



WELCOME



Dear Cavellero Parents and Students:

Greetings from the Lake Stevens High School Bands!! Wonderful things are happening in our programs and one of the biggest is the addition of **YOU!** I would like to take the time to welcome in next years class of Sophomores AND their parents. We are so happy to have you...

NEXT YEAR IS GOING TO BE AWESOME!

As you enter the program there are some things that you should know to help you get prepared for the coming seasons. I will try to answer as many of your questions here as I can... past that please feel free to give me a shout at neil_proff@lkstevens.wednet.edu and/or attend the **BAND PARENT MEETING** following **Curriculum Night from 8:30-9:00 in the LSHS BAND ROOM.** This meeting will lay out the details of how our program runs, what we do, and answer any questions that you may have!! **Be There!!**
ALSO PLEASE SEE THE WEBSITE: LSHS WEBSITE/PARENTS & STUDENTS/LSHS BANDS



LAKE STEVENS HIGH SCHOOL

BAND CAMP THIS YEAR IS IN THE CAFETERIA OF LAKE STEVENS HIGH SCHOOL!!



Q&A

Q: What exactly is Band Camp, What is Drumline Camp, and WHEN exactly are they?

A: Band Camp is where our entire program comes together before school starts to get the tunes (music) that we will be playing for pep/marching season and builds the team that will be the band for the rest of the year. **It is essential for everyone to attend so we can be ready to play at the first football game & the first morning of school. BAND CAMP IS REQUIRED. If you are planning on taking band in High School... BE THERE. This is where we put all our music together, set our sections, and learn the ropes!!! Just like football, we plan around practices and need to be ready to do our jobs on day 1. Please communicate! (CONTACT PROFF w/ CONFLICTS OR ?'s at neil_proff@lkstevens.wednet.edu) No shows/no contact will be removed.**

BAND CAMP begins at 8 a.m. on Monday August 12th and runs 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday – Friday until Friday August 16th. (Little Viking Band Camp is August 17th and 18th... I need the majority of the band for that weekend as we are teaching up to 180 (or more) 6th grade beginners)

If you are a DRUMMER OR have been approved by Proff to play on the line... DRUM CAMP is the week preceding band camp (Aug. 5-9). Band Camp is for learning marching music, Drumline Camp is for learning the cadences for our award winning line. In order to play on the drum line you MUST attend Drumline Camp. Auditions for positions on the line are held Monday morning Aug. 5th AT 9AM!!! Camp runs 9:00AM - 4:00PM all week at LSHS. Be there for Auditions. (Bring sticks) Drummers are required to attend both camps. (Also, most of the line attends Sounds of Summer at Central WA University in July. Go to www.tedbrownmusic.com and search “Sounds of Summer” for info)

Q: Proff, this band thing seems really busy! Will I have enough time?

A: Please don't be intimidated!!! I am always here to answer your questions and help in any way I can. Its not enough just to get good grades anymore. Colleges want kids who are involved! THIS IS THE BEST THING TO DO HERE!!! Its cheap compared to any sport, the positive effects on kids in the areas of socialization and academics are well documented (and sung from the four corners of the Lake). Band also guarantees a great group of peers who are far better influences than the student body at large can provide. Music also justifies itself. Do any of you parents listen to your ipods or radios because it raises your math scores? Sometime we will talk about music advocacy, but for now suffice it to say our program is one of the best around. We have a ton of AP track kids, athletes, and students that are involved in band. Being a part of it is one of the best decisions you could make! You will be busy, winners always are, but it will definitely be worth it!

Q: I have to take PE? I have to get in my languages? How do I fit band in?

A: First, IT ISN'T HARD!! We are the most diverse group in the school, with probably the highest GPA and though this program serves everyone, it is tailored to these kids. Fitting band in all 3 years is only an issue for the top 10% of kids (Ivy League bound) in the first place and it's still easily doable. We have a ton of AP kids in our program and I plan around the tests every year. (We now even have AP Music Theory) There are a number of things that can help in this category. If you play a varsity sport, some PE can be waived. There are summer programs and or online programs for PE and/or extra years of language that only take a fraction of the time to complete, and lets not forget that 70% of band kids enter the high school ahead in at least one area. If you are bi-lingual there is a proficiency test that can get you credits.

Q: What should I bring to Band Camp?

A: You should bring your FANTASTIC ATTITUDE, your instrument, a check for \$70.00 (camp is free... the \$70 is the yearly band fee...three years of that fee covers your jacket, hat, shirts, and the expenses associated with running the single biggest extracurricular activity in the district. Please make it payable to the LSHS Band Boosters, A SACK LUNCH EACH DAY, SUN SCREEN, WATER, and a PENCIL. Please BE SURE BEFORE BAND CAMP STARTS to acquire a FLIP FOLDER WITH around 25 sheets in it (enough to hold 50 tunes), AND a LYRE (thing that holds the flip folder to the inst.)

Q: What in the world is “Little Viking Band Camp”?

A: Little Viking Band Camp is exactly what it sounds like. All the incoming 6th graders show up, pick up their instruments, and we at the HS get them started and off on the right foot. We teach them how to put together, clean, care for, and play their new axe. Its like boot camp for little band geeks. I will need quite a few of the HS students on EACH instrument to help out teaching. There is a SMALL concert on Sunday in the cafeteria.

