



# Welcome to the Grapevine Mustang Band

<http://www.grapevinehsband.com>



2019-2020

grapevinehsband.com



# Instructional Staff

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# Band Participation in GCISD

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## **GCISD HS Band Program**

Band is a rigorous, full year course concentrating on the continued development of fundamental wind and percussion skills. The curriculum focuses mainly on marching band in the fall and concert band in the spring. The rehearsal and performance schedules are very demanding, including outside-of-school practices, football games, pep rallies, contests, sectionals, and concerts. Students in all bands are members of a team, and are required to participate in all team activities outside of the school day including rehearsals, concerts and performances. Participation in fall marching band allows students to waive ½ credit of the required 1 P.E. credit towards graduation, so two years of participation in band satisfies the PE requirement. Participation in two years of band also satisfies the 1 fine arts credit required for graduation. Students enrolling in any band course are required to participate in marching band, including all rehearsals and performances. Additional expenses for supplies and required fees are associated with this activity. The campus activity sponsor will provide a specific list of costs.

## **GCISD District-owned Instrument Usage Fee**

All wind and percussion performers that utilize a district-owned instrument are assessed a \$50 instrument usage fee per semester to cover maintenance and repair of that instrument through the normal wear and tear produced in a season. Participation in this activity requires additional fees which will be communicated through parent meetings before the start of the year. For more specific costs, please contact the activity sponsor at the campus. Students will be given several opportunities to earn money through fundraisers which can be used to cover any costs throughout the year.

# Marching Band/Concert Band = BAND

## Summer

Summer dates on Calendar on website - [grapevinehsband.com](http://grapevinehsband.com).

PLEASE RESERVE: Last week of July until school starts in August. No Summer vacations please.

## Fall Schedule

Weekly Rehearsals:  
Mornings 7am-9:20am.  
Possible stadium rehearsal at Mustang Panther Stadium one day a week, periodically.

Games on Thursday or Friday. This schedule will run until competitive season is over. (approx. 9 weeks).Contest and Game schedule on calendar on the website as well as on handout.

## Spring Schedule

4 Bands - WE,HB,SB,CB

Winter Guard - separate class, rehearses twice a week after school

Jazz Band - class offered during the day/after school

Sectionals for each band student once a week, approx. 1 hour in preparation for UIL Concert/Sightreading contest

Solo/ensemble contest, band trip, banquet, May concert

## Band Course Names / Description / Periods *(periods reflect schedule for Fall 2018 / Spring 2019)*

**Band Varsity = Wind Ensemble - Fall - Period 1, Spring - Period 1** - an auditioned group composed primarily of students with exceptional tone production, technical ability and sight-reading skills. Students are required to audition for the TMEA All-Region & All-State Band and to perform at solo & ensemble contest. Students perform music of many genres and styles at a very challenging level. Students will be required to audition with a HS band director for approval into this course. Private lessons are required.

**Band Non-Varsity = Honors Band - Fall - Period 1, Spring - Period 8** - an auditioned group composed primarily of students with advanced tone production, technical ability and sight-reading skills. Students are required to audition for the TMEA All-Region Band and to perform at Solo & Ensemble contest. Students perform music of many genres and styles at an advanced level. Private lessons are required. Students will be required to audition with a HS band director for approval into this course.

**Band Sub Non-Varsity = Symphonic Band - Fall- Period 1, Spring - Period 2** - is an auditioned group composed primarily of students with intermediate tone production, technical ability and sight-reading skills. Students are expected to perform at solo & ensemble contest and are strongly encouraged to audition for the TMEA All-Region Band if they are taking private lessons. Students perform music of many genres and styles at an intermediate level. Private lessons are encouraged. Students will be required to audition with a HS band director for approval into this course.

**Band Sub Non-Varsity = Concert Band - Fall- Period 1, Spring - Period 2** - is an auditioned group composed primarily of students continuing to develop their basic performance skills. Students are expected to have a basic understanding of proper tone production, technical ability and sight-reading skills. Depending on instrumentation year-to-year, this ensemble may or may not compete at UIL or other outside band competitions. Students perform music of many genres and styles. Private lessons are encouraged. Students will be required to audition with a HS band director for approval into this course.

