

## Joplin Eagle Band 2023

**Guard/Drumline Camp (July 31- Aug 4) from 9am-5pm**

**Leadership Camp (July 31 - Aug 4) from 1pm-3pm**

**Full Band Camp (Aug 7-11) from 8am-6pm**

**Full Band Camp (Aug 14-15) from 8pm-6pm**

**Full Band Camp (Aug 16-18) from 3pm-9pm**

**Parent Performance (Aug 18) 6:00pm**

Dear Band Parents and Students (please read carefully):

**I hope you are having a great summer!!!** It's time to gather everyone together for the 2023 edition of the Joplin Eagle Marching Band. I am excited to have such a strong group of returning bandsmen as well as a talented group of incoming freshmen! **PLEASE READ THROUGH THIS CAREFULLY! This packet has a lot of important information that will help us navigate the upcoming season together!**

**First**, I'm excited to announce that it will be called "**In the Arena**" which is influenced by music from the movie "Gladiator". We are using Imagine Dragons "**Warriors**", Dimitri Shostakovich's "**Symphony No. 10 - Mvt 2**", Ben Hur "Star of Bethlehem" and "Barbarian Horde/Battle" from the movie "Gladiator". In order to put this together, I have hired Steve Vento to write our Wind Book. For those that don't know Steve Vento, he has had arrangements and compositions win over 50 state titles around the country and has also been very successful at the national level at Bands of America events. Steve's awards and accolades include 18-time BOA Class Champion, 3 BOA Regional Champion, 70-time BOA Regional Finalist, 18-time BOA National Semi-Finalist, and 8-time BOA National Finalist. Steve also has 20 years of drum corps experience. Since 2011, Steve has been on THE BLUE DEVILS brass staff and beginning Summer 2017 is the brass arranger for Legends drum and bugle corps as well as The Academy. Steve and I have been working together for the past 8 years and he does a great job at writing and arranging shows!!

**Secondly**, I plan to hire Chris Church to write our Drill Book again! We used Chris Church last year and he did a great job for us!! However, if we end up using Ken Karlin (who I have used in the past) I do have a little information about his accolades. Ken began his drum corps career in 1987 as a member of Star of Indiana. He served on the visual staff of the Bloomington-based corps from 1989-1992. He joined THE BLUE DEVILS visual staff in 1995. He has been the visual designer for the Blue Devils B corps since 1999, and served in that capacity for the 2008-2009 Madison Scouts.

**Thirdly**, we need to set the 1st movement drill at camp this year!! Students are expected to have the full show memorized by the first week of Full Band Camp. We will be having memory check tests, starting on Wednesday, August 9th. Please don't let this scare you...this is not a one-time opportunity. Students will have as many opportunities as they need to get it done. However, I can tell you from experience that the more you have done before camp starts...the better the band will be and the more detail work we will be able to get out of the band. These memory checks will be your first test(s) of the year. Practice in small sections and practice slowly. If it's still possible, I highly encourage you to get together over the summer with others from your section to hang out and have fun (Bond with each other and practice a little). The other point is that **YOU MUST BE AT CAMP**. So, if you miss camp, you will have a very difficult time catching up and your spot on the field may be pulled and you would then shadow another spot for the season. Don't forget that Camp is for a grade!

**Lastly**, I do plan to have early morning rehearsals that will start at 7:30am during the Marching Season. With that, the morning rehearsals will go into the grade book as a separate grade and tardies/absences will be reflected in that grade. These rehearsals are a required part of the class. In addition to morning rehearsals, we will have one night rehearsal a week, which will be on Thursday's from 6-8pm with Mandatory Sectionals and/or Mandatory Tutoring starting at 5pm. This will also go into the grade book as a separate grade and will also be a required part of the class. Students that participate in Sports will be expected to communicate those conflicts. I can't stress enough how important it is to have the full group there as much as possible. There may be extended rehearsals (until 9pm) when we get closer to competitions or we find that Junge is available for certain dates.

**A quick reminder...if any student is interested in trying out for All-District/All-State Band that music (as well as the Show and Parade Music, etc...) is on the Joplin Bands website - ([www.joplinbands.org](http://www.joplinbands.org))**

Here are a few reminders for marching season:

1. Sectional/Night Rehearsal Dates - **8/24, 8/31, 9/7, 9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26** (make sure to ask off work)
2. Morning Rehearsal Times - 7:30AM Daily (August 22nd--October 27th) and 7:30AM for concert season, if needed.
3. Be working on your All-District Band/State audition materials. Auditions for District Band are Tuesday, November 7th, 2023.
4. Equipment. Keep everything in good working condition. Flip folders for marching music may be purchased/ordered through Ernie Williamson Music. *We can provide some, but at cost.* Pencil for marking music and charts.

Please refer to the Joplin Bands website ([www.joplinbands.org](http://www.joplinbands.org)), "Joplin High School Bands" and "JHS Eagle Pride Band – Current Band Students/Parents Only" Facebook pages, and watch for Remind notifications to help with our Important Dates and reminders throughout the year. Itineraries will be handed out the week of an event and as always...students should also know the information and are expected to communicate with you! As always, we may add and/or subtract events as the year progresses, but students should know well in advance.

**If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out! We look forward to seeing you at camp and hope that you enjoy the rest of your summer!**

Sincerely,

Philip Soule, Director of Bands  
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