

Westwood Warrior Band

FRESHMAN PARENT GUIDE- Fall 2021

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Welcome to the Westwood Warrior Band! My name is Julie Pitner. I was a freshman parent three years ago, 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

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 it for my iOS device. Sync for WHS Band (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 all band families, 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 carefully. 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.

IS COLOR GUARD PART OF BAND?

Color guard performs with the band in the fall semester during football and marching season. When the *band camp* and *fall schedules* say "Full Band," color guard is expected to be there. (Color guard does rehearse once a week on their own during football season, as well.) In the spring, the band and color guard are separate. The band splits into 4 ensembles and has their

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concert season while color guard has their own winter guard season with indoor competitions throughout the spring semester.

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 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](#).

What is DCI?

DCI stands for Drum Corps International. Students age 14-21 audition to spend their summers marching in a drum and bugle corps made up of percussion, brass, and color guard. There are drum corps from all over the country. These corps learn and rehearse a show then travel to DCI shows all over the United States competing. At the end of the summer, there is a final show where all drum corps compete. Westwood has had a number of students participate in drum corps. A few are marching this summer, as well. Check out the [DCI website](#) for more information!

On August 4th, the Westwood Band will host a DCI Austin show at Kelly Reeves Athletic Complex (10211 W. Parmer Lane, Austin, 78717). We will need volunteers, but it is a great chance for you to see what DCI is all about, too.

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

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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 is a subscription fee of \$29.99/month if you choose to pay monthly, and you can cancel at any time. You may also choose to pay for a full year's subscription in one payment of \$150 (which averages out to \$12.50/month).

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 (a [half gallon jug](#) is recommended) every day. Good, sturdy tennis shoes, such as good cross trainers or running shoes, should be worn. Bring hats, sunglasses, and plenty of sunscreen, too. 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 board with the name of the section) and serve the snack from their trunk or a table by their car! 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!"

Section Colors: During band camp, there are times that each band section wears its signature color- at practice and for social events (such as Band Olympics). Your student will want to have a shirt in their color:

Altos: Orange

Baritones: White

Color Guard: Tie Dye or rainbow

Clarinets: Gray

Flutes: Blue

Low Reeds: Green

Mellos: Purple

Percussion: Black

Trombones: Light blue

Trumpets: Red

Tubas: Pink

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The following dates and times are as of 5/13/2021. They are subject to change at the discretion of the directors. Always check the band calendar to verify!

13-hour days are: 8/5 and 8/12. 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 : 7/19: Percussion and Color Guard Camps

7/19: 9:00am-4:00pm Color Guard Camp
Percussion Camp, Time TBA
7/20: 9:00am-4:00pm Color Guard Camp
Percussion Camp, Time TBA
7/21: 9:00am-4:00pm Color Guard Camp
Percussion Camp, Time TBA
7/22: 9:00am-4:00pm Color Guard Camp
Percussion Camp, Time TBA
7/23: 9:00am-4:00pm Color Guard Camp
Percussion Camp, Time TBA

Week of 7/26: Times TBA

7/26: 8:00 am-6:00 pm Full Band Camp
7/27: 8:00 am-6:00 pm Full Band Camp
7/28: 8:00 am-6:00 pm Full Band Camp
7/29: 8:00 am-6:00 pm Full Band Camp
7/30: 8:00 am-6:00 pm Full Band Camp; Varsity Marching Band Auditions

Week of 8/3: Times TBA

8/2: 8:00 am-6:00 pm Full Band Camp
8/3: 8:00 am-6:00 pm Full Band Camp
8/4: 8:00 am-6:00 pm Full Band Camp
DCI Show (Times TBA) at [RRISD Kelly Reeves Athletic Complex](#)
10211 W. Parmer Lane, Austin, 78717
8/5: 8:00 am-9:00 pm Full Band Camp
8/6: 8:00 am-6:00 pm Full Band Camp

Week of 8/10: Times TBA

8/9: 8:00 am-12:00 pm Full Band Camp
8/10: 8:00 am-12:00 pm Full Band Camp
8/11: 8:00 am-12:00 pm Full Band Camp
8/12: 8:00 am-9:00 pm Full Band Camp
8/13: 8:00 am-6:00 pm Full Band Camp

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Week of 8/16: Band Camp/First Week of School

8/16: 8:00 am-12:00 pm Full Band Camp

5:00 pm-9:00 pm Full Band Camp

8/17: 8:00 am-12:00 pm Full Band Camp

5:00 pm-9:00 pm Full Band Camp

8/18: First Day of School

8/19: 4:45 pm-7:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

8/20: 4:30 pm-9:00 pm Full Band Rehearsal/Exhibition (Dinner provided for full band.)