**Percussion Ensemble -Fall - Period 1, Spring - Period TBA** - an auditioned group composed entirely of students with prior percussion training at the middle or high school levels. Students perform music of many genres and styles at a very challenging level. Percussion students will be required to perform at all band performances as well as additional percussion performances over the course of the fall and spring semesters. Students are required to audition for the TMEA All-Region & All-State Band and to perform at solo & ensemble contest. Private lessons are required. Students will be required to audition with a HS band director for approval into this course.

**Dance Guard - Fall - Period 1, Spring - Period 6** - The Dance Guard is an auditioned group of 9th-12th graders who dance & provide visual elegance in the High School Marching Band Field Show. They perform at varsity football games & travel to competitions with the Marching Band from August-November. In the spring, the Dance Guard continues working on dance technique & training, is introduced to Winter Guard & performs at their own competitions in the spring. The fall season for Dance Guard is August-November, then they will continue with technique development, Winter Guard performance opportunities and preparation for Dance Guard auditions during the spring semester.

**Applied Music - Fall - Periods 2,3,4,7, Spring - Periods 3,7-** Students will perform a mastery based curriculum on their principal instrument.. Topics will include the performance of various fundamentals such as scales, arpeggios, etudes and sight-reading. The students will also perform chamber works, solo literature and TMEA All State audition material, and other project based learning opportunities as designed by the instructor. This course will require outside the school day commitment for auditions and performances.

**Jazz Ensemble - Fall and Spring - Period 7** - Will occupy a class period at GHS! An auditioned group who will rehearse and prepare standard and new Jazz literature in a variety of styles. Performances will include, but are not limited to, concerts at GHS, community performances, combined concerts with other instrumental ensembles or vocal ensembles, competitions, and performances at fundraising events. Preparation of literature and jazz music appreciation as well as technique, improvisation, and reading skills will be covered in this course.

# Marching Band Frequently Asked Questions

## **Can I take Band and Athletics/Theater/Choir/Debate/Swimming/Cross Country, etc.?**

We welcome and encourage you to take Band along with another area of interest during your freshman year. The gap between 8th and 9th grade year is not a time to make a decision about your long-term future. It's important to see what the high school programs have to offer. Once you've seen how these activities function and are taught/coached, you will have a much clearer picture of how your high school years will be defined. Scheduling issues can be worked out. All Elective teachers work very well together to ensure a student can participate in more than one activity.

## **Do I have to take P.E. if I am in Band?**

No. Marching Band provides a P.E.credit. 2 Fall semesters fulfill the PE requirements for graduation.

## **Can I participate in band for only half of the school year?**

No. We require all band students to participate fully in both marching band and concert band unless extremely extenuating circumstances arise. Please speak to a GHS band director for more information.

## **Can I take advanced classes and Band?**

Most AP and Pre-AP are full of band students. The Grapevine Band consistently has students in the top 10% of their class and often times has National Merit Scholars, National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalists, Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Eagle Scouts, just to name a few. Band also helps students master the very necessary skill of Time Management!

## **What do double reed players do during marching season?**

Double reed players can choose to audition for the Dance Guard or make a seasonal change to a new instrument. Common changes are to percussion, saxophone, or clarinet.

## **What if I don't own an instrument?**

Mr. Janicula will be contacting the Middle Schools late in the Spring semester to inform you of our instrument check out dates. We have a limited number of upper woodwind instruments but have quite a few of the other instrument groups. Once school starts, the school district charges \$50 per semester per instrument to rent from it. This cost covers repair and maintenance as well as suffices as a rental fee.



## What is Summer Band Camp?

The end of July and beginning of August marks the start of Marching Season. It is all about learning the band's marching show-music and drill. Attendance at this camp is mandatory. Speak to the directors about any concerns.

Fall 2018 Schedule - Will be similar for FALL 2019:

July 23-24 Band Leadership team workdays 8am-5pm

July 26-27 Freshman and new members only camp 7:30am-4pm with a lunch from 11:00-12:30

July 30 - Aug. 3 - All Band Students 7:30am - 4pm with a lunch from 11:00-12:30

Aug. 4th (Saturday) - BAND FAIR - mandatory Band registration day!

Aug.6-10 – All Band Students 7:30am - 4pm with a lunch from 11:00-12:30

Aug. 13 - 17 - mostly 5-8pm. 17th may be normal schedule 8am-5pm

Aug. 18 - Super Saturday Rehearsal and NRH2O End of Summer Band Celebration

\*This schedule subject to change due to teacher professional development. The band website will be updated.

