

## Westwood Warrior Band

# FRESHMAN PARENT NOTES 2019-2020

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Welcome to the Westwood Warrior Band! My name is Julie Pitner. I was a freshman parent last year, and I am here to make your transition to band easier! Below are a few pieces of advice and clarification to help you navigate your first year in band. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me at anytime:

**Email:** [freshmanrep@westwoodband.org](mailto:freshmanrep@westwoodband.org)

### **SYNC YOUR CALENDAR TO THE BAND CALENDAR**

There are instructions on the band calendar page to do so. You may have to alter the steps for your personal calendar. I did for my iOS device. Sync for full band and for your child's concert ensemble (and color guard if applicable for your student). Here's the link to the band calendar page:

[Westwood Warrior Band Calendar](#)

### **BAND NOTES**

Every week the band directors email "Band Notes" to us- typically on Sunday afternoon. Band Notes give the schedule of events for the next two weeks plus any details needed. Take the time to review the Band Notes. They can often answer any questions you have about the week's performances or competitions such as what to wear, what they need to bring, where and when they are meeting, whether or not a meal is provided, whether or not they need to bring money, what time they will return, etc. It is a very helpful document.

### **WHAT IS BOA?**

BOA stands for Bands of America. Take a look at the [BOA website](#) to see what it is all about! BOA days are marching band competitions and take up the whole day for the students. Be prepared! The end of September, October, and the first weekend of November are full of competitions that are full day events! Also, it's great to have a BIG cheering section at all

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competitions. Come and cheer on the band!! Performance times will be announced ahead of time. You do not have to be there all day!

The Westwood Band website has a good guide to the [scoring in the competitions](#). Take a look and see what the judges are looking for.

### WHAT IS UIL?

UIL stands for University Interscholastic League and involves Texas athletics and music programs and competitions. The rules we follow (such as rehearsal time allowances, the now-required physicals for the students, and the rules for the time length and content of the show) are put in place by UIL and are statewide. The Westwood Band will participate in UIL marching contest in the fall and concert/sightreading contest in the spring. More information about UIL is found [here](#).

### GAME AND COMPETITION TICKETS

You can buy **football game tickets** at the gate, or your student can buy the tickets for you ahead of time at a slightly reduced price at school. You may also be able to buy online through RRISD. Try [here](#) if you want to buy football tickets online. If the previous link does not work, go to the Westwood website, and go to the A-Z Index. There is a heading for football tickets. Click on that, and you should be able to get tickets online.

Tickets for **marching competitions** can be bought at the gate and sometimes online. The [Round Rock ISD online store](#) is a good place to begin looking for tickets to band competitions and Festival of Bands (an exhibition put on by all RRISD marching bands). Students want their parents and families there cheering on the band. Plan to go to as many performances as you can. You will love seeing how the show progresses and improves with each performance!

If you subscribe to Flomarching.com, you can live stream BOA marching competitions that you are unable to attend. There are plans from \$12.99/month and up, and you can cancel at any time.

Also, check the [FAQs](#) on the band website. There is lots of useful information there!

The following is the marching season schedule all in one place with notes about events that are not self-explanatory.

### BAND CAMP

The times vary from day to day. Students need a lunch, snacks, and water every day. Also, parents trade off on providing snack for their student's section after rehearsals on certain days. Sign ups will be sent out by your section parent. Snacks are given out in the parking lot by the band hall after rehearsals. Parents have a sign for their section (something simple on a poster

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board with the name of the section) and serve the snack from their trunk... or if they're super enthusiastic, a table! Students will come find their section- you just have to be there ready for them!

### **BAND CAMP SCHEDULE NOTES**

The start times listed are the times that rehearsal *begins*. If students show up right at the start time, they are late getting started. Plan to get them there 15 minutes early so they are ready to go at start time. As they say in the Westwood Band, "If you're early, you're on time. If you're on time, you're late!"

The following dates and times are as of 7/16/2019. They are subject to change at the discretion of the directors. Always check the band calendar to verify!

