



DENISON HIGH SCHOOL BAND

est. 1926

Touch of Gold
Marching Band
Handbook
2022 - 2023

I. Marching Band Practice Schedule

The Denison High School Touch of Gold Marching Band is comprised of all members of the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Percussion and Color Guard classes. Please post the following schedule at home and keep a copy for reference at school.

Please check the calendar on the band website for specific information.

Our typical rehearsal schedule throughout the fall football season will be:

Monday - 4:15 pm to 7:15 pm

Tuesday - 4:15 pm to 6:45 pm

Wednesday - None

Thursday - 4:15 pm to 6:45 pm

Friday - 7:30 am to 8:00 am (on game days only)

Note: There will also be a Leadership Team meeting on Game Days @ 7:00 am

Contest Days - 1 Hour rehearsal - Times TBA

Make sure that you regularly check the calendar on the website for the most up to date information regarding rehearsal locations and times.

Website: www.denisonbands.org

II. Fall Semester Football Game Performance Schedule

Attendance at all performances is mandatory - this includes both football games and marching band contests. Check the band website and calendar on a regular basis for any revisions to the band performance schedule. An abbreviated rehearsal schedule will be followed at the end of the regular football season through play-off season.

August 27th - Away vs. Sherman

September 3rd - Home vs. Brewer

September 10th - Parent Preview Performance

September 17th - Away vs. Lovejoy

September 24th - Home vs. Prosper Rockhill (Homecoming)

October 1st - Away vs. Frisco Memorial

October 8th - Home vs. Lake Dallas

October 15th - Away vs. Frisco

October 22nd - Home vs. Frisco Lebanon Trail

October 29th - Away vs. Frisco Liberty

November 5th - Home vs. Princeton (Senior Night)

Note: We will also travel to all play off games.

III. Fall Semester Contest Performance Schedule

Please make sure that these dates are clear on your calendars and check the DHS Band website regularly for the most up to date information.

IV. General Band Procedures

This handbook will spell out several expectations that are necessary to have for a successful band program. However, there are some general guidelines that will apply to all situations.

1. All rehearsals and events called by directors are mandatory.
2. *To be early is to be on time; to be on time is to be late; to be late is to be very sorry.*
3. Respect the property of the school and of others.
4. Respect other band members and directors in your words and actions.
5. Always project a positive attitude in your words and actions.
6. Be at the right place at the right time, and do your best.
7. Represent your school and community with pride.
8. For security reasons, only band students are allowed in the band hall, ensemble rooms, etc.
9. Always have the required materials, including: instrument in working-order, all necessary accessories (valve oil, at least three reeds, etc.), music, black one-inch binder, and a pencil.
10. Gum is not allowed at any band function.
11. *No food or drink (other than water) is allowed in any part of the Fine Arts facilities at Denison High School at any time.*

V. Touch of Gold Marching Band

A. General Requirements and Expectations

All performances are mandatory for students that are academically eligible to participate. All students who (1) meet the performance objectives set by directors for both music and marching skills, (2) attend all rehearsals and (3) make a conscientious effort to improve will be considered to perform in a primary marching spot during the marching season. *However, primary marching spots will be limited to those students who demonstrate the most advanced skills for performance.*

Every academically eligible student will be assigned a marching spot in the 2020 marching show. All eligible students will perform at the weekly football games. In regards to marching contests, students who exhibit the highest proficiency and performance level will march in a primary marching spot in contest. Contest marching spots are highly competitive and will be assigned based on attendance, experience level, and proficiency in marching and playing. At any point in the season, students may be moved into these primary marching spots when circumstances change. If a student is removed from a primary marching spot, he or she may be worked back into the contest lineup as places open or as may be necessary to replace those who are not fulfilling requirements. In this way, it is hoped that everyone will have ample opportunities to gain experience.

