



## HANDBOOK 2023-2024

### INTRODUCTION

Congratulations - you are now a part of the Deerfield High School band family! I'm so happy you're here!! Through your hard work, you will add to this tradition of fine concerts, great friendships and personal growth that has been in place since 1960. And we'll have a ton of fun. As you make music over the next nine months, in both rehearsal and performance, work hard, take risks, and always strive for excellence!

Also remember that as part of this family, you have both privileges and responsibilities as a member. The students in band always look after each other and treat each other with respect. We succeed as an ensemble when we help each other to succeed as individuals. Welcome to the fam!

### MEET THE OFFICERS

#### **Band Presidents**

Rebecca Choi - WE  
William Francis Love IV - WE  
CC Brubaker - SB  
Violet Krol - SB

#### **Band Historians**

Grant Borucki  
Graeme Cunningham

#### **Band Secretaries**

Juliana Canastra - WE  
Mack Navickas - WE  
Sky Litowitz - SB

#### **WMB Drum Majors**

CC Brubaker  
Juliana Canastra  
Chloe Lewis

#### **Senior Advisors**

Tyson Adelman  
Grant Borucki  
Graeme Cunningham  
Ben Polonsky

### BAND WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

#### **[DHS BAND WEBSITE](https://tinyurl.com/deerfieldbandwarrior)**

The DHS Band website (<https://tinyurl.com/deerfieldbandwarrior>) will be transitioned this year to being imbedded in the main DHS webpage, it is still accessible via the link above and all of my email signatures for now. It has many helpful links and makes a lot of information easily accessible:

- Links to all of the ILMEA Audition materials for this fall
- A DHS Band Google Calendar page
- Private lesson information
- Music Summer Camp information
- Travel information

In addition, you can also follow the band on Instagram (@deerfieldband)!

## CLASSROOM POLICIES

These six simple guidelines will help us to have productive rehearsals and quality performances.

1. Be in your seat with your instrument and music ready when rehearsal begins two minutes after the bell.
2. Develop and practice your listening skills. Limit exercising your verbal skills.
3. Keep all devices turned off and put away. Phone caddies are available for students that need them or forget before rehearsal begins.
4. Have a sharpened pencil on your stand and use it to make notes in your music.
5. Keep a positive attitude & stay on task. Respect the opinions and ability levels of others in the class.
6. Practice your music outside of class so that you are prepared for rehearsals.

## ATTENDANCE POLICIES

In order to perform our best, it is important to have everybody in class every day. Unauthorized absences will result in consequences from the deans and could result in being pulled from a performance. Refer to the student handbook for detailed information on school absence policies. An unauthorized absence from a performance will result in a grade reduction of up to 20%.

Included in this handbook is a calendar of events for the 2023-2024 school year. Use this information when planning work schedules and other outside commitments. Attendance at these performances is mandatory unless otherwise noted. Absences will only be authorized for illness, family travel, or family emergencies. A signed note from your parent/guardian stating the reason for missing a performance is required. When possible, notify Ms. Holt well in advance of any planned absence. Conflicts with other school activities will be managed by Ms. Holt and the other sponsor/coach. Absences will not be authorized for work.

CB – Concert Band, SB – Symphonic Band, WE – Wind Ensemble, JB – Jazz Band/Monday Afternoon Jazz, MB – Marching Band

## PERFORMANCE APPAREL

MB	Marching Band uniform (DHS provides), marching band t-shirt (purchase during camp), marching band baseball hat (purchase during camp), long black dress socks (you provide), marching shoes (available for purchase through Ms. Holt)
CB/SB/WE	<b>Either:</b> Black tuxedo coat (DHS provides), black regular tie or bowtie (you can purchase a bowtie from DHS for \$5), black dress pants, black belt, black socks, black dress shoes and <b>**NEW FOR 2023-24: black dress shirt (collar, long sleeve &amp; button down)! We're going all black everyone!</b> <b>Or:</b> Black dress (DHS provides), closed-toe black dress shoes <i>Note: Talk to Ms. Holt if you would like to discuss other options.</i> <i>Note 2: Dress shoes are NOT optional.</i>
JB (gig attire)	<b>Either:</b> Sport coat, tie, dress slacks, and dress shoes; <b>Or:</b> dress, dressy skirt/slacks outfit, and dress shoes

## REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

CB/SB/WE Woodwinds	Personal or school instrument, a pencil, and <u>three</u> reeds in good working condition ( <i>Note: single reeds can be purchased at the DHS Bookstore</i> ) <i>*Also – Ms. Holt can help recommend new/upgraded mouthpieces, ligatures, reeds, and instruments! Just ask.</i>
CB/SB/WE Brass	Personal or school instrument, a pencil, and valve oil/slide cream ( <i>Note: valve oil and slide cream can be purchased at the DHS Bookstore</i> ) <i>* Also – Ms. Holt can help recommend new/upgraded mouthpieces, mutes, and instruments! Just ask.</i>
CB/SB/WE Percussion	One pair of matched concert snare drum sticks ( <i>Cooperman Nick Petrella recommended</i> ), rubber practice pad ( <i>Vic Firth Heavy Hitter Slim recommended</i> ) and a pencil.
JB Winds/Piano	Personal or school instrument, 3-ring binder, and a pencil
JB Percussion	One pair of drumsticks and brushes, 3-ring binder, and a pencil
JB Guitar/Bass	Personal or school instrument, two cables, 3-ring binder, and a pencil

## LOCKERS

Each band student (except for percussionists and tuba players - optional) will be assigned an individual music locker for storing instruments, music and accessories. You must provide your own combination lock. The lockers are located in the hallways surrounding the band room. You need to keep them securely locked in order to prevent theft. Do not share your combination with others. You are responsible for any school-owned equipment that is lost or stolen from a band locker that you left unlocked.

## GRADING

Your grade in band is based on your ability and achievement in these two categories:

Performance – tone, intonation, correct pitches, rhythm, notations, and style (plus improvisation for JB)  
Musicology – analysis, evaluation, history, and theory

In your band warm-up packet, you can find specific targets that we will work to achieve for each category. For example, the tone target is: “As a member of the ensemble or as a soloist, I can produce a good tone on my instrument.” You will be assessed through playing tests, in-class performance, quizzes, papers, and self-evaluations. You are encouraged to retake any playing test or redo any paper to show improvement or better understanding and to receive a higher grade.

Your semester grade will be weighted as follows:

Playing assessments - 45%
Rehearsal & Concert Reflections - 45%
Written work - 10%

When you take a playing test with Ms. Holt, you will receive your grade on the spot. Recorded playing tests will be graded within two weeks. Worksheets and quizzes will be graded within one week. There is no penalty for late assignments, but they will not be graded as quickly. There is no penalty for late playing tests, but they are more difficult to schedule. Contact Ms. Holt if you ever need an extension on an assignment or test.

## CREDIT

Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Band members receive one full credit per semester. Concert Band members receive one half credit per semester as their time is shared with freshman advisory. All music classes are taken for regular credit. Any student in Wind Ensemble or Jazz Band who wishes to receive honors credit for the class may apply for the Honors Music program. This includes completing major project and extra performance requirements including a solo recital. The application deadline is the third Friday of each semester.

## BAND CURRICULUM

The **Concert Band** curriculum is designed to teach and review fundamental musical concepts in two areas, performance and musicianship. Performance fundamentals include proper tone, intonation, rhythm, balance and expression. Students will work on scales, chorales and tuning exercises in addition to concert literature. Percussionists will learn rudiments and proper playing techniques for all of the drums, cymbals, timpani, keyboard percussion and accessories. Musicianship fundamentals include key signatures, transposition, musical terms, and the history of musical instruments. The literature performed by the Concert Band will include a wide variety of styles and composers. Students will perform at least one classical transcription, modern piece, lyrical work, overture and march throughout the year.

The **Symphonic Band/Wind Ensemble** curriculum is based on the repertoire best suited to the ensemble in a given year. In addition to reinforcing the performance and musicianship fundamentals studied in Concert Band, SB/WE members will explore the music of many cultures and composers, as well as highlighting the core works in the wind repertoire. This will be done through performing, listening and discussing pieces that relate to the given repertoire. All students will also have the opportunity to perform in a chamber ensemble for the Solo & Ensemble Festival in March.

