



August 22, 2021

Hello!

We've wrapped up a great few weeks of summer rehearsals and arrived at the start of the 2021-2022 school year! This update includes important reminders and information as we transition from summer to the start of school.

- **Schedule for the week of 8/23**
 - Monday 8/23
 - After school rehearsal for all members 3:30-5:45
 - Tuesday 8/24
 - Evening rehearsal at the stadium 5:30-8:30
 - Wednesday 8/25
 - No after school rehearsal
 - Thursday 8/26
 - After school rehearsal for all members 3:30-5:45
 - Friday 8/27
 - Our first game has been canceled. Enjoy a free Friday evening.
- Unfortunately, as noted above, the biggest update here from what has previously been on the calendar is the cancellation of Friday's game. We are extremely disappointed about this as we are eager for the students to have an opportunity to show off the hard work they've put in over the last several weeks. I've been told that a make-up game may be scheduled in place of the off week on September 24 if they can find an opponent who is available that week. If that happens, we will let you know as soon as we know.
- **Important things to remember as we begin our regular after-school rehearsals**
 - Make sure you plan ahead and bring your rehearsal clothes, water cooler, and anything else you need for rehearsal with you when you come school.
 - Make sure you have a transportation plan. Rehearsal ends at 5:45 on Monday and Thursday. Students need to have rides arranged to pick them up promptly when rehearsal is over.
 - Students should be picked up from the stadium when Tuesday evening rehearsal ends at 8:30. The band hall will be open if you need to stop by and drop anything off after leaving the stadium, but there is currently not a way to walk between the school and stadium due to construction.
 - Don't ride the bus home if you don't have a way to get back by 5:30 for rehearsal on Tuesday. The band hall will be open between school and rehearsal for those who need to stay and there will be a bus to transport those who need a ride to the stadium before rehearsal begins.



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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- Our rehearsals are open and parents are always welcome to watch. We end every rehearsal with a complete run of the entire show (or the portion we've learned up to that point). The run through at the end of Tuesday night stadium rehearsals is a great chance to see the show. The only thing we ask is that you don't post any recordings or videos you make in places the public could find them. This is because the copyright permissions we have to secure to use the music in the show have very strict guidelines about when and where videos and recordings can be made and shared.
 - Yet another reminder that students who are missing **Physicals** will not be allowed to participate in rehearsals, and those still missing **Rank One forms** will not be able to travel with the band or participate at games and performances until all forms are complete.
 - Our fundraiser brought in a total of \$11,641.90! This is fantastic for our first time doing this fundraiser. Thank you to those who participated for making this such a success.
 - At this point, everyone needs to have paid a minimum of \$75 toward their annual dues. If you've already paid this amount, or raised over \$150 on the fundraiser, you are all caught up for now. If not, please try to get those payments in this week. I'll be sending statements reflecting fundraiser credit and previous payments early this week, so you'll know exactly what you owe. You can also check your Presto account to see your balance, just be aware that fundraiser credits may not show in there for a bit longer. So, if you participated in the fundraiser, you should subtract half of the total amount you raised from the balance due that is shown in Presto.
 - Soon, you'll be able to make online payments in your Presto account. Until then, if you'd like to make payments online, you may do so by following this process:
 - Go to this link <https://buy.stripe.com/7sl7wz95n6TCaMUcMM>
 - Adjust the quantity so that the total reflects the amount you'd like to pay (it's in increments of \$10, so for example, you would adjust the quantity to 15 to make a payment of \$150)
 - On the payment screen, enter the same email address that's in Presto. This will help me make sure the payment gets credited to the correct student. If you accidentally put a different email, it'll be ok, but don't be offended if I have to ask who you are before crediting the payment in Presto.

As always, if you have any questions, please let me know. I'm looking forward to a great first week of school!

Grant McWilliams
Director of Bands