If a student is in “Pathways” or alternative school on the day of a football game and/or is going to be in alternative school on the following school day, he or she may not be allowed to be present at the stadium per district guidelines. Therefore, he or she may also not be allowed to participate with the band at the game or the contest on the following Saturday. If a student is in alternative school in the days leading up to a performance, he or she may be assigned to a secondary marching spot for the game and contest.

If a student is in DMC and/or is going to be in DMC on the following school day, he or she may not be allowed to participate with the band at the football game or the contest on the following Saturday. If a student is in DMC in the days leading up to a performance, he or she may be assigned to a secondary marching spot for the game and contest.

Students who are assigned to secondary marching spots are an integral part of the performance and will assist the directors with field equipment and organizational needs at contest performances, providing they are academically eligible.

B. Eligibility

Most of the activities associated with Band (Marching and Concert) are extra-curricular, including football games and contests. In order to be eligible by TEA, UIL and DISD requirements, students must pass ALL classes each grading period. Students who fail any single class at the end of the grading period will become INELIGIBLE seven days after the last day of the grading period in which they failed. Students who fail at that time will be able to regain their eligibility by PASSING ALL CLASSES AT THE END OF THE 3rd WEEK OF THE NEXT GRADING PERIOD. If passing, a student then regains eligibility seven days after the last day of the progress report period. A STUDENT WHO DOES NOT REGAIN ELIGIBILITY AT THIS TIME WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE FOLLOWING SIX WEEKS GRADING PERIOD.

Students in Pre-AP and AP classes may request an eligibility waiver from the front office.

C. Eligibility for Concert Season

Most of the work that students do outside of marching band is considered curricular, and therefore is not subject to eligibility. Free concerts, sectionals, concert rehearsals and private lessons are all considered curricular. Should a band student become ineligible for extra-curricular functions, he/she is still eligible for curricular functions. Ineligible students will be given alternate assignments during contest preparation time in order to make up those grades.

VI. Band Classes

All members of the Denison High School Band Program are assigned by audition to one of the three concert bands that meet as academic classes. In addition to music preparation, academic performance (in regards to eligibility) and attendance history are considered when determining ensemble placements for each school year. Please remember that band is a year-long commitment. **Schedule changes may only occur within the various band classes offered.** New students are auditioned and placed into the appropriate ensemble upon arrival.

A. Wind Ensemble (grades 9-12)

The Wind Ensemble consists of 40-50 serious musicians who focus on some of the highest quality of wind literature. Participation in this varsity level ensemble requires a high level of dedication and performance from each member. *Enrollment in private lessons is expected.* Performances will include UIL Concert & Sightreading Contest, one or more invitational festivals, a Holiday concert, a Spring concert, and special events. In addition, extra rehearsals and clinics are occasionally scheduled outside of the school day along with sectionals throughout the year. This class meets first period and also functions as a “zero-hour” class in the spring.

Students in the Wind Ensemble will be required to audition for the All-Region Band in November/December, to perform an appropriate level solo at the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest in February, and to perform an appropriate level ensemble at the Texoma Solo and Ensemble Contest in May.

B. Symphonic Band (grades 9-12)

The Symphonic Band is a non-varsity concert ensemble consisting of musicians who perform quality wind literature. Participation requires a substantial amount of dedication on the part of its members. *Enrollment in private lessons is strongly encouraged.* Performances will include UIL Concert & Sightreading Contest, one or more invitational festivals, a Holiday concert, and a Spring concert. In addition, extra rehearsals and clinics are occasionally scheduled, along with sectionals in the spring semester.

Students in the Symphonic Band will be required to perform an appropriate level solo at the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest in February and to perform an appropriate level ensemble at the Texoma Solo and Ensemble Contest in May.

C. Concert Band (grades 9-12)

The Concert Band is a sub non-varsity concert ensemble consisting of musicians who perform quality, appropriate level wind literature. Participation requires a substantial amount of dedication on the part of its members. *Enrollment in private lessons is strongly encouraged.* Performances will include Pre-UIL, one or more invitational festivals, a Holiday concert, and a Spring concert.

