

HOW DO I JOIN BAND?

◆ **REGISTRATION:** Select Band for your elective on the online registration form NOW.

*Woodwind - Beginning Band I (WW) 801245y

*Brass -Beginning Band II (Brass) 801255y

*Percussion players - Percussion 801385y

*Color Guard - Dance Composition 801375y

◆ **SCHEDULING:** Students from Middle School will register in early February. Band fits easily into your schedule. You can take band for all four years and still exceed all graduation requirements. Please contact Mr. Matthews personally if you have any scheduling problems.

◆ **MARCHING BAND:** All students enrolled in a band class are eligible for the *Pride of the West Marching Band*. Although it is not a requirement, most band students are in the marching band. Make sure you talk to several of the current marching band students and parents when making your decision about joining. Details coming soon!

COLORGUARD

What is colorguard? Colorguard uses flags, sabres, rifles, dance, and other props to visually enhance the marching band half-time show! Current band and non-band students may participate. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!!!

INTERESTED? A workshop and try-out will be held in April, and students will be placed in the Dance Composition class after audition.

Check WF Band website for dates and times.

Why Band?

Music is richly rewarding at both a personal and a group level. At the personal level, research has shown that music training enhances one's ability to **succeed in other areas of study** and achievement. For example, high achievers in business and politics have attributed their present success in part to their own early musical training. A survey commissioned by McDonald's All-American High School Band found that 96% of the business leaders surveyed would encourage their children in the study of music; and 100% of the members of Congress answered affirmatively. Other studies have shown a direct relationship between continuous exposure and study of music to **higher test scores** and intellectual functioning. Music offers the chance for personal satisfaction and growth in many ways including enhanced poise, improved self-confidence, growing **self-respect**, heightened powers of creativity, strengthened persistence, as well as greater physical and mental coordination.

In the West Forsyth Band program, **leadership and group skills** will be a primary focus. The learning and growth the students receive through the various opportunities (such as marching band, concert band, color guard, jazz band, solo and ensemble performances, and travel opportunities) will assist in the development of important social skills. Some of these social skills include: cooperation; negotiation; verbal and visual communication; responsibility to the group and its goals; and tolerance for the ideals, attitudes, abilities, traditions and customs of others.

The teamwork does not stop with music: in fact, this organization is more than just a program - it is a group of students that in many ways act as a family! The majority of students who join the band program continue for four years, which is a prime example of the **sense of pride** and family the students feel!

The West Forsyth band program is a caring, supportive organization that stresses **musical excellence**, academic achievement and social

learning. For rising freshman participating in the marching band, band camp and summer activities make the **adjustment to high school** not only **easier**, but **exciting**.



DRUMLINE

Drumline is part of the Marching Band and has the same rehearsal and performance schedule. "**Chop Shop**" is designed for drumline preparation at all levels, and those sessions occur most Wednesdays after school throughout spring semester. 7th and 8th graders are encouraged to attend. Auditions for next year's WFHS Drumline will begin in April. All 8th grade percussionists are eligible. Auditions are only for placement purposes; there are not "cuts." All interested percussionists are welcome!