

DHS BAND

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is marching band required if a student is in the DHS band?

Yes. All students that are enrolled in the DHS band program are expected to participate in the marching band.

2. Is this requirement effective for the 2007-2008 school year?

Yes. The Fine Arts Director and Superintendent of PISD recently agreed to implement this requirement for the 2007-2008 school year.

3. Are there any exceptions to this rule?

Yes. Students may be exempted if:

- a) The student has a physical disability or personal health issues accompanied by a doctor's letter and recommendation for the student not to participate.
- b) The student is involved in athletics that directly conflict with marching band (football, dance team).
- c) The student is in varsity sports during the first semester.

4. I know PHS band students had the option to choose in years past. Why doesn't the DHS band program have this option?

As we all know, the PHS band program gave some students the choice to choose if they would participate in marching band. That decision was based on circumstances unique to the PHS band program and their students. Now that there are two high schools, those circumstances are not exactly the same for DHS.

5. Are there any school related benefits of participating in marching band?

Absolutely! By participating in marching band, students will receive a PE waiver. Basically, that means students will never be required to take PE while in high school (Remember that when school starts, marching band is only two months and two weeks. PE is all semester). In addition, NOT participating in marching means students have to enroll in PE which is a non AP course. That can potentially bring your GPA down. In addition there are numerous social, academic, and life learning skills that we teach students as they participate in marching band and during the entire school year.

6. Will students only work on marching band music for the 2 month-2week marching season?

No. Students will have other graded assignments they will be responsible for. This would included (but is not limited to) students passing off region band music on a weekly or bi-weekly basis to help them prepare for auditions in November and December (see the band calendar at www.DawsonEagleBand.org).

7. How will students be able to attend after school practice and pass their classes?

As band directors, we believe that academics come first! This is exactly why we scheduled marching band practice to start one hour after the end of school. School ends at 2:15 and marching band practice starts at 3:15. All students that are motivated and determined to pass all their classes will have the opportunity to attend teacher based tutorials, peer tutorials, or just study and complete homework in the band hall. This responsibility will be placed with the student.