Students in the Concert Band will be required to perform an appropriate level solo at an in-class recital in February and to perform an appropriate level ensemble at the Texoma Solo and Ensemble Contest in May.

D. Jazz Band

The Jazz Band is an ensemble that meets during class all year round and consists of playing many styles of jazz music, improvisation and jazz theory. Jazz Band membership is open to all Touch of Gold band students and others involved in one of the parent large ensembles within the fine arts with prior approval by the director. Jazz Band membership is open to students outside the band program only when there are no qualified band member candidates for keyboard, rhythm guitar, and/or bass guitar. All instruments are welcome to join the Jazz Band class. In the spring, we will divide the class into a competitive and non-varsity jazz ensemble. The competitive Jazz Band will travel to local festivals in the DFW and Texoma areas. Both ensembles will perform at concerts on campus. Please check the band website and calendar for Jazz Band performance dates and information. Upperclassmen with a strong interest in Jazz are encouraged to participate in the All-Region Jazz Ensemble auditions in September.

E. Color Guard

This is a year-long course open to any student interested in participating in the visual ensemble portion of the Marching Band and Winter Guard. Students enrolled in this class are considered a part of the Touch of Gold Marching Band. Therefore, all Marching Band rehearsals and performances are mandatory.

F. Percussion Techniques

This is a year-long course open to all TOG percussion students. Students in this course will receive supplemental instruction on drum line and All Region music. In addition, students in this course will work on percussion ensemble music and percussion-specific fundamentals.

G. AP Music Theory

This is a year-long class open to any student involved in one of the parent large ensembles within the fine arts department. On-level Music Theory is a prerequisite of this course. Students in this class will take the AP Music Theory exam in the spring.

VII. Attendance

A. Absences

Work schedules, family trip and other non-school activities must not interfere with the rehearsal and performance schedule that you are given at the beginning of the school year. The band directors will work together with the other teachers, coaches, and directors of various activities to give each student every opportunity to be a part of other groups and have a balanced schedule. It *IS* possible to be in band and athletics, drill team, robotics, etc.!

Non-school sponsored activities, teams, organizations or jobs must not conflict with the practice and/or performance schedule of the band.

The Band is dependent on ALL of its members. Unlike most other classes where individuals are accountable only for their own success or failure, band students' success is, in large part, dependent on the full participation of all members. The following attendance policies will affect students' grades and chance to participate. Unexcused absences include, but are not limited to: doctor's appointments, organization meetings, work, family vacations, etc.

Please check the rehearsal and performance calendar on the band website before scheduling doctor/dentist/orthodontist appointments.

Absences for the following reasons are normally considered excused:

- Severe illness or medical emergency (Doctor's note required)
- Family emergency (Parent/Guardian note required)
- Another school-related activity (Communication from student/coach required)

When an absence does come up, please fill out the Absence Request Form:

<https://forms.gle/4rosNn2xpugLi1gt5> prior to the date missed. From here, a director will either excuse the absence or not. If a student has an unexcused absence from a marching band rehearsal, he/she may be held out of the next show performance on the schedule. If a student has two or more unexcused absences during a week, he/she may not be allowed to participate with the band at the next performance event. Three unexcused tardies to a rehearsal are the equivalent of one unexcused absence.

Unexcused absences and tardies may be taken into consideration when assigning primary marching spot roles.

B. Tutorials

If it becomes necessary for a student to get extra academic help or make up work, the following options are available for students to attend tutorials:

FOOTBALL SEASON

- Any morning before school from 7:30 to 8:00 am

AFTER FOOTBALL SEASON

- Any morning or afternoon that students do not have a rehearsal scheduled

VIII. Grades

The grading system is based on points earned over the course of the term in each of the weighted categories. If you have concerns about your students' grades, please contact your director through the school email or phone number provided on the contact information page.