8/20: 8:00 pm- Parents, Families, Friends come to Exhibition at the Warrior Bowl (the football field with bleachers behind the band practice pad/parking lot)! 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.

FALL SCHEDULE NOTES 2020

The directors try to adhere to the following rehearsal schedule. However, with school events and holidays often falling on Mondays, there are some alterations to the general schedule that are made throughout the course of marching season.

Monday - Full Band (4:45-7:45 pm)

Tuesday - Color Guard (4:45-6:45 pm)

Wednesday - Brass/Woodwinds/Percussion (4:45-6:45 pm)

Thursday - Full Band (4:45-6:45 pm)

**Friday - Game Day: Full Band (7:30-8:30 am), Game in the evening

**If a football game is on Thursday, we follow a Game Day schedule with a rehearsal at 7:30am and the game after school. On weeks with a Thursday game, we typically have rehearsal from 4:45-6:45 pm on Friday. (This year the only Thursday game is on September 9th.)

Game Days:

On 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 10:30-11:00-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.

****There will be exceptions to this schedule, so pay close attention to Band Notes for exceptions and changes that come up!** Example: We have one Thursday night game this year (9/9). The schedule for Thursday night games is the same as Friday games. Most of the time when there is a Thursday game, there will be a Friday rehearsal.

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Starting August 23rd, the band will fall into their regular school rehearsal schedule.

Week of 8/23:

8/23: Monday: 4:45-7:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

8/24: Tuesday: 4:45-6:45 pm Color Guard Rehearsal

8/25: Wednesday: 4:45-6:45 pm Brass, Woodwinds, Percussion Rehearsal

8/26: Thursday: 4:45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

8/27: Friday: 7:30 am Full Band Rehearsal and Game Day! Westwood (Home) vs. Eastview HS

At: [RRISD Kelly Reeves Athletic Complex](#)

10211 W. Parmer Lane, Austin, 78717

Week of 8/30:

8/30: Monday: 4:45-7:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

8/31: Tuesday: 4:45-6:45 pm Color Guard Rehearsal

9/1: Wednesday: 4:45-6:45 pm Brass, Woodwinds, Percussion Rehearsal

9/2: Thursday: 4:45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

9/3: Friday: 7:30 am Full Band Rehearsal and Game Day! Westwood (Home) vs. Austin HS

At: [RRISD Dragon Stadium](#)

201 Deepwood Dr., Round Rock, 78681

Week of 9/6:

9/6: Monday: No School/Labor Day

9/7: Tuesday: 4:45-7:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

9/8: Wednesday: No rehearsal

9/9: Thursday: 7:30 am Full Band Rehearsal and Game Day! Westwood (Home) vs. Anderson HS

At: [RRISD Kelly Reeves Athletic Complex](#)

10211 W. Parmer Lane, Austin, 78717

9/10: Friday: 4:45-8:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

Week of 9/13: Regular Rehearsal Schedule

9/13: Monday: 4:45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

***9/14: Tuesday: Festival of Bands** (Students stay at school, dinner is typically provided; Further Details to come later)

9/15: Wednesday: 4:45-6:45 pm Brass, Woodwinds, Percussion Rehearsal

9/16: Thursday: 4:45-6:45 pm Color Guard Rehearsal

9/17: Friday: 7:30 am Full Band Rehearsal and Game Day! Westwood (Away) vs. Hutto H.S.

At: [Hutto High School Memorial Stadium](#)

101 Farm to Market 685, Hutto, 78634

9/18: Saturday: 5:00-9:00 pm: Stadium Rehearsal At: [RRISD Kelly Reeves Athletic Complex](#)

10211 W. Parmer Lane, Austin, 78717

***Festival of Bands:** 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

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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!

Week of 9/20:

9/20- Monday: 4: 45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

9/21: Tuesday: 4:45-6:45 pm Color Guard Rehearsal

9/22: Wednesday: 4:45-6:45 pm Brass, Woodwinds, Percussion Rehearsal

9/23: Thursday: 4:45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

9/24: Friday: 4:45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

9/25: Saturday: 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. This has typically been held at RRISD Kelly Reeves Athletic Complex, 10211 W. Parmer Lane, Austin, 78717.

