



BLOOMINGTON NORTH

Cougar Band

2024 FALL SEASON NEWSLETTER

COUGAR BAND VETS AND BAND PARENTS

Hello Bloomington North Band members! It's hard to believe that another marching band season is just a few short months away. It seems like we were just at Lucas Oil Stadium finishing our sesason. I am excited about the potential for the upcoming season! I know how much this activity means to our program! Your participation is very important!

Students who participate in marching band score higher on standardized tests and are more likely to attend college. Many of our students graduate in the top 10% of their class.

Being a member of the Cougar Band can be one of the most exciting and rewarding experiences you can have as a member of our band program. Next year promises to be full of exciting moments and great memories.

My experience also shows me that band students who march are much more likely to be in band all four years during high school! Being in the marching band gives you a real connection to the band program. Band becomes much more than just a "class", it's a place to belong.

By accepting membership into the Bloomington North Cougar Band, you agree to perform to the best of your abilities and work together with the band staff in making this year's band the finest musical organization that our combined efforts can produce.

Membership fee for the 2023 Cougar Band is \$300 for the first child and \$275 for each additional child. Each year we have our show custom written for the exact amount winds, percussion, and color guard members. A \$100 deposit is required by May 20th. Deposits can be mailed directly to the Bloomington North band office or paid online. I ask that if you plan to march, **please take a few moments to go over the attached schedule and mark your calendars now. Consistent attendance is crucial to our success as a marching band.**

I also feel strongly that no students should miss out on the opportunity to be in marching band because of money. Please contact me if you have concerns!

WHY MARCHING BAND?



FROM THE DIRECTORS' PERSPECTIVE...

Band students learn dedication, commitment and that striving for excellence is a worthy goal.

Band students learn the value of, and respect for, chain of command.

Band students learn to cooperate and collaborate with those from different backgrounds and capabilities.

Band students learn good sportsmanship.

Band students learn to commit, persevere and endure. They learn there are no shortcuts to success.

Band students learn they are individually important.

Band students learn to accept criticism, and that self-esteem is raised through the achievement of excellence.

Band students learn time management skills.

Every year is a new challenge. Please know that you will make a difference. I am looking forward to another exciting Cougar Band season!

Best wishes and see you in July!

Mr. Wilson

Thomas Wilson
Cougar Band Director
Bloomington High School North
twilson@mccsc.edu



2024 COLOR GUARD CALL-OUT

May 6th 6-7pm twilson@mccsc.edu



The color guard is a very important part of the marching band as well as a stand alone competitive team in the winter. This visual performance group adds color and excitement to the show with flags, rifles and dancing. As a member you would perform at football games and in competitions on Saturdays from September — November. Plus you get to wear beautiful costumes!

Please FOLLOW OUR INSTAGRAM PAGE where we will be detailing our auditions for 2024. Please be sure to support us in helping recruit! Promote the page and ask your friends to follow to learn more about joining!



FALL SPORTS

Students may participate in both a fall sport and marching band. It is important that anyone interested in doing a fall sport and marching band carefully examine the schedule and compare it to your potential sports calendar. Please communicate to Mr. Wilson that you plan on trying to do both and see if the schedule can work! This must have Mr. Wilson's approval! Color guard members must be full time members! **Feel free to contact Mr. Wilson if you have questions or need further clarification. Individual issues can be worked out!**



REGISTER ONLINE

2024 Marching Band season is fast approaching. You can now do both student registration and band fee payments online. Go to: www.bhsnbands.com, click the link and follow instructions, OR use QR Code.



2024 PERCUSSION CALL-OUT

May 15th 6-6:30pm jwavle@mccsc.edu

We would like to invite ALL students considering the percussion section (battery OR front ensemble) to Call-Out session on May 15th at 6pm at Bloomington North. We will have information on the Cougar Marching Band, our percussion section role & responsibilities, and will offer a clinic on some exercises, techniques, and fitness programs you can practice this summer before band camp at the end of July. Mr. Wavle will be present and parents are welcome to sit in as well.

If you haven't already, please follow our instagram page @bhsnbands

Please share this information with any 8th grade percussionists you may know as well. We are excited to able to come together soon to make music together very soon! See you in April! Contact Mr. Wavle if you have any additional questions. jwavle@mccsc.edu



COUGAR BAND Q and A

1. How important is attendance at rehearsals and contests?

Attendance is **mandatory** at all rehearsals and contests. We ask that you plan family events, vacations, and work schedules around the marching band calendar. Each band member contributes a piece of the puzzle at rehearsal. Attendance at band camp is mandatory and extremely crucial to the success of our season. Parents are encouraged to attend any and all rehearsals and performances.

