



NorthWood Bands Welcome Letter

March 2024

Welcome to the award-winning NorthWood High School Band family. The next school year provides an opportunity to carry on the outstanding tradition of excellence that has become the trademark of NorthWood High School Bands. We hope you will decide to be a part of one of the finest organizations in Wa-Nee Community Schools! NorthWood High School Bands provide musical opportunities that encompass a wide scope of musical literature and allow students the opportunity to reach their highest level of musical achievement.

The fall season showcases the excellence of Red Regiment. Performances will include home football games, marching contests and local parades. Winter will feature small chamber ensembles. As part of the course curriculum, students will prepare ensemble music to perform at ISSMA Solo & Ensemble in January. The winter also features the mighty NorthWood Pep Band! The pep band performs at several boys' and girls' basketball games. Spring includes an outstanding concert band organization which has developed a reputation for musical excellence through concert and festival performance. The concert band will present several public concerts as well as perform at the ISSMA Organizational Festival in April.

The synergy of hard-working students, dedicated staff members, active parents and a supportive administration and community make it possible for NorthWood High School Bands to offer an outstanding array of musical opportunities. Students are expected to set and reach high goals for themselves and their program. The rewards of meeting these expectations are immeasurable in the development of students in our community.

Mr. Criss

Scheduling Information

Can I play sports and be in band?

ABSOLUTELY! No one has to stop playing music to play soccer, football, cross country nor any other sport. There are many options available to aid fall athletes continuing participation in both music and athletics. Please contact Mr. Criss to discuss what options are available.

Can I earn an honors diploma and be in band all 4 years?

ABSOLUTELY! The Guidance Department has put together the following 4-year plan for students wishing to receive an Honors Diploma and also participate in band all four years. **The plan below can be tailored to your individual needs.** Please see NWHS Guidance for assistance.

*** Consider Summer PE to open your schedule options even more!!!



Graduation Pathways. If you are pursuing an honors diploma, the honors diploma is your pathway. If you are not pursuing an honor diploma, there are many pathways from which to select. Students may want to consider the Civic Arts Pathway. Your band classes will cover most of the pathway. A Civic Arts Pathway **does not** mean you have to pursue arts in college. You will graduate with a diploma and be ready for military, work force or college.

Balance your 4 years of high school!

Students don't have to cram everything into their freshman year. Create a 4-year plan (custom to you) and enjoy band AND additional electives throughout all 4 years of high school. Your high school guidance counselor can help you! The arrows below offer some common options band students may consider.

**** There is no such thing as a 'freshman course' with the exception of Language Arts. Things like PE, Health, Science and other classes can be taken any of your four years. Do keep in mind prerequisites.

NWHS Guidance Department Recommendation for Band
Students Wishing to Earn an Honors Diploma:

Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
1. Band	1. Band	1. Band	1. Band
2. Band	2. Band	2. Band	2. Band
3. Band	3. Band	3. Band	3. Band
4. English	4. English	4. English	4. English
5. English	5. English	5. English	5. English
6. English	6. Science	6. US History	6. Government
7. Biology	7. Science	7. US History	7. Economics
8. Biology	8. Math (Non-Extend)	8. Math (Non-Extend)	8. Math (Non-Extend)
9. Math (Non-Extend)	9. Math (Non-Extend)	9. Math (Non-Extend)	9. Math (Non-Extend)
10. Math (Non-Extend)	10. World History A	10. World History B	10. Science
11. PE	11. Foreign Language #	11. Foreign Language #	11. Science
12. PE	12. Foreign Language #	12. Foreign Language #	12. Foreign Language #
13. Elective	13. Health	13. Elective	13. Foreign Language #
14. Elective	14. Elective	14. Elective	14. Elective
15. Elective	15. Elective	15. Elective	15. Elective

- Foreign Language not req'd for Core 40.

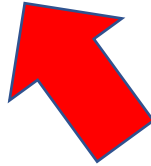
Are summer rehearsals required?

