for band camp and all the dates of marching band performances throughout the fall as we work toward our fourth consecutive NESBA Gold Medal with our field show- *The Music of Aerosmith*. Please put the dates on your calendar now as the attendance of every member is essential to the success of the band.

Becoming a member of the Warrior Marching Band requires commitment, hard work and a positive attitude on the part of every individual. The reward of membership in our organization is your association with many students who share your sense of camaraderie and friendship, opportunities for significant musical and personal growth, development of leadership skills and pride in belonging to a respected musical and performance ensemble committed to excellence!

Please read through the information and dates carefully. One of the most important requests I have is that you return the medical form and half of the student activity fee (\$130) by **Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup>**. Checks should be made out to **“Wakefield High School”** and can be left with the medical form in the high school main office. If you pay the activity online, please print a copy of the receipt and enclose it with the medical form. This information is essential to have the marching drill ready for the start of band camp. In order for the band to take another step forward this year, we need to start learning the drill on the field during band camp; this is only possible if I know who will be participating. If you have any questions or concerns about the activity fee please feel free to email me at [bankert@wakefield.k12.ma.us](mailto:bankert@wakefield.k12.ma.us). If the activity fee is a problem please contact me ASAP. The uniform order form is separate than the user fee and checks should be made out to **“Wakefield Music Boosters”**

**Please check [www.wakefieldmusicboosters.com](http://www.wakefieldmusicboosters.com) over the summer for updates to the schedule and other important information.**

Again, on behalf of the Warrior Marching Band staff, welcome to this year’s version of the WHS Warrior Marching Band. I hope this experience provides you a great opportunity to express yourself through the performing arts, an opportunity to develop new friendships and a way to show your **Warrior Pride**.

Sincerely,

Thomas Bankert  
Director, Warrior Marching Band

## Band Camp 2011

**All rehearsals will begin in the WHS Band Room**

Sunday, August 21 <sup>st</sup>	1:00-5:00	<b>LEADERS ONLY</b>
Monday, August 22 <sup>nd</sup>	1:00-5:00	<b>LEADERS &amp; ROOKIES</b>
Monday, August 22 <sup>nd</sup>	6:00-9:00	<b>FULL BAND</b>

### **FULL BAND CAMP**

Tuesday, August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	12:00-4:00	5:00-9:00
Wednesday, August 24 <sup>th</sup>	12:00-4:00	5:00-9:00
Thursday, August 25 <sup>th</sup>	12:00-4:00	5:00-9:00
Thursday, August 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>8:00PM- PARENT INFORMATIONAL MEETING – WHS CAFETERIA - ATTENDENCE IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED</b>	
Friday, August 26 <sup>th</sup>	12:00-4:00	5:00-9:00
Monday, August 29 <sup>th</sup>	12:00-4:00	5:00-9:00
Tuesday, August 30 <sup>th</sup>	12:00-6:00	
Tuesday, August 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>6:00- PARENT PERFORMANCE &amp; COOKOUT</b>	

**Each day of camp you will need to bring:**

- A water jug clearly marked with your name.
- **A 1” three-ring binder with 25 top-loading sheet protectors for marching drill**
- Sneakers at **all** rehearsals. (Extra socks are a good idea).
- Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen and bug spray.
- Epipen, inhaler, medication if required.
- Dinner and snacks (we will be off from 4 to 5 each day of band camp to rest and eat- students must stay at the HS during dinner break).
- Weather specific clothing. Watch the weather! (Rain gear, long sleeves for cold, etc.)

**A few other reminders...**

- Make sure your instruments are in working condition before camp!
- Take out your instrument before camp, wipe off the dust, and play a little!
- Eat a good lunch before you come to camp!!
- Come ready to work **AND** have fun! If you’re open minded and put forth your best effort we are going to have a phenomenal season together!
- **GET PUMPED AND EXCITED!!!**



## *2011 Warrior Marching Band Performance Schedule*

September	16	Football vs. Lynn English	Landrigan Field
September	23	Football vs. Winchester	Landrigan Field
September	24	NESBA	Weymouth
September	30	Football vs. Belmont	Landrigan Field
October	1	NESBA	Malden
October	15	MICCA	Wakefield
October	21	Football vs. Burlington	Landrigan Field
October	22	NESBA	Reading
October	23	MICCA Finals	Lowell
October	28	Football vs. Stoneham	Landrigan Field
October	30	NESBA Finals	Lawrence
November	24	Football vs. Melrose	Melrose

# Marching Band FAQ's

Below are answers to some frequently asked questions regarding the Warrior Marching Band. If you have any others please feel free to email me.

## **What is Band Camp?**

Band camp is the time before school begins where the band can focus on refreshing their marching skills, learning and memorizing all the new music and learning their formations on the field for the marching show. It is also an opportunity to spend time together at the end of the summer and have some fun!!

## **What are MICCA and NESBA?**

MICCA stands for the Massachusetts Instrumental Choral & Conductors Association. NESBA stands for the New England Scholastic Band Association. They are groups that support music in the schools and sponsor marching band festivals for bands throughout the fall. The marching band will have the opportunity to perform in front of judges and an audience and be evaluated at each sponsored performance. More information can be found at [www.miccamusic.org](http://www.miccamusic.org) and [www.nesba.org](http://www.nesba.org).

## **What is the activity fee?**

The activity fee is collected at the high school for students to participate in extra curricular activities and athletics. The fee pays for staff stipends and all the operating costs of the marching band (instrument repair, music arranging and writing, drill writing, equipment, etc.). Marching band is considered a fall sport and has a fee of \$260 per student for the year. If you would like more details please feel free to email me.

## **What does the rehearsal schedule look like and will there be time for homework?**

The rehearsal schedule during the school year will be three days a week and Saturday mornings in September. A complete monthly schedule will be given out at band camp. While this seems like a lot of time, if you are organized and plan your day you will have plenty of time to do homework, study and socialize. There are students in the marching band that participate in the fall drama show, play a fall sport and participate in marching band. **If you want to be in marching band, we can make it work with other activities as long as schedules are set-up ahead of time!**