In determining the band grade each six week grading period, three areas comprise the average:

1. Major Grades (50%) - Performances
2. Minor Grades (30%) - Objectives, Pass Offs, Sectionals & Marching Rehearsals
3. Daily Grades (20%) - In-Class Participation/Preparation

IX. Discipline

Discipline is a quality that must come from within the individual. Therefore, each student is responsible for his or her own actions as a member of the Denison High School Touch of Gold Band. Any student who shows an inability to work effectively within the program may be reassigned to another class at the discretion of the Band Directors or removed from the program if extreme measures need to take place.

As a school group, the band is governed by both Denison High School and Denison ISD policies at all times, whether it involves all students or only one. **The General Release form you sign at the end of this Handbook will be in effect throughout the year for trips related to Band.**

Any student who violates school rules while with the TOG Band will be subject to all usual school disciplinary procedures. In addition, those students will be subject to dismissal and will not continue to perform or travel with the band.

X. Individual Competitions

The ultimate goal of our program is the development of the individual student musician. To assist in reaching this goal, we strongly recommend participation in the individual competitions and festivals offered during the year.

All Region tryouts involve the finest students from schools in our region and are the first step in advancement towards participating in All State. All students in grades 9 - 12 may participate if academically eligible. All students in the varsity Wind Ensemble are required to audition; it is highly encouraged for students in Symphonic and Concert Band to audition. The music is announced in July, and the tryout process begins in November. Students must check their calendars carefully and make a complete commitment to all of the auditions and performances before entering the competition. There is also an All Region jazz tryout. Students involved in the Jazz Band class are highly encouraged to audition. The music is announced in May, and the tryout process begins in the fall.

In addition to the All Region audition process, students may also participate in solo and chamber music ensemble performances throughout the year. The first of these competitions is the UIL Solo & Ensemble contest, which takes place in February. All students in grades 9 - 12 may participate if academically eligible. All students in the Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band are required to play an appropriate level solo; it is highly encouraged for students in Concert Band to participate. Students are also welcome to perform in an ensemble at this contest. The Solo & Ensemble contest in February is also the state-qualifying competition. Students who are advanced to the state level of competition will be eligible to travel to Austin in May for the Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest (TSSEC).

The second opportunity for students to perform chamber music occurs in May at the Texoma Solo and Ensemble Contest. All students in grades 9-12 may participate if academically eligible. All students in Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band and Concert Band are required to perform an appropriate level ensemble.

XI. Student Leadership

Band Leadership Team members are selected by an audition process in the spring. This audition includes a questionnaire packet, teacher evaluations and teaching/marching audition. Drum major candidates will also have a conducting audition and a selected number of candidates will have an interview with the band directors.

The following are qualifications for student leadership team members:

- An applicant must be a sophomore, junior, or senior in the 2021 - 2022 school year at Denison High School, and a veteran member of the Touch of Gold Marching Band.
- An applicant must be in good standing with the director(s).
- If an applicant cannot accept the possibility that he or she may not be chosen to be a part of the Leadership Team, then he or she should not try out for the position. An applicant's intentions must be for the good of the band, not for his or herself.
- All leadership positions are service oriented. A student leader is here to serve the band, not boss them around.
- An applicant should demonstrate a high level of musical ability.
- An applicant should have grades such that eligibility is never a concern.
- All applicants should be very dependable.
- Punctuality is of vital importance.
- All applicants should be both trustworthy and motivated.
- All applicants must be able to attend all rehearsals, performances, camps, and meetings (unless advance permission to miss has been obtained from a director following a written request).
- An applicant should possess a good personality and should get along well with others.
- Band officers have a responsibility to exhibit a good attitude and must encourage good morale within the band program.
- Band officers must be enthusiastic in all dealings with band students and staff.
- Leadership team applicants should have the approval of current directors, teachers and principals.

