



BLUFFS
MIDDLE
SCHOOL

Band News



VOLUME 1 — FALL

OCTOBER 2020

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **NO SCHOOL -** October 16 (Teachers Professional Development/ Work Day)
- **P/T Conferences -** October 28 & 29 (ZOOM by appointment)
- **NO SCHOOL -** October 30

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BMS Marching Band

Our big fall marching events this year will be the SHS Homecoming Parade on **Monday, October 5** and the Old West Weekend Parade on **Saturday, October 17**.

We think you will be impressed with the fine 7th & 8th Grade Marching Band. The parades are **required performances** and we need to have **every member** in attendance to be at our very best! *If there is an unavoidable conflict with either of these dates, please notify Mr. Koch as soon as possible.*

For the Homecoming performance, the students should wear the following:

- **A “school spirit” shirt** (Something with Bearcats or Scottsbluff or something in school colors)
- **Black Dress Slacks or Black Jeans**
- **Solid Black Shoes**
- **Solid Black Socks**

For the Old West Weekend performance, the students should wear the following:

- **The red, white, or blue T-shirt provided by BMS. (We are trying to represent a flag for this performance.)**
- **Black Dress Slacks or Black Jeans**
- **Solid Black Shoes**
- **Solid Black Socks**



NSBA 8th Grade All-State Band Auditions

Each year all of Nebraska’s 8th Grade band students are invited to *audition* for the Nebraska State Bandmasters Association 8th Grade All-State Band.

****Auditions will need to be recorded beginning October 1 and ending October 8.**

BMS Band Alumni who have been selected include:

- 2020 –Rosie Burkhalter, Abby Pieper, & Max Meyer
- 2019—Jenna Buck, Eleah Chavez, Elizabeth Fuss, Clara Heldt, Riley Ibero, Michael Mickey, Maddie Still, & Zach Wharton
- 2018—Ethan Gion, Nathan Hoevet, John Mentgen, Ayden Reed.
- 2017—Josie Brezenski, Jamie Chen, Jamisyn Howard, Maya Moran, Adam Polk, & Ben Roberts.

BMS Band students have participated in this event since 2002.



Communication is Key

A key element of a successful band program is communication. The Bluffs Middle School Band maintains a website that has all the information needed for participation in band. This is a very convenient resource if you have misplaced the student handbook (or if it did not arrive home with your student). It includes the BMS Band Calendar, Newsletters, Practice Assignments for each band, Trip Information, and many of the Forms that are passed out in band class during the year. Please visit regularly to keep

up to date on information regarding the BMS Band!

WEBSITE:

<http://www.sbbs.net/bmsbands>

E-MAIL THE DIRECTOR:

mkoch@sbbs.net

TELEPHONE:

(308) 635-6287
(BMS Music Dept. Office)

And on TWITTER:

Follow us @BluffsMSBand



Mark Your Calendar!

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Monday, Oct. 5 | SHS Homecoming Parade
(7th & 8th Marching Band) - 6:00 p.m. |
| Thursday, Oct. 15 | BMS Jazz Band & BMS Choir CONCERT
(7th & 8th Jazz Band and 7th & 8th Choir) - 6:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, Oct. 17 | Old West Weekend Parade
(7th & 8th Marching Band) - TBA |



Michael A. Koch
Director of BMS Bands



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EFFORT = SUCCESS



BMS Jazz Band & BMS Choir Concert:

The BMS Jazz Band and the BMS Choirs will present a joint concert on Thursday, October 15 at 6:00 p.m. This concert will take place outside on the South side of the Middle School in front of the school's main entrance (weather permitting). Please bring a lawn chair and enjoy the fall weather and some wonderful music. Please sit in family groups and maintain social distancing between groups.

Importance of Parental Support

We are settling into our “new normal” and are focused on a solid curriculum certain to make a difference in the life of every student in our music program.

Encouraging Parent. Competence is the result of dedicated “time on task”. Music learning, music performance, and music appreciation are the outcomes of study, practice, and guided listening. With limited rehearsal time, it is imperative that students invest extra time in nurturing their talents and improving their skills. Please encourage a positive practice schedule. Remember that practice time must be framed as a benefit and not as a disciplinary penalty.

Loyal, Appreciative Audience. The best audience is always parents. You are faced with a full agenda in

your personal and professional life, and you are challenged to adjust your schedule to accommodate every school function. However, your presence at our performances will mean more to your child that words can describe. Music is a family affair. Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate your child's talent.

The music program at Bluffs Middle School continues to flourish because of a substantive curriculum, a well-informed and supportive administration, and exemplary parental support.



**YOU ALL MAKE A
DIFFERENCE!**

Thank You