Week of 9/27:

9/27: Monday: No school

9/28: Tuesday: 4:45-7:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

9/29: Wednesday: 4:45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

9/30: Thursday: 4:45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

10/1: Friday: 7:30 am Full Band Rehearsal and Game Day! Westwood (Home) vs. Round Rock HS

At: [RRISD Kelly Reeves Athletic Complex](#)

10211 W. Parmer Lane, Austin, 78717

10/2- Saturday: Vista Ridge Marching Festival! Details to be announced later.

Week of 10/4:

10/4: Monday: 4:45-7:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

10/5: Tuesday: 4:45-6:45 pm Color Guard Rehearsal

10/6: Wednesday: 4:45-6:45 pm Brass, Woodwinds, Percussion Rehearsal

10/7: Thursday: 4:45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

10/8: Friday: 7:30 am Full Band Rehearsal and Game Day! Westwood (Home) vs. Stony Point HS

8th Grade Night!

At: [RRISD Kelly Reeves Athletic Complex](#)

10211 W. Parmer Lane, Austin, 78717

Week of 10/11:

10/11: Monday: No school!

10/12: Tuesday: 4:45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

10/13: Wednesday: No Rehearsal

10/14: Thursday: 4:45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

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10/15: Friday: 7:30 am Full Band Rehearsal and Game Day! Westwood (Home) vs. Vista Ridge HS Homecoming!

At: [RRISD Kelly Reeves Athletic Complex](#)
10211 W. Parmer Lane, Austin, 78717

10/16: Saturday: March-a-thon!! All day event

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 10/18:

10/18: Monday: 4:45-7:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

10/19: Tuesday: Full Band Rehearsal 7:30am-8:30am; All Day- *UIL Region Marching Competition

10/20: Wednesday: 4:45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

10/21: Thursday: 4:45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

10/22: Friday: 7:30 am Full Band Rehearsal and Game Day!! Westwood (Away) vs. Vandegrift HS

At: [Vandegrift HS Ed W. Monroe Memorial Stadium](#)

9500 McNeil Dr., Austin, 78750

***10/19: UIL Region Marching Competition:** Call time depends on playtime. The students will be bussed over to the competition and play. This one is in Austin. Students may miss class time depending on their performance time.

Week of 10/25: Regular Rehearsal Schedule:

10/25: Monday: 4:45-7:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

10/26: Tuesday: 4:45-7:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

10/27: Wednesday: No Rehearsal

10/28: Thursday: 4:45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

10/29: Friday: 7:30 am Full Band Rehearsal and Game Day! Westwood (Home) vs. Cedar Ridge Senior Night!

At: [RRISD Dragon Stadium](#)

201 Deepwood Dr., Round Rock, 78681

10/30: Saturday: UIL Area Marching Competition: Details TBA, all day event

Week of 11/1:

11/1: Monday: No School

11/2: Tuesday: 4:00-8:00 pm Full Band Rehearsal

11/3: Wednesday: 4:45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

11/4: Thursday: 4:45-6:45 pm Full Band Rehearsal

****11/5: Friday: 7:30 am Full Band Rehearsal and Game Day!!** Westwood (Away) vs. McNeil H.S.

At: [RRISD Kelly Reeves Athletic Complex](#)

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10211 W. Parmer Lane, Austin, 78717

****11/5: BOA San Antonio Day 1:** Depending on performance time, students may leave Westwood early in the morning.

****Game Day AND BOA San Antonio on the same day:** Students will go to San Antonio if they have a playtime on Friday (which they typically do). The time they leave for San Antonio depends on their performance time. They will miss some classes. They will return to Austin in the evening but will go back the following day. *If it is possible to be back in time for the football game after they play in San Antonio, they will go to the game upon their return to Austin. If their San Antonio performance time is too late in the day, they will miss the football game.*

11/6: BOA San Antonio Day 2: 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 advance to finals. If they make 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 11/8:

11/8: Monday: UIL State Marching Competition: If we advance to State after UIL Area Marching Competition on Saturday, 10/30, we will participate in UIL State Marching Competition.

11/9: Tuesday: UIL State Marching Competition

11/10: Marching season is over. Do homework!

11/11:

11/12:

December:

Region Band auditions are in December. Students will work independently throughout the fall on this music. Date TBA.

Also, there will be a winter concert for all four concert ensembles. Date TBA.