The following are additional qualifications for Drum Majors:

- Excellent grades with NO academic eligibility issues
- Positive encouraging attitude towards all band students, color guard members, drill team members, and directors
- Time availability and willingness to work long hours/days for the band and directors
- Unquestioned commitment to the band program, students and school
- Excellent role model for all students in marching, playing, personal responsibility, and leadership ability
- Approval of Denison HS academic and administrative staff
- Trustworthy and motivated

All student leaders, including director-selected officers, must fulfill the following requirements or they could be removed from office:

1. Participate at the designated Solo & Ensemble contest (winds and percussion only)
2. Tryout for the All Region Band (winds and percussion only)
3. Be present and on time for ALL rehearsals and performances
4. Provide leadership through example; promote the highest expectations for band members and maintain a positive attitude and behavior. Band officers with a disciplinary referral in any class may be removed from office
5. Remain academically eligible throughout the year

Note: Failure to follow through with the outlined band leadership team job description could result in a student being removed from the leadership team for the current school year.

XII. Uniforms

A. Marching Uniforms

The marching uniforms of the Denison High School Touch of Gold Marching Band are worn at most outdoor function unless weather prohibits. These are issued to all marching band students. In addition, each student needs the following items to complete the uniform:

1. Black Marching Shoes - ordered through the band in the summer
2. All black athletic socks (no markings) that go at least to mid-calf
3. Black marching gloves - ordered through the band in the summer
4. Band T-shirt - *worn under the uniform at all times*
5. Band Shorts - *worn under the uniform at all times*
6. No visible jewelry or accessories can be worn at any time while in the marching uniform
7. Hair must be pulled up and secured (buns, pinned, etc.) prior to inspection and for the duration of wearing the uniform. Bows and extra hairpieces are not allowed while in uniform.

Students are representing both the Touch of Gold Band and the Denison community while in uniform. Therefore, we must be the model of good behavior. No running, cursing or spitting is permitted while wearing any part of the uniform.

Uniforms will be checked in and out every game day. After every football game, students will check in their uniforms to the student leadership team/uniform crew in charge of uniforms. They will be cleaned several times during marching season.

If you lose or damage a piece of your uniform you must be prepared to pay:

Pants	\$125
Jacket	\$250
Hat	\$75
Plume	\$25
Hatbox	\$15
Gauntlets (pair)	\$40

B. Concert Uniforms

The concert uniforms of the Denison High School band are worn at all formal concerts and contests. These are issued to all students in the Wind Ensemble. Gentlemen will rent a tuxedo from the school and purchase a white shirt, cummerbund and bow tie. Ladies will rent a dress from the school. In addition, each student needs a pair of plain black dress shoes to complete the uniform (closed toe).

Students in Symphonic Band and Concert Band will wear concert black for their attire. **This must be as unison as possible in order to maintain a professional look on stage.** Gentlemen are to wear solid black dress slacks, solid black dress belt, solid black dress socks, and a tucked in black button up dress shirt. Ladies are to wear either a floor length skirt/dress or black dress slacks, solid black tights, and a formal black long-sleeve top. All students will wear solid black dress shoes (closed toe).

If you lose or damage a part of the concert uniform be prepared to pay:

Dress	\$65
Tuxedo	\$125

XIII. Band Fees & CHARMS

All students will have an annual Band Registration fee. The Band Fee will be used towards the Marching Band Production, Band Banquet, Awards, Programs, Pictures, and Classroom Materials. Classroom Materials include a technique book and music for all students. Additional fees will include meals, uniform cleaning, t-shirts, shorts, etc. These are all spelled out in the Band Registration form, found on the website.

All fees are due by Saturday, July 31st, but we highly encourage you to take care of these fees ahead of time during the summer before the cost of going back to school sets in during August and September. We prefer that you pay online through CHARMS for convenience, but we can also accept cash and checks made out to “Touch of Gold Band Boosters”. Note that there is a 3% convenience fee when you pay online via CHARMS.

