

Aurora American Legion Band

2022 Conductor Letter

Aurora American Legion Band,

Dear Aurora American Legion Band,

For the first time in three years, I am writing to the membership of our band to continue the launch of our summer season return!

Our very busy 83nd season (2019) was successful and I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did. This coming season will feature an entirely new slate of concert music to accompany all of our traditional selections. Our programs will include both music of a more serious nature as well as lighter fare for the sake of entertaining our concertgoers. After starting up in February and ending April 4, we will continue to use the **first Thursday in May** as our first rehearsal date. The head start this year will pay dividends for our upcoming performance on Saturday, May 28 for Armed Forces Day.

Because we will have many new members this summer, I feel it important to share some of our expectations. I would like to continue having a rehearsal atmosphere that is productive and efficient but also fun and friendly. Please know how much I appreciate your assistance in continuing our level of work from years past. It starts by being ready to start rehearsals at the designated time and coming prepared to make music as an ensemble. Remember, rehearsals are designed so you can learn everyone else's part, not your own. Making music at a high level requires practice outside of rehearsals so you can provide your musicianship to the ensemble. The Board and I understand and appreciate that many of you have summer plans and obligations. Please communicate conflicts with your section leader well in advance of any performance so we can prepare accordingly.

I also hope we can count on your continued participation and contributions as marching members of our ensemble. As a member of our band, please know that parade marching is important and must be treated as any other performance of our ensemble. We strongly desire to have every member who is physically able participate in parades to properly represent the band. We will have marching rehearsals on both May 26 and June 30 in preparation for our parade commitments on May 30 and July 4. We understand that some members, especially high school students, may have previous performance commitments on Memorial Day weekend.

I am very much looking forward to seeing all of you, making new friends, and welcoming new members to our AALB family. Here's to a great summer ahead!

Sincerely,

Dr. Rod Schueller Conductor – Aurora American Legion Band Director of Bands – West Aurora High School Instructor of Bands – Aurora University