



Greetings, and Welcome to the 2022 Belleville West Bands!

As we prepare for summer, we are hosting an informational meeting about the West Bands. At these meetings, we will discuss the band handbook, our schedule, expectations, and parental involvement in our Booster organization. Much important information is shared at these meetings. We invite both parents/guardians and students of all grade levels. Moreover, it will be wonderful to meet one another and start another exciting year!

If available, please attend our informational meeting. Much important information is shared.

Informational Meeting: Tuesday, May 17th at 7:00 pm.

For our first year students, we want you to know that High School is awesome and will be among the most memorable times of your life. Being in our band *is* really easy. Band will be one of the many dependable parts of your life. Time spent rehearsing and performing together fosters a strong camaraderie and work ethic among band members and many lifelong friendships are built in the music department. Musicians meet and work with students from all levels and backgrounds. Indeed, the music department is a wonderful place to immerse oneself in the Belleville West social fabric. We value the fact that our students are involved with multiple activities and welcome new students to explore many curricular and co-curricular opportunities at West. It is possible to participate in many organizations on campus while keeping good grades, and our faculty and staff welcome all students to find what inspires them.

IMPORTANT First Year Student/New Student Information:

For first year students, the band journey begins with a part placement. This process determines the part and instrument each musician will play in the band. Nothing needs to be prepared, but musicians must arrive at the band room with their instruments. Musicians will individually sight read a music excerpt and play scales. If musicians play specialty instruments (ex. tuba, baritone saxophone, tenor saxophone, etcetera), we will issue a school-owned instrument with no further fees at the part placement. Once the part placement is completed, musicians are dismissed. Musicians will perform on a first come, first served basis. Part placement dates are as follows. There are no appointments; please visit when it works best. Returning students do not need to attend a placement.

Freshmen/New Student Part Placements

Monday, June 6th or Tuesday June 7th

A112 Band Room

Monday, June 6th 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Tuesday, June 7th 12:00 pm - 8:00 pm

IMPORTANT SUMMER DATES

Add the dates below to your calendar. Camp is the most important part of the year for us---it is where we put the band together and learn to work with each other. Camp attendance is a mandatory class requirement.

Tuesday Night Rehearsals 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

14 June, 21 June, 28 June, 12 July, 19 July

West Band Camp

Monday, July 25th to Friday, July 29th. 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Monday, August 1st to Friday, August 5th. 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Exhibition performance is Friday, August 6th at 6:00 pm

Please visit the band website, bellevillewestmusic.org, for further scheduling and information. Check back periodically for updates.

We look forward to working with all of you! **Call/email me if you have any questions.**

Michael Pond-Jones

Director of Instrumental Music, Belleville Township High School West

Office: 618.222.7687 Cell Phone: 217.218.1221 mpondjones@bths201.org