Q: My student is a drummer...what do they need to bring with them?

A: Drummers are in a special group when it comes to music. I supply the instruments that they need to play but each drummer will be required to have their own stick bag with sticks in it. Cymbal players may need to purchase gloves. They should have snare sticks... both marching and concert, marimba mallets, and xylophone mallets. (jazz drummers should have brushes as well) (Drummers will be responsible for replacing broken or worn sticks.... Please keep in mind that the cost of mallets vs. renting an instrument is no contest)

MORE QUESTIONS? VISIT THE HIGH SCHOOL WEBSITE/ATHLETICS AND CLUBS/LSHS BANDS

Q: Are there band boosters at the HS?

A: Most definitely. What I need to run the program are a core of reliable folks (the board) surrounded by an army of folks who are willing to help on projects but aren't interested in coming to monthly meetings THAT ROCK!! Meetings are traditionally at 7 at Haggan.

Q: How do we know about band events?

A: At the beginning of the year I will publish a calendar of events for the Music Department **that covers the whole year**. It will be updated periodically and sent out through the email system. The kids also use apps (specifically BAND and CREW) to stay in touch. The VAST majority of information comes that way. They will be asked to get the app and use their phones. There is also a band parent facebook group that the boosters oversee. I make every effort to be a good communicator and send out reminders about events but sometimes running an entire program gets the better of me. I will work with whatever schedule matters arise to the best of my ability, but the **CONCERTS, FESTIVALS, AND PUBLIC EVENTS ARE MANDATORY. PLEASE MARK UP YOUR CALENDARS so you see events coming.**

Q: What are the uniforms for each group and what do I need to get?

A: The marching uniform is : Band Shirt, Band Jacket, Band Hat, Black Pants (not jeans), Black Socks and ALL BLACK shoes.
(The band fee covers shirt, jacket, and hat... all you need are pants and socks and shoes)

A: If you are in Concert Band: Your concert attire is a WHITE (not off-white) button up shirt, a Black Tie, Black Pants (not jeans), Black Socks and ALL Black Shoes. Ladies may wear black dresses w/ modest neckline and a hem that falls well below the knees when seated)

A: Wind Ensemble Or the Jazz Band: Your concert attire is a Tuxedo. It should include Pants with the traditional strip on the side, a "two button" notched collar jacket (or the like), a white tux shirt (pleated front), a BLACK bow tie, and a cummerbund.

We most commonly use the Tux Shop. Online is also great—www.uniformalwearhouse.com/

Q: Is there any info that I as a parent should know that will help with my students transition to HS Band.

A: Communication is key!! Your student will be asked **AT BAND CAMP to PROVIDE a PARENT EMAIL** so I can put a mailing list together so we can stay in touch. Also if your student is frustrated and considering quitting, please have them come talk to me or ask around. Now is not the time to quit. Band at the HS is the best choice you could make.

Also check the website <https://www.lkstevens.wednet.edu/domain/1015> for frequently asked questions and event descriptions.

Q: Do you have to be a member of the Marching Band to be in band? Are the games required?

A: Yes! And YES! Attendance at all games is a mandatory part of the band. If you participate in a sport you will be excused for any games that conflict w/ your sport.. See the lettering policy for specifics. If you have questions please contact me. Games are a blast!!!

Q: I heard you do tests in band ... WITH PAPER!!!!

A: Theory is a huge part of being a great musician. Be prepared to work for a higher level of musicianship here at the HS. Knowing Theory is where it's at!!! We hold study sessions to help people who are intimidated or behind. Asking me is never a bad idea!

Q: Do I/My Students get community service hours for playing in the band?

A: Yes. The policy was rewritten a few years ago. The first 4 Football Games are for a LETTER as are the first 8 Basketball games. Any past this basic requirement count for community service. (this year the total of those was 16 hours) We also have A LOT of things we do during the year that will set you up with community service hours. Since we do lots of stuff, I make sure the kids are taken care of.

Q: What does the band do during the year? What events can I look forward to?

We do various trips over the course of the year ranging from our league festival at a local high school to playing the large festival in Pasco, WA and staying for 2 nights. We play the home HS football games and many home basketball games. We travel when the teams make playoffs. Schedules and descriptions are available on the website. There are lots of honor bands throughout the year. (please see **bandworld.org** and look for WIBC and see **wmea.org** and look up ALL STATE AUDITON requirements.... Auditions are in Nov. so get right on it if you are into doing honor groups.) From year to year people sometimes get schooled at the roller skating rink or at the bowling alley. We do a lock-in at the one point in the year where we stay at the school all night... culminating in our revered 2 a.m. dodge ball tourney. We had every 5th grader in the district come and hear us play in the PAC at our Little Viking Band Days. We also get front row seats at graduation to see our seniors walk the isle. We do a lot but there is no more worth while experience. You and or your student may be busy, but every year serve as notice that...

THIS IS THE PLACE TO BE....

AND WE ARE THE FOLKS TO BE HERE WITH!!

GO VIKES, GO BAND!!

IF YOU AREN'T SURE YOU WANT TO JOIN
COME TO CAMP AND
GIVE IT A CHANCE!
YOU WON'T BE SORRY!!



WELCOME TO OUR PROGRAM.
WE ARE SO HAPPY TO HAVE YOU!
SEE YOU AT BAND CAMP.