Things to know:

Students must wear a hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen.

They also must bring a large water jug. (Freshman will receive a half gallon jug at band fair)

Tennis shoes are required

Light colored clothes are encouraged

Students may bring their lunch or leave campus with parent permission.

## Do I have to attend Summer Band Camp?

Yes. If you are registered for band/guard, you must attend summer band camp.

## What is Band Fair?

It is a chance for the PARENTS to get all of the information they will need to navigate through the band year. This is when all paperwork must be completed..

Stations will be set up so you can learn about fundraising opportunities, sign up for Volunteer opportunities, sign up to chaperone, purchase spirit wear and so much more.

Is attending the Band Fair important?

YES! It is Mandatory - at least one parent needs to attend with the student. This is the only time our representative from Totes will be available to size students for marching shoes (which you purchase). It is also where you can purchase the required polo shirt (additional cost), pick up your water jug and band show theme t-shirt. (included - no additional cost).

## Is there a fee for Band?

Yes

The school district only covers the cost of UIL activities and their marching uniform. This means football games and 1-2 UIL marching competitions. The band competes in approximately 3-4 other marching competitions each season. Fees cover clinicians, master classes, the cost of the marching show, music arrangement (including copyright fees), drill, visual design, Dance Guard design, drill techs, all instructors other than Band Directors, contest entry fees, transportation costs to competitions, parades, and other non-UIL events, snacks and meals while at contests, meals for away games, water jugs, show theme t-shirts, and many other items and services that combine to fund this competitive program for our students. The year's cost per member is \$500. Do not anticipate an increase in fees from last year.

Payment plan provided throughout the summer.

Installments are due on the following dates:

**May 31 - \$166, June 28th - \$167, and August 3rd - \$167**

## **Is there an opportunity to fundraise and have the proceeds apply to my band fee and/or trip costs?**

Yes, many! We are fortunate to have a fundraising coordinator who has worked tirelessly to provide not only fundraisers that benefit the band program as a whole, but also many opportunities for students to raise funds to help reduce their band fee and/or their trip fee.

We have had many fundraising opportunities on a monthly basis.

More information to come from

Uma Benzick - [ghsbanddollars@gmail.com](mailto:ghsbanddollars@gmail.com)

# What is Winter Guard?

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After marching season the Dance Guard becomes a separate group called, the Winter Guard, where they perform without the band to musical soundtracks in a gym instead of on a football field.

Class is 6th period and rehearsals are after school twice a week usually from 5 - 7:30 pm and competitions take place on weekends and MA Nationals Championships completes the competitive season at the end of March.

Guard members also participate in their own Solo & Ensemble events similar to band in the spring.

Fee is \$450 for the winter/spring season

## Where can I find more information?

More information about the band, including policies on grading and attendance, is in the Grapevine High School Band Handbook. This can be found online at [www.grapevinehsband.com](http://www.grapevinehsband.com) (password - Mustang\_Pride)

For **calendar** information, visit <http://www.grapevinehsband.com/calendar.html>

**For Dance Guard information:**

[nhu.trinh@gcisd.net](mailto:nhu.trinh@gcisd.net)

<http://www.grapevinehsband.com/dance-guardwinterguard.html>

**For Percussion information:**

[william.bowman@gcisd.net](mailto:william.bowman@gcisd.net)

<http://www.grapevinehsband.com/percussion.html>

# Charms

We use Charms as a data management tool for the band. Frequent mass emails are sent through Charms. Please make sure your data is current. 8th graders will be “promoted” to 9th grade once the school year is over.

All data moves over with them.



# Grapevine High School Band Boosters

Vice-President

Kirthi Rathie

Fundraising/Corporate Sponsor Coordinator

Uma Benzick

[ghsbanddollars@gmail.com](mailto:ghsbanddollars@gmail.com)

Band Meal Coordinator

Rachel Koch

More officers can be found on band webpage: [grapevinehsband.com](http://grapevinehsband.com)

The GCISD Band Booster organization operates as a single organization for the benefit of all the band students in GCISD grades 6-12. Each campus has an elected group of band booster parents to tend to the specific needs of that campus. The GHS Band could not operate without the help and support of these parent volunteers. Parents are needed to fill many volunteer spots.

# Thank you for coming / Contact Us with ?'s

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