**13-hour days** are: 8/1, 8/5, and 8/8. These days are **8am-9pm!!** Typically, dinner is provided on those days. But check with your student to make sure. They will need to bring a lunch, snacks, and, of course, water.

#### **Week of 7/29:**

7/29-7/31: 8am-6pm

7/31- Passoff for Part 1 of the show is due to Google Classroom by noon!

**8/1: 13-hour day! 8am-9pm**

8/2: 8 am -4pm Rehearsal; 4-5pm Break; 5-7pm Band Olympics (a social event where the band sections compete in fun games)

#### **Week of 8/5:**

**8/5: 13-hour day! 8am-9pm; Colorguard at Grisham MS 1:30-5:00**

8/6: 8 am -12 pm full band; 1:30pm-6pm Colorguard Rehearsal at Grisham MS.

8/7: 8 am -6pm

**8/8: 13-hour day! 8am-9pm**

8/9: 6-10pm There is a DCI Semifinals Watch Party! DCI stands for Drum Corps International. Drum corps have brass, percussion, and color guard and are composed of students ages 14-21. Drum corps from all over the country travel and compete their marching shows all summer long culminating in the final competition in August. We will be watching the semi-finals!

8/10- Passoff for Part 2 of the show is due to Google Classroom by noon!

#### **Week of 8/12:**

8/12: 8am-12pm Rehearsal; 12:00-5:00pm Break; 5pm-9pm Rehearsal

8/13: 8am-12pm AND 5pm-9pm

8/14: 8am-5pm Rehearsal; 1:30-5pm Band Pictures

### **FALL SCHEDULE NOTES 2019**

8/15: **First day of school**, band rehearsal from 4:45-7:45

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8/16: Rehearsal at 4:45. Dinner is provided for students! **This evening there is an exhibition for the parents starting at 8:00!** The band will perform the parts of the show they have learned during band camp. It's an exciting evening! Plan to be there! The students are super excited to show off what they have learned.

***Starting August 19<sup>th</sup>, the band will fall into their regular school rehearsal schedule.***

### **Week of 8/19:**

8/19: Monday: 4:45-7:45pm

8/20: Tuesday: 4:45-6:45pm

8.21: Wednesday: Off! Do homework!

8/22: Thursday: 4:45-6:45 pm

8/23: Friday- No game so rehearsal from 4:45-7:45

### **Week of 8/26:**

8/26: Rehearsal: 4:45-7:45

8/27: Rehearsal: 4:45-6:45

### ***Exceptions will come up:***

8/29 is a Thursday, but our **first game** is that night. On this and all other game days, students are expected to come at **7:15am** for a before-school rehearsal (rehearsal starts at 7:30, but they're late if they show up right at 7:30!). They stay after school, have dinner, and are bussed to the game. They will return to the school after the game. They will most likely arrive around 10:30-ish. You will be notified when they are on their way back to Westwood. If you get to the school before the busses do, do not pull into the driveway and park in the carline by the band hall. That is where the busses unload. Park in the lot or on the street.

8/30- Friday Rehearsal from 4:45-7:45.

### **Week of 9/2:**

9/3- is a Tuesday, but since Monday is Labor Day and there is no rehearsal, the Tuesday rehearsal after school will be from 4:45-**7:45**.

9/5- Thursday Rehearsal is from 4:45-**7:45** again due to missing Labor Day.

9/6- Game Day! Again, rehearse at 7:15 and stay after school for dinner and the game.

### **Week of 9/9: Regular Rehearsal Schedule**

9/9: Monday: 4:45-7:45pm

9/10: Tuesday: 4:45-6:45pm

9/11: Wednesday: Off! Do homework!

9/12: Thursday: 4:45-6:45 pm

9/13: Game Day!!

### **Week of 9/16:**

9/16- No rehearsal

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9/17: Rehearsal 4:45-6:45

9/19: Rehearsal 4:45-6:45

9/20: Game Day!!

**9/21: March-a-thon:** This is an all-day event! The student will have a 4-hour rehearsal followed by an evening performance of their show in full uniform! Plan to be there! You will have opportunities to take pictures on the field afterwards! Students will have been fundraising for March-a-thon, so you will have heard about it!

