

WALLED LAKE

W E S T E R N B A N D S

July 8, 2010

Dear students and parents:

The purpose of this letter is to provide further detail regarding the summer rehearsals as well as provide a more detailed explanation of the marching band season at Western this school year. Included with this letter is music, reminders for the August rehearsals and forms for marching band.

I know many of you are disappointed that we will not be going away to camp this summer. The purpose of that decision was to make an effort to save band families money in tough economic times. It is my intent to return to camp in the future. You may also realize that the August schedule is quite different from what you may be accustomed. This schedule is based on building availability. The administration has severely limited how I can schedule marching band until the construction project ends at Western on August 16, 2010. I realize this may cause some scheduling problems in the early part of August, but I encourage you to contact me before you decide that you cannot do marching band.

In addition, some have asked why marching band still costs \$300 while we are not going to camp. The marching band programs in Walled Lake are funded independently of the school district and are funded by members and the booster organizations. Some of these costs are fixed regardless of camp attendance. These include drill design, music, sectional instruction during the first week of marching band, t-shirts, gloves, uniform maintenance, dinners for the band on game days, percussion and majorette instruction and design for the marching season to name a few. What many do not realize is the \$450 charged in the past still does not cover our expenses. Marching bands are expensive.

Despite everything that is different this year for marching band, we still have a great show that will be a lot of fun for the performers and for the audience! If you have ANY questions or concerns, PLEASE do not hesitate to call or email.

Sincerely,

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