



June 13, 2022

Hello!

I hope everyone's summer is off to a great start. Our student leadership team had a great two days of learning and planning last week, and we are extremely excited about the upcoming year. I wanted to take a few minutes to send out some reminders while I'm still in the office. Please read this information thoroughly and take any required actions if there are any you haven't already done. As always, please contact me if you have any questions after reading through the information.

- **Physicals and Rank One forms** are past due. We've reached that point in the year that I warned about back in April as I begged everyone to get their physicals and forms taken care of when they were offered at school. The deadline has come and gone and, as of today, only 65 of 162 students have completed all the required items. Please get these completed as soon as possible. Per UIL rules, we will not be able to allow you to participate in ANY rehearsals until these are completed. The link to complete the forms in RankOne is <http://wisd.fyi/athleticforms> where there are 4 electronic forms that must be completed online. If you've lost your physical form, you can find a copy at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1USn_oSHhmFOyMbWrlecVwZMUNKqzV3A/view?usp=sharing. This form requires the signature of a parent/guardian, the student, and the physician that completes the exam. The best way to get these to me for the next few weeks will be to scan and email them (it must be a clearly scanned PDF document; a picture will not work).
- Links to the **band calendar** are below. Additionally, it can be found on the band page of the district website. Go to www.wallerisd.net, then click Departments, then Bands. Most events for the fall, and many for the spring, have already been added to the calendar, including all summer and after-school rehearsals. Remember that sometimes things may change that are beyond our control. When this happens, we update the calendar as soon as we are aware of it. The online calendar is always the most current version of the calendar that we have.
 - iCal link (this should open and subscribe to the calendar in the calendar app on any Apple device):
https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/wallerisd.net_p2g0sjlrb896du2j9585fbikvk%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics
 - Web URL (this should open the calendar in your web browser, from there you can subscribe using the "+google calendar" button in the bottom right corner to sync it to your calendar on whatever device you have):
https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=wallerisd.net_p2g0sjlrb896du2j9585fbikvk%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America%2FChicago
- Make sure you have joined the band **Remind** group for your grade level. This is for parents and students. To join, text the appropriate code from the following list to 81010.
 - Code for freshmen is @wmb2026
 - Code for sophomores is @wmb2025
 - Code for juniors is @wmb2024
 - Code for seniors is @wmb2023
- **Presto Assistant** is up and running for the new school year. If you are new to WHS you should've received an email inviting you to join the high school band organization. Make sure you've logged in and verified that your contact information is correct.



Waller High School Band

Grant McWilliams, Director of Bands
Richard Hanf, Associate Director
David Gatlin, Assistant Director
Jesse Sanchez, Assistant Director

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- **Dues and fees** for the new year have been added to your Presto account. I'll also be sending statements later today. The annual dues for this year will remain at \$150 per member along with the \$50 fee for those who use school-owned instruments or equipment. Annual dues are due by August 1st and instrument/equipment use fees are due by September 1st. The best way to make payments currently is online through your Presto account. It will allow you to pay any amount up to what you owe, so you may begin making partial or full payments at any time. If you prefer to pay by cash or check, it would be best to wait until I'm able to receive mail or take payments in person at the new building. I'll let you know once that happens. Right now, we are in limbo with both the current and new buildings under construction, so there really isn't a reliable way to get stuff to me in person. (Note: Any fundraiser credit for donations received through yesterday is currently reflected on your account as an available credit but will not be applied to your dues and fees until the fundraiser has ended. For example, if you have made no payments toward your annual dues but have earned \$75 in fundraiser credit, your account/statement will still show that you owe the full \$150 for annual dues but will also show an available credit amount of \$75. You should subtract the amount of available credit from the amount due to find how much you still need to pay or raise.)
 - Don't forget that the **fundraiser** is happening now. To date, we've raised just over \$4,100 with multiple students having already met their goal and eliminating the need to make any out-of-pocket payments for their dues and fees this year. That's with only 34 students having shared their links! That's a 21% participation rate. Remember that 50% of what you raise goes directly toward your dues and fees, with anything over what you currently owe remaining in your account for future use (it's never too early to start building up credit toward future dues and trips). The other 50% is what we count on to keep your dues low (most of the other 6A bands in our area charge 3 to 4 times what we do). The reality is that we need much more than \$150 per member to provide the experiences we do. This is the reason for the 50/50 split on fundraisers. To keep our dues this low, we NEED the other 79% who haven't shared their links to participate. After sending this update, I'm going to have the system resend the email with the links in case anyone has lost it. In that email, there will be two links. One is the direct link to your donation page that you should share with friends and family for them to donate. You can share this in any way that you see fit (social media, email, mail a card, the more you share the better). The other link is a link to your profile page where you can do things like upload a photo to make your page more personal. You can also enter the emails of people you'd like to send personal invitations to donate.
 - **Show announcement challenge:** I'll post and send out the announcement of our 2022 marching show when the fundraiser reaches \$6,000!

That's all for now. I'll be in and out for the next few weeks but will periodically check email and remind messages. Those are the best ways to reach me if you have any questions.

Grant McWilliams
Director of Bands