



"We're with the BAND!" Now What?

**An overview of
Waseca Marching Jays
for New Families**





Waseca Band Boosters

The Waseca Band Boosters is a non-profit organization that supports the band activities in Waseca Public Schools. As a parent/guardian of a marching band student, you are now a member!

A 12-person voting board meets monthly year-round to help the band directors and staff plan and coordinate the activities of the Marching Jays, the jazz bands, the junior high band, and even the beginning 5th & 6th grade bands.

Meetings are open to the public. Please feel welcome to attend any or all of the meetings to find out what's going on and share ideas.

Contact prez1@wasecabands.org for the meeting dates and times.





Competitive Marching Band

The Waseca Marching Jays participate in **Fall Field Competitions**. They prepare a 10-minute program of music, marching, and dance that is performed on a football field. Competitions are on Saturdays in September and the first two weeks of October.

Other Types of Competitions

- Summer Parade competitions: Bands march on the street and perform a program for the judges at a particular spot on the parade route.
- Drum and Bugle Corps / Drum Corps International (DCI): Brass, drums, and color guard perform field shows.





On the Field

Brass

Trumpets, melophones,
baritones, tubas

Woodwinds

Flutes, saxophones,
clarinets

Percussion

- Drumline
- Frontline

Colorguard

Flags, rifles, sabers, other cool props





Rehearsal Schedule Outline

Attendance is mandatory for all rehearsals.

Get in Step

Second week of June:

- Tuesday evening
Kick-off Meeting for families and marchers

Tuesday, June 11
at 7:00 pm
in the PAC

- 3 days of “basics” training; W-F, 8am-noon

June 12 - 14

Evening Rehearsals

June-July

- Monday evenings, 6pm-9pm
- Sectionals at another time, determined by section
- *No rehearsal July 1*

August

- Tu, Th, F 6pm-9pm

Band Camp

Last week of July

Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm

July 22 - 26

No rehearsal first week of August

Second week of August

Mon-Sat, 8am-5pm

August 5 - 10

Morning Rehearsals

Every school day

- 6:50am-8:35am
 - First day of school through November
- Indoor concert





Competitions

Saturdays

Saturday after Labor Day through 2nd Saturday in October. Each competition has a number of bands and lasts a few hours. There is an entry fee for spectators (\$10-\$15), and you are welcome to watch as many of the bands as you like.

Itineraries

Mr. Lawrence will send a schedule with bus call time, warm-up time, and estimated performance time the week of the event.

Transportation

Students are expected to ride the bus; can be checked out by parent/guardian after the show.

Food

Students are expected to bring snacks/meals and their water jugs and/or money for concession stands. Boosters will provide meals for a few all-day events.

Volunteers

We need them on show day!! Almost all jobs on show day allow you to watch the Jays perform.



Specific Competition Notes

Prairie Colors / Eastview September 7, 2024

- Usually leave early morning for the 11:00am Prairie Colors show in Eden Prairie
- Bus over to Apple Valley for Eastview evening show
- Arrive home late!
- One meal provided by the Boosters between shows

Rosemount September 14, 2024

- They will be doing a prelims/finals at their show this year, so we could be coming home early or late

Waseca Marching Classic September 21, 2024

- The “Home Show” so the Marching Jays do not compete—they do an exhibition performance
- **All families are expected to volunteer**
- Usually arrive at school in the morning for a clinic
- Parade is usually at noon
- Students have a break after the parade
- Field shows start at 5:00pm
- Marchers report in the evening to perform at the end of the show
- Fireworks close out the evening

Hudson, WI September 28, 2024

- New this year! Evening show, so likely leave late morning/early afternoon and arrive home late.

Festival of Bands in Sioux Falls, SD October 5, 2024

- Usually leave at 4:00am. YES, that early!!
- Marching band parade starts at 8:00am, the Jays usually step off at about 10:00am
- Field shows are across the road at Howard Wood Field (2000 W Russell St, Sioux Falls) and start about 10:00am.
- Top 10 bands perform in Finals, starting at 7:00pm.
- Two meals provided by the Boosters
- Bus arrives home VERY late: 2:30am
- Very big festival. You may wish to book a hotel and sign out your child after the competition

Youth In Music, US Bank Stadium October 12, 2024

- aka YIM or Yimmies
- THE competition the students are working toward!
- Early morning bus call / Arrive home late!
- Mr. Lawrence will send ticket information when available—adult prices are \$35+ each
- One meal provided by the Boosters
- US Bank stadium is CASHLESS



Other Events

Summer Parades

- **Lake Crystal:** Friday evening after Get in Step rehearsal
- **Last day of Band Camp:** Practice parade from Bomgaars to Fairgrounds
- **MN State Fair:** Last Sunday in August

Fall Preview

- Last Friday in August**
- First showcase of field show
 - Open to the public
 - Annual Booster Member meeting

Pep Band

- All home football games**
- Pep band songs for 1st half of game
 - Perform field show at halftime
 - Dismissed to watch the game or leave after equipment and uniforms are loaded

Section Social Events

- Great team-building time**
- Some events are for show work/practice
 - Others are purely social and optional based on your family's comfort



Participation Fees

Booster Fee

\$125

- Due at the June Kick-off meeting
- Pay by check, cash, or Venmo
@WasecaBand-Boosters

Activity Fee

\$100

- Pay in Infinite Campus
- Contact the HS Office with questions

Instrument Rental

\$40

- If your student uses a school instrument, \$40 per trimester.
- Pay in Infinite Campus

Herb Streitz Scholarship

Financial Assistance for all of these fees is available. The application form is available at the Kick-Off Meeting, in the High School Office, and at wasecabands.org

Uniforms

School Provides

- Bibs and jacket
- Gloves and gauntlets
- Shako and plume
- Colorguard costumes

Marcher Provides

Instrumentalists:

- “Unders” – t-shirt and shorts
- Black socks
- Marching shoes

Colorguard performers:

- “Unders” – t-shirt and black spandex shorts
- Dance shoes
- Black tennis shoes for parades

~ \$75

Optional Swag

- Personalized Marching Jays jacket
- Show shirt for fans
- Swag from 4 Seasons

Order from 4 Seasons Apparel by May 30, 2024!



After YIM... Indoor Marching Show

Section Features

The field show will be tweaked to fit in the gym. New songs, drill and costumes will be added to make a full concert for the community.

Morning Rehearsals Continue

Mr. Lawrence will communicate the specific sections for the week each Sunday with your student. But in general, the 6:50am rehearsals will continue in the gym.

Top Velocity

Generally, upperclassmen will be invited to be in Top Velocity. It is a high-intensity drill routine that highlights advanced marching skills.





Keeping in Touch

Remind App

- At the June Kick-Off Meeting, Mr. Lawrence will share the guardian class code for the 2024 season.
- Your students will have their own class code and get more detailed messages.

Infinite Campus Messenger

- Itineraries and other bigger notices will come by Infinite Campus messenger.
- Check with Mr. Lawrence or the high school office if you need to update your contact information.

Parent Mentors

Your child's section parent mentor will contact you for some things, but always feel free to reach out and ask them questions. They are always happy to help!

Boosters Online

Website:
www.wasecabands.org

Facebook: Waseca Marching Jays

X: @WasecaBands

E-mail

Devon Lawrence, band director
lawd@waseca.k12.mn.us





See you at the Kick-Off Meeting!

**Tuesday, June 11, 7:00pm
Waseca High School
Performing Arts Center (PAC)**

