

Glossary of Terms for the BV West Jaguar Bands



All-State (All-KMEA) Band- If a student is selected for the district honor band he/she may do a live audition for the state level band. The audition is typically held on the second Saturday of January at Salina Central H.S. The audition fee is \$10. This group performs at KMEA in Wichita at Century II in late February.

Band Boosters- The parent organization which supports the band program. It is essential that this organization be a positive force, backing the students and the program.

Band (Marching) Shoes- We use a special black leather marching shoe that is completely black. Each new student will place his/her order during Uniform Distribution Day in July and have a pair ordered especially for him/her. Always wear long black socks with these - not ankle socks.

Basic Expectations for Student Behavior –

- Be where you are supposed to be**
- Have what you are supposed to have**
- Behave in a manner that you will be proud of**
- Treat each other with respect!!**

Charms - www.charmsoffice.com This is our major means of communication with parents and students so it is very important to keep updated contact info on charms. Login with BVWHSBand (no spaces) The password is your child's school ID number. You may change the password after initially entering, but be sure to write down the change. If you forget or misplace the changed password, all we can do is re-set it to the original ID number after you contact us.

Concerts – Though our band schedule differs from year to year, this is the typical yearly lineup:

Performing Arts Showcase – this special event features performing groups from entire Performing Arts Department (band, choir, orchestra, debate, and theater) as a fundraiser for the David Circle Scholarship.

October Concert - this event in the BV West PAC features our concert ensembles, and the CMB for a final surround performance of the fall production.

Winter Band Concert – held the second or third week of December, this concert features our Concert ensembles.

Jingle Jazz Holiday Concert – held the second or third week of December, this casual concert features our Jazz Ensemble and desserts. A big event!

Sound Byte – this recruitment event features performances from SWE and the 8th grade bands from Lakewood and Pleasant Ridge Middle Schools. Afterwards, we talk about the high school band program and all it involves.

February Band Concert – Jazz Band, Lab Jazz, and Percussion ensembles perform in late February.

March Band Concert – SWE, Symphonic Band, and Concert Bands perform in early March.

West Area Band Festival – bands from PRMS, LKMS, Sunset Ridge, Liberty View, Lakewood, Cedar Hills and both West concert ensembles combine for a Friday night band spectacular on a Wednesday in late March.

West Area Jazz Festival – jazz bands from PRMS, LKMS, and West combine for a Friday night jazz spectacular in late March. This is a fundraiser for the jazz program.

Spring Band Concert – in mid-May, our BV West ensembles collaborate on our final concert of the year!

Concert Black Attire Uniform- All Black. Button down black dress shirt with a collar and black buttons. Black "Dockers" style dress pants for gentlemen. Also black belts, socks, and dress shoes. Any T-Shirts worn underneath must be black. Ladies: No "spaghetti" straps or bare shoulders. Ladies who wear dresses, they must be knee length or longer. THE ENTIRE UNIFORM MUST BE BLACK AND ANYTHING SHOWING MUST BE BLACK.

Color Guard / Winter Guard - An auditioned group within the marching band, which provides choreographed movement to the show using flags, rifles, sabers and dance moves. This group adds visual drama and is very important to our Visual Ensemble and Visual Effect Scores in the marching show. Winter guard is a select group, combining dance, flag, weapon in an indoor venue. This group is auditioned in early November - they rehearse and compete through late March. Winter guard auditions are open to all.

District Honor Band- For our 10th-12th grade students. An honor band selected from the Kansas Northeast District band programs. The audition is typically the first Saturday in November and the audition music is available to all students

during before summer break. The selected students perform at the district music convention on the first Saturday of December at BVHS. The audition fee is \$7, paid by the student.

Drill – the physical movement of marchers on the field. Each marcher has “dots” they march to and from, which are locations on the field. They make up the overall image, picture, or form on the field.

Eligibility- KSHSAA requires all students participating in band performances, group or individual, to have passed 5 classes the previous semester in an accredited school.

ENSEMBLES:

Symphonic Wind Ensemble (SWE)- The top auditioned concert band at BVW comprised of students in grades 10-12. Auditions for this group will occur the last week of October. The music for auditions is the all-district tryout music, which will be available to the students before summer break begins. No upperclassmen will automatically carry over from a previous year. Every student will re-audition each year.

Symphonic Band (SYM Band)- This is the 2nd auditioned concert band at BVW. It is made up of many fine younger musicians who work to develop their playing ability to its highest level.

Concert Band – This is the 3rd auditioned concert band at BVW. It helps young students develop their playing ability on high-quality music.

Jazz Ensemble (Jazz 1 or Jazz 2)- Class in jazz performance for 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th graders enrolled in band. These students perform at various jazz festivals, work on improvisation, and perform regularly in the community.

Jaguar Percussion Group (JPG) – this extracurricular group is made up of percussionists from all grade levels at West. They work to prepare small & large ensemble pieces for performance at various percussion concerts and events. This group begins meeting in November.

