



## **Springs Valley Blackhawk Brigade**

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### **Brigade Advances to Sixth Consecutive Regional**

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JASPER, Ind. – Springs Valley once again performed in true Blackhawk Brigade fashion and wowed the crowd and judges. The Brigade captured their 26<sup>th</sup> ISSMA District Gold at Alumni Stadium on Saturday.

“I was very pleased with our students on Saturday. It is tough to ask students to show up at 6:00 a.m., practice for an hour, and then perform a show that will determine if your season continues. They were not intimidated or nervous. They simply performed a show that had improved from the previous week. I can easily say these students are some of the best Springs Valley has to offer,” said Luke Aylsworth, the director of bands at Springs Valley.

The goal for Springs Valley this week was to earn a Gold Rating. This is the achievement bar set by ISSMA. “Educationally, this means that our students are considered above average or at a high level in music. In this day and age, where test results and signs of improvement are so important, our students continue to demonstrate that in the area of music, our school corporation is doing a great job of educating kids,” added Aylsworth.

Since Aylsworth’s first year in 2001, the Blackhawk Brigade and music department as a whole has steadily improved. The way students are learning and the amount they are learning has improved over the past eight years. “What a great accomplishment for our school corporation and our community.”

Springs Valley won the award for Best Musical Performance. This honor was the fourth time in 20 years that the Brigade won this award and the seventh in school history. “I am very pleased that this band is in the same company as some of the elite bands in the Springs Valley Blackhawk Brigade legacy,” Aylsworth concluded.

The final weekend of regular season competition is this weekend, as the Brigade will head to Rockport to participate in the South Spencer Invitational. Springs Valley will perform in Class D competition and take the field at 8:01 p.m. local time.