A. Paying on CHARMS Via Credit / Debit Card

1. Log in to CHARMS
2. Click on the ‘Finances’ Icon (First Option on Second Row)
3. Beside ‘Band Registration Fee’, Check the ‘AffiniPay’ Box Under ‘Paid By’
4. Click on ‘Pay Fixed Payments’
5. Enter Payment Information

Students also have the option of using their Miscellaneous Ledger, or their Student Account, to pay for items in CHARMS. The Band Registration Fee is set up as a Fixed Payment. Fixed Payments must be paid in full. If you have enough money in the Miscellaneous Ledger to pay the Band Fee in full, then that option is outlined below.

B. Paying on CHARMS Via FULL Miscellaneous Ledger

1. Log in to CHARMS
2. Click on the 'Finances' Icon (First Option on Second Row)
3. Click the 'TRANSFER REQUEST' Tab (Second Tab at the Top Above 'EXIT CHARMS')
4. Check the 'Band Registration Fee' Box
5. Click 'Send Request'
6. Mrs. Lewis will Approve Your Request

The Band Registration Fee is set up as a Fixed Payment. Fixed Payments must be paid in full. If you do not have enough money in the Miscellaneous Ledger to pay the Band Fee in full, but you still wish to use what is in the Miscellaneous Ledger, then it is a little bit more complicated of a process, but it is outlined below as well.

C. Paying on CHARMS Via PARTIAL Miscellaneous Ledger

1. Log in to CHARMS
2. Click on the 'Finances' Icon (First Option on Second Row)
3. By 'Student Miscellaneous Ledger Detail', Click on 'Make Miscellaneous Payment'
4. Enter Necessary Amount to Increase Miscellaneous Payment
5. Click 'Start Payment'
6. Complete Using Instructions Above for 'Paying on CHARMS Via Full Miscellaneous Ledger'

D. Fundraiser Information

Fundraisers are a necessity to help cover the costs of a successful Band Program. The Denison High School Band Program may participate in several various fundraisers throughout the year. When students participate in individual brochure fundraisers (such as popcorn sales), they earn 50% of sales. There will be additional Spirit Night and group fundraisers held throughout the year for the benefit of the overall Band Boosters organization.

The money in a student's CHARMS account belongs to the Touch of Gold Booster Club and may only be applied to a student's band expenses. If a student quits or is removed from the Band Program, then the money is absorbed in the Touch of Gold Booster Club.

XIV. Calendar

The Calendar for the Denison High School Band Program will be managed and maintained through CHARMS. All dates and times are as accurate as possible. We will give sufficient notice if a date or time changes. All performances are required and graded unless labeled 'Optional.'

A. Sync CHARMS Calendar for iPhones:

1. Go into the Settings app
2. Touch "Accounts & Passwords"
3. On the Accounts & Passwords screen, touch "Add Account"
4. On the Add Account screen, touch "Other"
5. Under Calendars, touch "Add Subscribed Calendar"
6. For the Server value, enter the URL for the teacher calendar:
<https://www.charmsoffice.com/charms/calsynct.asp?s=DenisonHSBand>
7. Touch "Next" in the upper right corner.
8. It will verify the server then show a subscription page. Change the description if you like.
9. Touch "Save" to save the subscription.

B. Sync Charms Calendar for Android Phones:

To sync with Android devices, you will need to use your Google account and have a Google calendar created.

In your Google calendar on a real computer:

1. Under "Other Calendars" click the Add link.
2. Select "Add by URL"
3. Enter the following URL:
<https://www.charmsoffice.com/charms/calsynct.asp?s=DenisonHSBand>
4. Click "Add Calendar"
5. Google will begin to sync your calendar, and it will appear on the screen.
6. Click "Settings"
7. Change the long name of the new calendar to something you will remember such as "CHARMS Calendar"
8. Your phone should automatically be set to sync with your Google calendar.
9. On your phone: Click on "Calendar", then bring up the settings for the calendar. Click on Calendar Sync. You should see your Google account listed already. Make sure Auto-Sync is checked.

