

Dear 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Students and Parents,

We are excited to welcome you to the Waubonsie band family. As you navigate your course registration materials, we thought it would be helpful to email you with answers to some FAQs regarding band at Waubonsie. We believe this information will help affirm your decision to stay in band and continue the essential study of music. Our goal is to send a few concise emails covering different topics so that you are informed without being given too much information to digest. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or need additional information. We also have a link just for the class of 2020 if you go to [www.wvhsmusic.org](http://www.wvhsmusic.org)

### **Today's topic: Being in band at Waubonsie.**

#### **What is the time commitment?**

- Band at Waubonsie is a one period, year-long elective. There is no outside of school commitment other than evening dress rehearsals and concerts approximately once each quarter. Waubonsie band students are involved in every kind of sport and club Waubonsie has to offer. All extra-curricular ensembles (Marching Band, Jazz Band, Pep Band, Percussion Ensemble) are voluntary (but require enrollment in a curricular course).
- Students are not graded on home practice time, but they are graded on the quality of preparation on their band and technique class music.

#### **Is band for everyone?**

- Yes. Any student who wants to play will have a place in band. All classes are leveled so students will be an ensemble with others who are ready to move at a similar pace.

#### **Will students miss instruction time during a non-music class for technique class?**

- No. All technique classes occur either during a student's band ensemble or during ½ of their option (lunch) period. Students will have time for lunch on a technique day.
- Technique class takes place once per week, always at the same time.

#### **Upcoming email topics:**

- How to navigate elective choices in high school
- Balancing band with honors & AP Classes
- Benefits of music study on post-high school plans