SUMMER BASICS REHEARSALS (June/July)

Summer Basics rehearsals are when new members learn the techniques of movement and music. Returning members review and refresh how these mechanics work. This is also a time when returning members will have opportunities to show leadership skills. These rehearsals are geared for both new and returning members. Students will learn:

- Show music
- Warm-up music fundamental exercises
- School song
- Posture, horn angle and carriage
- Proper roll-step technique (forward, backward, bodyslides)
- Proper technique for change in direction
- Varied step-size
- Basic choreography to prepare for show

Summer Basics rehearsals are one evening per week through summer. (www.northwoodbands.com/calendar/) All students will receive fundamentals training in marching and music at these practices to prepare for a successful band camp. **Please inform Mr. Criss about any conflicts with 1) family vacations, 2) youth group trips, 3) family weddings. We can work around those for Summer Basics. Work is NOT an acceptable rationale.** Communicate your band schedule with your summer job supervisor.



BAND CAMP (starting August 1)

Band Camp, starting August 1, 2024, is a series of rehearsals in late summer. During this time, the band will learn and memorize much of the fall show. **Families will want to make summer plans outside of these required dates.** These rehearsals are equal to more than two months of regular class time. **It is critical for everyone to attend all Band Camp dates.** Students will learn

- Show music & memorization
- Show coordinates
- Show count structure for field movement
- Dance/choreography for colorguard members
- Memorize school song and national anthem
- We will learn and memorize the majority of the show during Band Camp.



Fundraising

The NorthWood band parents do an outstanding job supporting the band. The fundraisers below represent some of our largest fundraisers of the year. Success in these areas is crucial to continue operating the entire band program as we have become accustomed.

***** 4H FAIR (July) or Kountry Wood Picnic**

Parents and students work the lamb booth and the lemon shake-up stand at the Elkhart County Fair or serve at the Kountry Wood summer picnic.

***** HAY STACK SUPPER (October)**

Students are required to sell a minimum set of meal tickets. This is a \$50 commitment. (typically 5 tickets)

***** CHRISTMAS SALE (November/December)**

Students are required to sell a minimum of \$40 profit. Last year popcorn, coffee and poinsettias were sold. This is a \$40 commitment.

***** CHILI SUPPER (February)**

Students are required to sell a minimum set of meal tickets. This is a \$50 commitment. (typically 5 tickets)

RED REGIMENT 5K RUN/WALK (April)

Students are required to participate in the 5K Run. Students may choose to register to be a run participant or assist in the operation of the event under the direction of the NW band parents.

THE FOLLOWING ARE OPTIONAL AND DEDICATED TO BAND TRIP SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

MATTRESS FUNDRAISER (May)

Students distribute fliers and yard signs. THERE IS NO SELLING!!! ☺ Students welcome patrons and help attract additional customers on the day of the sale.

LITTLE CAESARS SALE (Spring)

Students sell Little Caesars pizza items.

*All fundraisers and requirements are subject to change.
Parents have the final vote at monthly band parent meetings.*

*** = required fundraiser. Families may participate in the fundraiser or choose to “buy-out.”

As always, if this creates a financial hardship for any family, please see me privately: 773-4127 or ecriss@wanee.org. Do not let finances keep you from participating in band!

Supply Needs

Each band student will have certain supplies needed for band. **On your registration form you will find the following check-boxes:**

Basic Fee – This is for a band t-shirt to be worn for home football games, competitions and other band activities. This fee also helps offset some of the costs of operations, entry fees, uniform cleaning, marching drill composition and music composition, prop construction, sectional coaches, band awards, student leadership camp, guest clinicians, pep band, percussion supplies and color guard equipment. Through the course of the school year over \$600 per student is required for general operating expenses. Band parent fundraising helps keep this fee at \$195.

Gloves – First pair included in band fee. Additional gloves \$8/pr.

Fall Instrument Usage – There is a \$35 fall instrument usage fee for students using a school instrument like percussion, large brass and large woodwinds.

Color Guard Fee – This \$90 fee helps offset costs associated with color guard uniforms.

Practice Flag – \$40 for your own red practice flag, 6ft pole, 2 stoppers and proper weights.

Pay off Discount – This is a discount available to anyone who has their supply fees paid in full by **May 1**. (save \$20)

OTHER CLASS SUPPLIES

Color Guard Warm-ups – Warm-up jackets for color guard members are used in football games and parades. These are yours to keep and can be used for multiple years. Orders are taken in August.

Color Guard Shoes – Performance dance shoes for color guard members. These are used in football games and competitions. These are yours to keep and can be used for multiple years. Orders are taken in August.

Band Shoes – All instrumentalists will need black shoes. New members must order these through the band. Returning members should check the fit of last year's shoe. Shoes are sized, ordered and paid for at summer band camp.