C. Sync CHARMS Calendar for Blackberry Phones:

To sync with Blackberry, you must first download the "Google Sync" and install it on your phone.

1. Log into your Google calendar on the computer.
2. Under "Other Calendars" click the Add link.
3. Select "Add by URL"
4. Enter the following URL:
<https://www.charmsoffice.com/charms/calsynct.asp?s=DenisonHSBand>
5. Click "Add Calendar"
6. Google will begin to sync your calendar, and it will appear on the screen.

7. Click "Settings"
8. Change the long name of the new calendar to something you will remember such as "CHARMS Calendar"
9. Your phone should automatically be set to sync with your Google calendar.
10. On your phone: Click on "Calendar", then bring up the settings for the calendar. Click on Calendar Sync. You should see your Google account listed already. Make sure Auto-Sync is checked.

D. Sync Charms Calendar for Windows Phones:

For Windows Phones with the new "Mango" upgrade you can now sync your CHARMS calendar:

1. On your PC, open the Windows Live Calendar site for the account your phone uses.
2. Click the Subscribe link (between New and Share).
3. Make sure Subscribe to a public calendar is selected
4. Enter <https://www.charmsoffice.com/charms/calsynct.asp?s=DenisonHSBand> as the Calendar URL
5. Enter "CHARMS" for the Calendar Name. The color and charm don't apply to the phone.
6. Click Subscribe to calendar.

Now the calendar from CHARMS is associated with your Windows Live calendar and will appear on your Windows Phone the next time you sync!

XV. Thelma Braun Music Enrichment Program

We strongly encourage students to take private lessons with an expert teacher on their instrument. Lessons may be taken before or after school, or during the student's daily band class. Denison ISD approves certain private instructors through interviews, auditions and background checks. Lessons are paid through CHARMS (\$20 per half hour). Partial scholarships for private lessons are available through the Thelma Braun Music Enrichment Program. If interested, please contact Mrs. Lewis.

Private Lessons Available

- Lessons are available before school, after school or during band class periods
- Lessons are held once per week for 30 minutes
- The option to have an hour-long lesson per week can be arranged if that is something you are interested in
- Lessons cost \$20 per thirty-minute lesson and payment is due at the beginning of each month
- There is financial assistance available through the Thelma Braun Music Enrichment Program. This grant program provides a scholarship for half of the cost of private lessons. Please contact Mrs. Lewis if you are interested in applying for this scholarship
- Students with an outstanding balance for private lessons at the end of the year will not be allowed to register for lessons for the next school year until the balance is paid.

The Private Lesson Instructors will assist students with the preparation of music for All Region, Area and State tryouts; for participation in Solo & Ensemble; and with the band contest music. Teachers will include an organized lesson plan and approach to fundamentals that will need to be practiced consistently in order to receive the greatest benefits from private instruction. Parents should become informed about the lesson content, expectations of the instructor and their student's rate of progress. Parents should contact their campus band director with questions about lessons or private instructors.

Instrument	Teacher Name	Email
Flute	Stephanie Izaguirre	syizaguirre12@gmail.com
Oboe	Eric Giles	eric.oboe.giles@gmail.com
Bassoon	Jennifer Cummins	jennifer.a.cummins@gmail.com
Clarinet	Brooke Miller	blm5273@gmail.com
Saxophone	Michael Peterson	mrpjazzmusic@gmail.com
Trumpet	Paul Stevens	ps@stephenshome.net
Trumpet	Aaron Jensen	aaronjensentrumpet@gmail.com
French Horn	Mike Marsh	mgmarsh@pwhome.com
Trombone & Tuba	Dillon Dingwell	dillondingwell@ymail.com
Euphonium & Tuba	Melissa Ewing	m_ewing@u.pacific.edu
Percussion	Shanna Mann	smpercussion@outlook.com

XVI. Use of School Owned Instruments and Equipment

A limited number of the more expensive instruments are owned by the school district for the purpose of balancing the instrumentation district-wide and maintaining performing bands at every level.