2. When does the band rehearse during the school year? Do you practice after school every day?

NO WAY!! The Cougar Band does have August rehearsals, but people still take summer vacations and attend summer camps in June and July. When school starts and you need more time for school work, we only practice **TWO SCHOOL NIGHTS PER WEEK**. Our regular season rehearsal schedule begins on August 8th. We only rehearse every Tuesday and Thursday night from 6-9pm.

3. When and what is band camp?

Band camp is July 22nd-26th (Monday thru Friday). It is held at Bloomington High School North. This week is when we learn as much of our competitive show as possible. Band members are to bring their own lunch while our band boosters provide dinner. Students should wear light colored clothing, socks, comfortable broken in athletic shoes, (no sandals) and lots of sun block. Everyone should also have a personal water cooler brought to each day of band camp for water breaks.



4. When and where does the band perform and compete?

Starting on September 14th, the Cougar Band travels to various high schools around the state of Indiana. At these schools we perform in invitational competitions to help clean and perfect our show. We also perform at all home football games. The Indiana State School Music Association Regional competition will be held October 12th. The top 10 scoring bands at that site advance to the Semi-State competition held on October 26th. The top 10 scoring band out of 20 moves on to the State Finals held on November 9th at Lucas Oil Stadium!

5. Does marching band meet during the school day?

No. The Cougar Band is a completely extra-curricular band class. However, students do receive .5 credit for being a member. Grades are based on attendance and participation. Please make sure this class appears on their schedule. This credit is optional and not required!

6. Will I have time for my homework if I do marching band? How busy will I be? I'm worried about my grades!

Being a successful student and also a member of the Cougar Band is all about time management. Many band members get their best grades of the school year during marching band season. Band members are encouraged to manage their time wisely and plan ahead with their school work. **We have MANY students participating in advanced placement coursework and we have had several Valedictorians and Salutatorians in the marching band!** Being a member of the Cougar Band is time well spent!

7. What instrument can I play in marching band?

Band members can play all typical band instruments except for oboe and bassoon. Double reed players typically learn to play another instrument for marching band such as clarinet, saxophone, mellophone, or baritone. We do march bass clarinets and baritone saxophones.

COUGAR BAND FEES - HOW ARE MY DUES SPENT?

Our Bloomington North Band Booster Association is very supportive of our marching band. This group of dedicated parents works tirelessly to raise the necessary funds to continue our tradition of excellence that is the trademark of all BHSN Bands. It takes approximately \$65k to put our competitive marching band on the field every year. This comes to roughly \$480 per band member. Based on our estimates for the 2024 enrollment, each member of the 2024 Cougar Band will be required to pay a \$300 fee for their first child, and \$275 for each additional child.

This covers roughly half of the cost of our season, which costs include:

- Show design (music and drill)
- Instructors
- Contest Fees
- Food for band camp and contest days
- Transportation Instrument/Equipment purchases.

(This does not include certain out-of-pocket expenses for individual students, like instrument rental, shoes, gloves, section t-shirts, photographs, and individual overnight trip expenses)



To help earn the additional monies needed to field the show, each student has the opportunity to raise funds through our annual August March-A-Thon. Please visit our band booster website at www.bhsnbands.com.

com and check out the information under "boosters". There you will find information on fund-raising and other various events that happen throughout the year. While on the BHSN Band web page, you'll also want to visit "Info for all bands" to learn about student band accounts.

Every student, upon joining band, is automatically signed up for a band account. Monies deposited here can be used to defray the cost of band fees, uniforming, instrument rental and trips. There are options given throughout the year for students to earn money for their accounts and many families utilize the "Band Bucks" program for this purpose. Information on "Band Bucks" can also be found on the BHSN bands page under "Boosters".