### Week of 9/23: Regular Rehearsal Schedule

9/23: Monday: 4:45-7:45pm

9/24: Tuesday: 4:45-6:45pm

9/25: Wednesday: Off! Do homework!

9/26: Thursday: 4:45-6:45 pm

9/27: Game Day!!

**9/28- BOA Austin:** This is a full day event (as all competition days are). The students will have a rehearsal and will be bussed to the competition. Call time depends on playtime. If they make finals, they will perform again. End time depends on whether they make finals.

### Week of 9/30:

**9/30 Festival of Bands:** 2 things to note: There will be a 7:15am rehearsal- yes, on a Monday!! And there will be a performance in the evening- time to be announced later. The students are expected to stay for the whole festival. This festival is a time when all the marching bands in the district come together and perform their shows. Also, the middle schoolers come and play a piece with the high school band they will eventually be a part of. At the end of the evening, a university band performs a show. Last year it was the Texas State Band, and the year before that, it was the University of Texas at Austin. It's a fun evening!

10/1: **Tuesday exception: 4:45-7:45 Rehearsal**

10/3 Thursday: No rehearsal.

10/4- Game Day!

**10/5- BOA in Houston!!** This will involve a VERY early morning for your kids! Call time will depend on their playtime. Students will be bussed to Houston, rehearse, perform, and come back late in the evening (or night...). Arrival time will depend on whether or not they make the competition finals.

### Week of 10/7:

10/7: Rehearsal 4:45-7:45

10/8: Rehearsal 4:45-6:45

10/10: Thursday- Rehearsal 4:45-**7:45**

10/11: No game or rehearsal

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### Week of 10/14:

10/14: No school or rehearsal

10/15: No school BUT there IS rehearsal from 5-9pm!!

10/17: Rehearsal 4:45-6:45

10/18: Game Day!

**10/19 Region Marching contest**- Call time depends on playtime. The students will come to Westwood for a rehearsal and be bussed over to the competition and play. This one is in Austin. If they make finals, they will play again. End time depends on whether or not there is a finals performance.

### Week of 10/21: Regular Rehearsal Schedule:

10/21: Monday: 4:45-7:45pm

10/22: Tuesday: 4:45-6:45pm

10/23: Wednesday: Off! Do homework!

10/24: Thursday: 4:45-6:45 pm

**Additionally: 10/24: Homecoming Parade at 8:00 AM on Thursday, 10/24**

9/25 Homecoming Game!!

### Week of 10/28: Regular Rehearsal Schedule:

10/28: Monday: 4:45-7:45pm

10/29: Tuesday: 4:45-6:45pm

10/30: Wednesday: Off! Do homework!

10/31: Thursday: 4:45-6:45 pm

**11/1: Two things: Game Day AND BOA San Antonio**: Students will rehearse at 7:15 am again. Last year the band did not attend the game but went to San Antonio to compete. Students will go to San Antonio if they have a playtime on Friday. The time they leave depends on their playtime. They will likely miss some classes. They will return to Austin in the evening but will go back the following day.

**11/2: Day 2 of BOA San Antonio**: Students will arrive early Saturday morning, drive to San Antonio, and either perform or watch others perform and await the announcement as to whether or not they make finals. If they are in the finals, they will stay and perform again. Arrival time back to Westwood depends on whether or not they perform in finals. It could be as early as 9 pm but could also be much later.

### Week of 11/4:

11/4: No rehearsal

11/5: No rehearsal

11/7: Rehearsal: 4:45-6:45

11/8: Game Day!!

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## **Westwood Warrior Band**

11/9: Drumline Contest- Percussion only

Region Orchestra Auditions- all day for those who choose to try out.

11/11: Further Region Orchestra Auditions

11/14-11/16: Region Orchestra Clinic for the ones who make it!

### **Week of 12/9:**

12/13-12/14: Region Band Auditions

Sometime in December, there will be a fall concert. Dates and times to be announced later.