Lab Jazz Band – This after school group meets two days per week beginning early November. No audition is required – just a desire to learn more about Jazz styles and work hard with friends.

Pep Band - Pep band starts in the winter to play at home basketball games. Pep band is optional, but can contribute towards a student’s ability to letter in band. Depending on the number of interested students, the pep band may be split into two bands to reduce required attendance for everyone.

Competitive Marching Band (CMB) – This is an extracurricular marching band that rehearses after school 3 days a week during the fall and travels to compete on the weekends – from St. Louis, to Tulsa, to Blue Springs – these marching events are day (sometime two days) long events that require the band family to unite together to move our load down the highway! We compete on a Midwest regional level, so cheer loud in the stands for our awesome band!

Traditional Marching Band (Trad Band or Spirit of BVW) – All students enrolled in a concert ensemble at West will perform as part of this group. Students rehearse during class in the fall and perform at all home football games.

Front Ensemble – also known as the “pit,” this group provides significant musical support in the marching band show by playing mallet instruments, drums, and electronic parts. They have a lot of stuff to move as well!

Large Group Festival- A festival for concert band performances. Each group performs two selections for a panel of adjudicators who rate that performance (I being Superior, II being Excellent, III being Good, IV being Fair, or V being Poor). This festival is in mid-April, during the school day.

Lettering- Band students are eligible to letter in band. A form that shows each student what is expected of them to letter is handed out to each student the first day of school. A copy is also downloadable from the band’s website at www.bvwestband.com

Instrument Locker- An individual locker for each student’s instrument will be provided. We will provide a padlock for their locker. However, it is still a good idea to put their personal instruments on your home insurance policy, including serial number. Students who lose the combination padlock we provide will owe a \$5 replacement fee.

Marching Band Uniform- Check these parts off: black marching shoes, black marching socks, compression shorts, compression shirt, band pants, band jacket, hat, & plume - - and most likely your instrument! When in public, the coat should always be zipped. If it is warm weather, the collar may be loosened OR we may take our band jackets off as a whole group. NEVER run in uniform. Be classy, be professional, represent West with pride.

Marching Competition- These are performances of the entire competitive marching band for a panel of judges who evaluate the performance and assign a point value to the performance. These festivals will be “ranked” and a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place will be named. The festivals we attend use the BOA (Bands of America) judging format, with judges on the field and in the press box.

Prelims/Finals – most of the marching competitions we attend use a Prelims/Finals format. This means that all bands perform once during the day, are judged and receive scores, and are then ranked. The top bands after prelims (usually 12) go on to perform again in Finals competition that night for their final rankings.

Private Lessons- Private lessons are HIGHLY recommended for every student. The one-on-one attention really allows a student to advance at their best personal rate. A list of private teachers is available on the BVW Band website.

REQUIRED EVENT - This is a performance of the entire band. Everyone’s part is interlinked with everyone else’s, so an absence by even one person has a negative effect on the entire group. The only excused absence from a REQUIRED EVENT performance is for severe illness or a family emergency, with a written notification from the parent. Excused absences will really slow down the accumulation of lettering points for the year - - but not affect the student’s grade.

School-Owned Instruments- The school owns the larger and more expensive instruments, such as tuba, euphonium, horn, tenor sax, baritone sax, bass clarinet, percussion, bassoon & oboe. Any students enrolled in band may use these instruments free of charge. However, each student is responsible for the instrument checked out to him/her and any excessive damage from abuse or neglect will be the student’s responsibility to pay.

Schlepper – These special parents are the movers, pushers, loaders and muscle behind our marching band. They help us schlep our stuff around in Penske trucks to/from competitions sites and football games. A great way to meet parents!!

Solo & Ensemble Festival- Students may choose to prepare a solo or be in an ensemble for this festival. There is an entry fee per event payable by the student. Superior (I) ratings enable the student to enter the State level festival. The Regional Festival is typically on the first Saturday of April and the state festival is in Emporia typically on the last Saturday in April.

Sousa Band – This group is an honor band for 7th, 8th, and 9th graders. The concert and clinic is held at the University of Kansas typically the third weekend of January. We will pass out this audition music in mid-August. The assistant band director will coordinate the recording of these auditions and submit each student’s tape. The audition fee of \$7 is paid by each student.

Student Account / Charms Ledger - Each student participating in band has the opportunity to do fundraising and use that money for expenses related to their fees. A student may also put cash into that account. Money from fundraisers cannot legally be refunded.

SWIDAC – the Switzer District Activities Complex (also known as “the **DAC**” at BVNW) is where West plays football games. We also have some Saturday rehearsals here.

Tuesday/Thursday night rehearsals - This is a large chunk of time each week to work on building strength, adding new drill sets to the show and have multiple staff members present to allow many more sets of eyes and ears to make improvements in the show. Parents are welcome to come out and enjoy the final half-hour run through at the end of rehearsal to see our progress.

Website - www.bvwestband.com This is the band’s official website with weekly updates about our schedule and upcoming events. Most forms are available for download on this site as events are put on the schedule. It’s so important to bookmark this site and check it regularly for updates!