It is the responsibility of the student and parent to check over the instrument when the student receives it and understand that the instrument must be returned in the same condition at the end of the year. If, in the opinion of a DISD director, a school-owned instrument is not being properly maintained or cared for at any time of the school year, it is the director's prerogative to remove the instrument from the student's care. The student will assume all charges for repairs caused by negligence or mistreatment.

XVII. Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest (TSSEC)

Students who earn a Division 1: Superior ranking on their Class 1 solo or Class 1 ensemble at the UIL Region Solo and Ensemble contest in February will qualify to participate in the Texas State Solo and

Ensemble Contest (TSSEC) in Austin in late May. Students who decide to participate in the TSSEC will have additional requirements and costs associated with the trip.

In order to be eligible to attend the TSSEC in Austin, students can not have DNA'd any previous contest in that academic school year. In addition to being academically eligible at the time of the contest and subsequent trip, students can not have any discipline issues in the school or band program and must receive head director approval.

Students will receive a per diem from the school district to cover food expenses while on the trip. In addition, the school district will provide hotel and travel accommodations. Students will be responsible for the \$50 Piano Accompaniment Fee (for solo entries only).

XVIII. Contact Information

Melissa Lewis

*Director of Bands
Instrumental Music Coordinator*
(903) 462-7177
mhlewis@denisonisd.net

Austin Armstrong

Assistant Band Director
(903) 462-7983
adarmstrong@denisonisd.net

Shanna Mann

Assistant Band Director, Percussion
(903) 462-7192
smann@denisonisd.net

Raquel Bowers

Color Guard Director
(903) 462-7140
rbowers@denisonisd.net



DENISON HIGH SCHOOL BAND

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As you sign the commitment form, understand that participation in the Denison High School Touch of Gold Band Program is a FULL YEAR commitment and that our expectations for each other and ourselves are very high. We look forward to a wonderful journey and experience with your student.

PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE HANDBOOK CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING BELOW.

"I have read the DHS Band Handbook, understand the procedures, and our student has our permission to participate in the band activities stated in the handbook with the guidelines described. We acknowledge and agree to the behavior expectations stated within the handbook. We understand that Band and Color Guard are full year commitments."

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

"I have read the DHS Band Handbook and agree to abide by the policies stated. I realize that failure to follow policies or direction will result in disciplinary action that could lead to dismissal from the Band and/or Guard program and classes."

Student Name (PRINTED): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date of Both Signatures: _____

Please return this form by 8:00 am on August 13th. Students will not be able to travel without the submission of this form. Keep all other parts of the Handbook for reference.



DENISON HIGH SCHOOL BAND

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Private Lessons Acknowledgement Form

Please check the appropriate response:

- _____ I would like private lessons for my student, and will be filling out a Financial Aide Application.
- _____ I would like private lessons for my student, but will not be filling out a Financial Aide Application, and will be paying for the lessons in full instead.
- _____ We understand the importance of private lessons, but would not like them at this time.

CHARMS System Acknowledgement Form

Go to charmsoffice.com. Log in as a student/parent by using “DenisonHSBand” as the School Code. Your ID number is your student’s school ID with the letter “D” in front of it, or whatever has been set as the new password. Please contact a Band Director if you need your password reset. If your child’s name does not show up, tell a Band Director! If your name does not show up, you can add it by clicking on the “student info” tab at the top. Then click on “personal information”. Check and edit the contact information, and then save the changes.

We have reviewed our contact information on CHARMS, and it is correct.

Student Name: _____ Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____