



Hi! My name is Sam Betzen, and I'm the band director here at WMS. I teach two sections of Beginning Band (Brass and Woodwinds/Percussion), Intermediate Concert Band, Advanced Concert Band, and our combined 7th and 8th grade Jazz Band. I also teach one section of Music Appreciation. During the fall, I also help coach the Tiger Pride Marching Band at GJHS after school.

MY BACKGROUND

I'm a true Grand Junction native. I was a student in D51 and graduated from Colorado Mesa University with a Bachelor of Music Education (BME) in December 2019. I've worked in D51 for my entire educational career, student teaching at East Middle School and Chipeta Elementary School. Before teaching at West, I spent one year teaching music at both Dual Immersion Academy and Thunder Mountain Elementary.

5 FACTS ABOUT ME

1. I have two dogs, a chihuahua named Pumpkin and a pit mix named Corduroy.
2. I actually joined band in high school. Before joining band, I was a violin player.
3. I've traveled out of state to play the Pokémon trading card game.
4. This is my 6th year teaching and my 5th season with the Tiger Pride Marching Band.
5. My favorite genre of music is metal.

A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS!

Pokémon, Dungeons and Dragons, Star Wars, Live Concerts!

BEST WAY TO CONTACT ME

Email: sbetzen@d51schools.org