Payment Schedule

May 1 – Registration and \$100 deposit due

May 1 – Early pay-off discount deadline (save \$20)

May 24 – Next \$95 payment due

June 13 – Remaining balance due

**As always, if this creates a financial hardship for any family,
please see me: 773-4127 or ecriss@wanee.org.**

Do not let finances keep you from participating in band!

Save this page.

Red Regiment Registration

Registration is online. Please see the instructions below:

1. Go to www.northwoodbands.com/fallregistration/ and choose Red Regiment Registration from the menu. Complete the online form.
2. Sign and return the Red Regiment commitment form (included in this packet and also found online: www.northwoodbands.com/).
3. Return #2 above along with the first payment to the NWHS Fine Arts Dept.
These can be hand-delivered to the high school or USPS mailed.
Checks are payable to NWHS BAND.

Red Regiment
c/o Amber Pauls, Performing Arts Assistant
2101 North Main Street
Nappanee, IN 46550



NorthWood High School

Performing Arts Code of Conduct

(Choir, Band, Drama)

We believe that involvement in the performing arts is a benefit and privilege for students. Expectations for participation are geared toward the mature, disciplined, and committed members of the student population. Participants will be governed by this code of conduct from their first day of involvement through graduation from the program, 365 days a year.

A. Rules

1. Participants shall not use tobacco in any form, including e-cigarettes, and any type of look-alike products associated with tobacco or nicotine use.
2. Participants shall not possess or consume alcoholic beverages at any time.
3. Participants shall not possess or consume unauthorized or illegal drugs or intoxicants at any time.
4. Participants shall not engage in behavior that would interfere with the practice or performance of any program.
5. Participants shall not engage in any activity forbidden by the laws of Indiana.

B. Sanctions

LEVEL ONE: Suspension from 2 non-ISSMA events chosen by the director.

LEVEL TWO: Suspension from all non-ISSMA events for an entire trimester/12 weeks.

LEVEL THREE: Permanent dismissal from all NorthWood Performing Arts activities.

C. Self-admittance and Rehabilitation Program

A participant or his/her parents may self-admit a substance abuse problem to the director or sponsor and face no penalty. This is a one-time offer and may not be used to avert a penalty that has been or will be discovered through "normal" occurrences, i.e. the police have already made an arrest, or a pending failed drug test. After coming forward, the student must complete an approved substance program at the family's expense, during which time the student may participate as normal.

NorthWood Bands Commitment Form 2024-2025



As a student of NorthWood Bands I will:

1. attend all rehearsals and performances expected of me
2. make all necessary transportation arrangements to and from all rehearsals, performances and events
3. come to activities on time, prepared and ready to improve
4. respect my leaders, my teammates and myself
5. place "we" before "I"
6. agree to the fundraising requirements
 - a. Volunteer to work 1 of 2 summer service fundraisers
 - b. Fall Dinner Fundraiser (\$50 commitment in ticket sales)
 - c. Christmas Trio (\$40 commitment in sales)
 - d. Winter Dinner Fundraiser (\$50 commitment in ticket sales)
7. play a part, position and/or instrument assigned to me to the best of my ability
(Red Regiment may use some alternates to ensure the success of the team)

Each member must represent the school with a positive attitude and good behavior. Any action that can be *construed by others* as a poor attitude, disrespect to the school, directors, leaders or students may result in disciplinary action or dismissal from the group.

STUDENT (print) _____

STUDENT _____ DATE _____

As a parent of a NorthWood Bands student I will:

1. assist my child with transportation arrangements to and from all rehearsals, performances and events in a timely manner
2. pay all band fees on time or notify director if extensions are requested
3. agree to the fundraising requirements outlined in the registration packet
 - a. Volunteer to work 1 of 2 summer service fundraisers
 - b. Fall Dinner Fundraiser (\$50 commitment in ticket sales)
 - c. Christmas Trio (\$40 commitment in sales)
 - d. Winter Dinner Fundraiser (\$50 commitment in ticket sales)
4. give permission for my child's name and/or image to appear on public media

As a parent, I will support my child to fulfill these obligations and make this a great experience for my child. I will support the directors and fellow band parents for the success of the program.

PARENT (print) _____

PARENT _____ DATE _____

BAND PARENTS!!!

Band Booster meetings take place in the band room the **first Thursday of each month at 7:00pm**. Please be involved with this group. If everyone does a little, no one does a lot. Music is a **fantastic and easy way to get involved in your child's school life**.