'24 COUGAR BAND DATES



JULY 18 & 19	<p>3:00-5:00pm Freshman, Rookie Marchers, Section Leaders <i>(winds only, NO percussion or guard)</i></p> <p>5:00-6:00pm Dinner Break</p> <p>6:00-9:00pm Winds, Percussion, Color Guard (Grades 9-12)</p>
JULY 22 - 26	<p>9:00am-9:00pm BAND CAMP WEEK! <i>Winds, Percussion, Color Guard Monday - Friday</i></p>
JULY 29 - 31 & AUGUST 1	<p>2:00-9:00pm Full Ensemble Rehearsals</p>
AUGUST 2	<p>Cougar Encounter</p>
AUGUST 5 & 6	<p>6:00-9:00pm Full Ensemble Rehearsals</p>
AUGUST 7	<p>BHSN Classes Begin</p>
AUGUST 8	<p>6:00-9:00pm Regular Season Rehearsal Schedule Begins! <i>Tuesdays and Thursdays Full Ensemble</i></p>
AUGUST 10	<p>9:00am-5:00pm Mini-Camp #1</p>
AUGUST 24	<p>9:00am-8:00pm Mini Camp #2/Parent Display/Pitch-In</p>
SEPTEMBER 6	<p>Home Football Game</p>
SEPTEMBER 7	<p>9:00am-5:00pm Mini-Camp #3</p>
SEPTEMBER 13	<p>Home Football Game</p>
SEPTEMBER 14	<p>9:00am-5:00pm Mini-Camp #4</p>
SEPTEMBER 21	<p>AM Rehearsal / PM Invitational</p>
SEPTEMBER 28	<p>AM Rehearsal / PM Invitational</p>
OCTOBER 5	<p>AM Rehearsal / PM Invitational</p>
OCTOBER 12	<p>ISSMA Regional Contest, Location TBD</p>
OCTOBER 18	<p>Home Football Game / Senior Night</p>
OCTOBER 19	<p>AM Rehearsal / PM Invitational</p>
OCTOBER 25	<p>Parent Performance / Tailgate Party</p>
OCTOBER 26	<p>ISSMA SEMI-STATE CONTEST - Pike High School</p>
NOVEMBER 2	<p>12:00pm-5:00pm Rehearsal</p>
NOVEMBER 11	<p>ISSMA STATE FINALS - Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis</p>



2024 COUGAR BAND REGISTRATION

Please **PRINT** clearly or use online form. All sections must be completed.
Take a pic or make a copy of this for your records.

STUDENT LAST NAME		STUDENT FIRST NAME		STUDENT CELL	
STUDENT EMAIL		STREET ADDRESS		CITY / ZIP	
STUDENT DOB	FALL '24 GRADE	ROOKIE/VETERAN	MARCHING INSTRUMENT	GUARD?	
				Y/N	

Student must be enrolled in a band class for the '22-'23 school year. Check all that apply. GUARD EXEMPT



**EASY ONLINE
REGISTRATION**

- Intermediate Jazz
- Lab Jazz
- Studio Jazz
- Advanced Jazz
- Intermediate Concert Band
- Wind Ensemble
- Symphonic Band
- Orchestra

CHECK THE BOXES BELOW FOR COMPLIANCE WITH ATTENDANCE

- I understand that as a freshman or rookie marcher on my instrument, I must be present at the early afternoon rehearsals BEFORE band camp, July 18 & 19.
- By agreeing to be a member of the BHSN Cougar Band, I fully understand that I will have a spot in a custom written show. I have noted the rehearsal and performance schedule on my personal/family calendars, INCLUDING Band Camp Week, July 22-26.

**SIGNATURES BELOW INDICATE WE HAVE BOTH READ AND AGREE.
FORM IS NOT COMPLETE WITHOUT BOTH STUDENT/PARENT SIGNATURES**

Student Signature

Parent Signature

I UNDERSTAND THERE ARE 3 PAYMENTS DUE ON DATES BELOW

1

**MAY 5, 2024
\$100 DEPOSIT
NON-REFUNDABLE**

2

**JUNE 5, 2024
\$100 PAYMENT
NON-REFUNDABLE**

3

**JULY 5, 2024
\$100 PAYMENT
NON-REFUNDABLE**

PLEASE SEND CHECK/CASH WITH REG. FORM TO:
BHSN BAND ATTN: MR. WILSON 3901 N KINSER PIKE. BLOOMINGTON, IN 47404

PLEASE CONFIRM DEPOSIT FULL AMOUNT CHECK: \$ CASH: \$

SHOE/GLOVE PAYMENTS MAY BE ADDED TO REGISTRATION PAYMENT

FAMILY DISCOUNTS
Each additional marcher gets \$25 off
1 student - \$300
2 students - \$575
3 students - \$850

MULTIPLE MARCHERS
Please complete one form for each marcher.

UNIFORM FEES
All marchers need band shoes.
Winds need gloves.
\$35/shoes \$40/gloves+shoes.
Can be paid with check or cash at band camp fitting session.

BAND ACCOUNTS
Please apply my band account funds towards marching dues.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Parents/Guardians: would you like to volunteer? Check for yes and you'll be contacted.

STAY INFORMED
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