The Sound of the Eastern Shore

DAPHNE HIGH SCHOOL
BAND ORIENTATION

2026-2027

WWW.DAPHNE.BAND

ENSEMBLES

ALL students are part of *The Sound of the Eastern Shore*, regardless of instrument or section. The band program as a whole has several ensembles.

Marching Band:

- All students are required to be in marching band. This includes wind, percussion, and auxiliary visual units (color guard and majorettes)
- The marching band performs at all football games in the stands at during halftime. The marching band also participates in Pep Rallies, homecoming parades, and Mardi Gras parades in the spring semester.
- The marching band competes on Saturdays in late September-Early November. These events take place all across the Southeast.
- See our calendar on www.daphne.band for tentative schedule of events.

Concert Band:

- After football season ends, we transition to concert band. All wind and percussion students audition for a place in one of our four concert ensembles - Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Purple Concert Band, and Gold Concert Band.
- Chair order is determined by a blind audition consisting of the audition material for BCBE Honor Band. Audition information is released typically in late July or early August. (subject to change at director discretion)
- All concert ensembles perform at the Alabama Music Performance Assessment each year in the spring semester.
- The concert ensembles also perform a holiday concert, pre-MPA concert, and a spring concert.

Percussion Ensemble:

- Percussion Ensemble meets during concert season.
- These students are taught percussion specific music and perform a concert in the spring.
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Color Guard/Majorettes:

- All students in Color Guard/Majorettes are part of The Sound of the Eastern Shore.
- They perform along side and with the winds/percussion during marching season and various parades throughout the year.
- They have their own instructors who report to the band directors. This ensemble meets every day during class as well as after school for rehearsals.

Winter Guard:

- After football season ends, color guard transitions to one of two indoor winter guard ensembles.
- Varsity Guard - An elite group of performers who compete at the highest levels of scholastic guard regionally and nationally. This ground has and participates at WGI Championships in Dayton, OH depending on the year/schedule.
- Junior Varsity Guard - This group consists of emerging performers who compete at the regional level. Students in this group hone their skills for the fall as well as preparing for a future in the Varsity group.
- Both groups compete in the Gulf Coast Guard and Percussion Circuit (GCGPC) and occasionally in other circuits in the Southeast.

TIME COMMITMENT

Band is an activity that has various time and schedule commitments that are crucial to student and program success.

Marching Band:

- Marching band meets from July to November each year.
- **All rehearsals and performances are mandatory.** These are how we gage student progress, as well as grade the students for the class. We are successful as a program because of the time we spend in rehearsal as a group.
- **Band Camp is mandatory for all students participating.** Failure to attend will have the student removed from the halftime show. This is where we learn everything before school starts.
- After school rehearsals are Tuesday and Thursdays till 5 p.m. These rehearsals are **CRUCIAL** to our success as an ensemble.
- The marching band performs at all football games, pep rallies, various parades, as well as our competitions in late September through October.

Concert Band:

- Concert bands meet from late October through May during school.
- After school rehearsals depend on the ensemble and last till 4:30.

Winter Guard:

- Winter guards meet during 7th period from late October through April.
- After school rehearsals depend on which group (Varsity or JV) as well space constraints due to various groups in the school.

Majorettes:

- Majorettes meet during 7th period from late October through May.
- After school rehearsals dependent on competitions and performances.

Percussion Ensemble:

- Percussion ensemble meets during 7th period from late October through May. They will spend some days with their concert band or their respective percussion ensemble.
- They have after school rehearsals as needed throughout this time period.

BAND FEES

Band fees are a vital source of funding for the daily operations of the program. The fees cover all essential goods and services that keep our program running. All fees can be paid online through MySchoolBucks. Please make all checks payable to Daphne High School, then place them in an envelope and deliver to the front office (not the band office). Checks may not be over $300 and more than 15 days old. The $30 class fee can also be paid via check sent to the front office.

Annual Fees (Applies to ALL members)

- General Band Fee: $450
  - Includes transportation, uniform rental/cleaning, equipment, music, and instruction.
  - Does NOT include personal items, food items, tuxedo and concert dress for concert season, band shoes, gloves, equipment, wind suits, jackets, reeds, oil, grease, and other instrument accessories
  - Can be paid all at once or by paying $75/month starting in June with the final payment made in November ($75 x 6 months = $450)
  - Must be fully paid by November 1
  - Siblings of band members will receive discounts in increments of $50, but will not surpass a discount of $150.
    - Child A: 450, Child B: 400, Child C: 350, Child D: 300, Child E: 300
- Activity Fee: $30
  - This fee is charged by BCBE/Daphne High School

Marching Band Fees

(Note: All marching band fees are one-time costs unless replacements are needed.)

