

GENERAL QUESTIONS

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| Is there a fee to participate in band? | No. |
| Can I participate in a sport and be in the band at the same time? | Yes. However, this must be coordinated with the director and your coach. The director will work with a musician's participation in any sport including basketball and football. The band performs at these events. |
| What do I do if I can't perform with the band due to a personal need? | Contact the director well in advance. Last minute cancellations are not acceptable unless they are an illness, family emergency, or extreme extenuating circumstances. |
| Are video cameras or still cameras allowed at concerts? | Yes. However, please do not use a flash. It is distracting to those on stage. |
| How do I know what special instructions or upcoming events there are for the band? | <p>There is a large chalkboard at the front of the band room. Any special instructions, meeting times, events, or schedules are written there every week. It is the student's responsibility to write this down and communicate it with parents.</p> <p>Most of this information can also be found on the band web page.</p> |
| Where can I find more information about the band program? | www.bgband.org |

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| <p>What is District VII and how do students get to participate in it?</p> | <p>The Illinois Music Educators Association is an organization of music educators whose mission is to further the pursuit of music among young people in the state of Illinois. This includes band, jazz band, orchestra and choir. Illinois is divided into 9 districts. BGHS is included in District VII. Students who play at a very high level may audition for an opportunity to participate in the District VII music groups. Auditions are held in the fall. Each school is limited to a maximum of 16-18 students for band, and 12 students for jazz. All candidates audition at the same school on the same day. Audition music can be obtained from the director.</p> <p>If selected, participation includes a single full day of practice with other musicians from District VII. This is followed by a single performance of the combined musical group at a school in the District VII area.</p> <p>For more information on IMEA please visit: www.ilmea.org</p> |
| <p>What is All-State and how do students get to participate in it?</p> | <p>The top musicians participating in District VII are selected to participate in an All-State band. This is similar to the experience in District VII except that the combined musical groups include the top musicians from across the state of Illinois. As with District VII chair placement is by audition. The festival takes place in Peoria, IL the last week of January.</p> |
| <p>What is the District 214 Honors Band and how do students get to perform in it?</p> | <p>This is a band comprised of the top band musicians across District 214. As with the IMEA events, the musical groups assemble for a single full day practice, followed by a single concert at a District 214 school. Students are nominated by their directors and then audition for chair placement within the band.</p> |

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| <p>What bands are there and how is it determined what band a student will participate in?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symphonic Band – upper classmen and more accomplished musicians • Concert Band – generally students who are new to the BGHS music program. • Jazz Band (2 bands) <p>Placement in the bands is by audition and need for particular instruments. If the band program grows, more bands may be added, including the possibility of a Freshman Band.</p> |
| <p>How is chair placement determined?</p> | <p>Audition.</p> |
| <p>Are private lessons required?</p> | <p>No. However, those musicians participating in private lessons tend to perform better in auditions. As a result, often they sit higher in their sections.</p> <p>Private lessons are offered by some teachers during the band rehearsals and lunch hours</p> |
| <p>What is the Band Council?</p> | <p>It is the student governing board of the band, elected by the membership.</p> |
| <p>Does the school provide instruments for students to use?</p> | <p>Only for those instruments that are specialized or very large.</p> |
| <p>Are concerts recorded?</p> | <p>Yes. After the major concerts, professionally produced CDs are available for sale. The price covers the cost of production. This is a non-profit endeavor.</p> |
| <p>What is Pick-Staiger?</p> | <p>On non-Europe trip years, the Symphonic Band performs a late winter concert at the Pick-Staiger Concert Hall on the campus of Northwestern University. This gives the musicians an opportunity to experience performing in an acoustically perfect venue frequented by professional musicians. This is a unique opportunity that leaves a lasting impression on all who participate. Family and friends are welcome.</p> |

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| <p>What is the Winter Band Concert and Dinner?</p> | <p>This is a dinner and concert presented by the Symphonic and Concert Bands before winter break. It is intended as a formal welcome and introduction to the BGHS band program for the incoming freshmen (current 8th graders) and their families.</p> <p>A dinner is provided by the BGIA (Buffalo Grove Instrumental Association). There is no cost to any student or family member. This includes both incoming freshmen and current BGHS students. The dinner is held in the cafeteria. It is an excellent opportunity for musicians from across all middle schools to visit with friends and experience the high school environment.</p> <p>Prior to the concert, the director makes a formal welcome and presentation of the band program to the incoming freshman families.</p> <p>The concert is held in the BGHS auditorium. To many incoming freshmen the realization that they, too, will perform on a theater stage with concert lighting, and traditional formal attire, leaves a lasting impression of what it means to be part of the BGHS band family.</p> <p>The highlight of the evening is when the incoming freshmen are invited to join their fellow BGHS musicians on stage for a combined musical number. The music for this number is distributed to students in advance of the concert.</p> |
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| <p>What is CAF and can I find out more about the band program there?</p> | <p>CAF stands for the Curriculum and Activity Fair (less formally known as “Calling All Freshmen”). It occurs during an evening in January when BGHS opens its doors and conducts an activity similar to a job fair. There, incoming freshmen and their families can begin preparing for the coming academic year as well as visit with representatives from all teams, clubs, and groups.</p> <p>The BGHS Band has a booth where parents and students can meet the director, get questions answered, and receive additional information.</p> |
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