- All Members
  - Marching shoes: $40
  - Water jug: First one is FREE, then $15
  - Band jacket (optional): $80 for S-XL, $85 for 2XL+
- Brass and Woodwinds Only
  - Gloves: $5/pair

Concert Band Fee

- Concert Tuxedo: $130, Concert Dress: $100
  - One-time cost unless a repacement is needed
  - Does NOT include shoes, socks, belts, accessories, or personal items

Winter Guard Fee

- Varsity: $500, Junior Varsity: $350
  - Paid annually
  - Includes travel, basic equipment, costume, and instruction
  - Does NOT include food, apparel, and personal items such as makeup, poms, etc.
  - Must be paid by December 1st

Percussion Ensemble Fee

- All percussionists: $200
  - Paid annually
  - Includes travel, equipment, instruction, and music
  - Does NOT include sticks/mallets, food, band jacket, band shirt, or any other personal item
  - Basic black uniform (black button down shirt and black pants)
  - Must be paid by December 1st

Majorette Fee

- All majorettes: $300
  - Paid annually
  - Includes instruction
  - Does not include equipment, costume, or personal items such as makeup, poms, etc.
  - Must be paid by December 1st

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is an imperative part of our organization. The school system only gives us $28,000. The rest of our budget is sourced from band fees and fundraising. For example - transportation alone is $70,000 a year.

Our biggest fundraisers are the following:

- **Taste of the Eastern Shore**
- **Eastern Shore Classic**

Along with these events, we have smaller fundraisers throughout the year. The Band Booster organization facilitates these.

We also take sponsorships for various events as well as donations. Forms for this can be found on our website. *daphne.band/sponsors*

BAND TRIPS & CHAPERONES

For the 2026–2027 school year, the band will travel using 8-9 school buses or 5-6 charter buses per trip, accommodating approximately 250 students along with 4 directors, 4–6 staff, and 25 trained chaperones.

Each bus includes at least one director or staff member, and chaperones are assigned at a 1:10 ratio, even on smaller trips like winter guard or percussion events.

All chaperones must complete mandatory training and have a valid BIB card and cleared background check.

Chaperones monitor students from designated seats and must report any misconduct. Night travel requires male and female students to be seated separately.

Each bus carries a first aid kit, and one director carries a medical backpack containing student medical info, medication, and an AED.

Parents wishing to check out their student after an event must submit a Bus Ride Exemption Form at least 24 hours in advance, available at www.daphne.band under Resources > Forms/Files.

VOLUNTEERS

Our program cannot function without the help of volunteers. Much of the success of our program is due to parents/guardians, relatives, and friends volunteering their time to help the program.

There are several events throughout the year where any volunteer/chaperone help is needed. The requirements for volunteering vary depending on the situation. Certain positions might require background clearance or even sub licenses.

Here are some various events/tasks that you and others can volunteer at:

- Football games (background clearance needed)
- Parades (background clearance needed)
- Band Booster Organization
    - President
    - Vice President
    - Treasurer
    - Secretary
    - Fundraising
- Band camp help (helping with dinner)
- Maintenance (practice field, various handy work)
- Truck Driving (training needed with BCBE as well as sub license)

This organization cannot function the way we do without help from parents/guardians. We are extremely grateful for any help you can provide.

BAND CAMP INFORMATION

Band camp is a concentrated two-week period where we learn the music, choreography, and drill that is performed and perfected throughout marching season. Instructors are hired to facilitate the learning process by giving students more individualized attention. All students are required to participate in band camp. There are no exceptions. Students who do not participate in band camp will not have the opportunity to learn the needed materials before school begins. Our halftime/ competition show is outstanding and with hard work, our band can be very successful this year!

Students will need to bring the following items to camp **every day**:

- Dot book (small spiral-bound notecards)
- Light, comfortable clothing (avoid jeans, hoodies, and other heavy clothes)
- Comfortable tennis shoes (No Crocs, flip-flips, or sandals)
- Hat and sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Extra pairs of socks (It's inevitable that it will rain)
- Band-issued water jug
  - We give water breaks every 15-20 minutes
  - While setting drill we will all have water jugs to stay hydrated.

Example Schedule of a Typical Day at Band Camp

12:50 – Arrive at band room

01:00 – Full band meeting in band room (Some days we will skip this)

Music fundamentals in sectionals

02:30 – Larger sectional rehearsals (All brass or all woodwinds)

03:00 – Movement fundamentals on practice field

05:00 – Dinner (Provided by band boosters)

06:00 – Set drill with full band on practice field

09:00 – Dismiss

(Note: The second week of camp will be more outside drill than the first week.)

It is important that students eat a good breakfast and lunch everyday BEFORE coming to camp. Some students bring outdoor canopies for shade. Students are responsible for these canopies and any damage due to wind or anything else is not the responsibility of the band.

COMMUNICATION

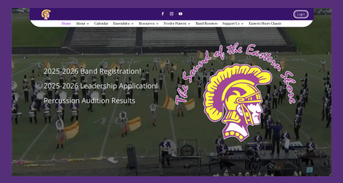
Schedules, reminders, and changes will be emailed through ParentSquare and posted on our website

ParentSquare -
Utilized once school begins

Email Addresses
Mr. Dumas - jdumas@bcbe.org
Mr. LeBatard - clebatard@bcbe.org
Mr. Moorer - jrmoorer@bcbe.org
Mr. Faison - cfaison@bcbe.org
Mr. Pippin - rpippin@bcbe.org
Mr. Whitaker - smwhitaker@bcbe.org

Phone Numbers
Band Office - (251) 621-1080
School Office - (251) 626-8787

Websites
Band Website - daphne.band
Daphne High School Website - bcbe.org/dhs
Baldwin County Public Schools Website - bcbe.org



If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please email one of the directors. We are looking forward to an amazing 2026-2027 school year!

GO TROJANS!