The **Jazz Band** curriculum focuses on improvisation, jazz style and arranging. Students learn to improvise over various progressions including modal, blues, and ii-V-I patterns. We also study classic recordings and play transcriptions of solos by legendary jazz musicians.

## EXTRACURRICULAR ENSEMBLES AND EVENTS

Unlike the curricular band classes (Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Band), these groups are extracurricular. Students who choose to participate in these activities should familiarize themselves with the Extracurricular Code and eligibility requirements. These may be found in the DHS student handbook.

The **Warrior Marching Band** is open to all band members. This group performs for varsity football games, parades, and the Band-O-Rama concert in the fall. Rehearsals include one week of preseason band camp, and two evening/after school rehearsals per week through the end of October.

**Monday Afternoon Jazz** is open to all DHS students who play an instrument. This group meets weekly from November to April. Emphasis is on learning proper jazz style and improvisation to prepare members for Jazz Band auditions. MAJ performs on two concerts each year. Sign up in early October.

**Pep Band** performs during the winter sport season during home varsity basketball games. The band is made up of students from all classes. Further details will be distributed in November.

## OTHER EVENTS, PERFORMANCES, AND MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

**Solo and Ensemble Festival:** DHS and HPHS combine to host our own festival in the spring each year. This provides an opportunity for student soloists and ensembles to perform for a judge and receive a rating and critique. Students enrolled in honors credit second semester are required to perform a solo during the Solo & Ensemble festival. Wind Ensemble, Symphonic & Concert Band students are strongly encouraged to participate in a solo and/or chamber ensemble. The **Percussion Festival Concert**, performed with our percussionist colleagues at Highland Park HS, New Trier HS & Evanston HS will be on the same day as the Solo & Ensemble festival this year! Please see the calendar for more details.

**ILMEA District and State festivals:** Students audition in October with other musicians from northeastern Illinois for placement in the district band and jazz bands. The top students from around the state are invited to participate in the All-State festival in January. Competition for spots in the district and state groups is very keen. The **Northshore Honor Band** is another honor group for nominated students. This group is selected based on recommendations from Ms. Holt, not audition. The festival takes place the first weekend back from winter break in January.

**Private Lessons:** The Chicagoland area teems with qualified private lesson instructors, and we work with a lot of them! We've recruited some of the best teachers in the area to work with our students and would like to see as many students as possible taking advantage of this great opportunity. Lessons taught at DHS are \$30/half hour lesson, paid directly to the teacher. They can be scheduled during a free period, before or after school, or during a student's band class period. ***This is the best investment you can make in your playing ability!*** Students will be introduced to the teachers that come to DHS in the first month of school, however a list of private teachers is available on the [band website](#) under [Resources > Private Lessons](#).

**Concert Attendance:** The other area schools, [Northwestern University](#), [Northern Illinois University](#), [DePaul University](#) and community organizations provide excellent opportunities to hear high-quality performances, and they're low cost or often free of charge! There is also the [Chicago Symphony](#), the [Chicago Civic Orchestra](#) and [Northshore Concert Band](#) that are easily some of the best ensembles in the nation, right around the corner! There will be many opportunities during the year for many interested band members to travel together with Ms. Holt to hear some of these outstanding ensembles. To understand good playing, it is important to HEAR good playing LIVE!

**Summer Music Camps:** Students at Deerfield are very involved and very busy during the school year. Summer musical study is a way to focus a student's attention upon this one aspect of their lives for a week or two during the summer months. There are many music camps of varying quality levels. There is a list on the [band website](#) under the [Resources > Summer Camps](#). Registration for these often begins in January or February of each year. They range from three days to eight weeks, and are worth every penny!

**DEERFIELD HIGH SCHOOL  
BAND CALENDAR 2023-2024**

*Sidebar: this calendar is out of date the moment I turn it into a PDF. PLEASE see the Google Calendar  
On the DHS Band Webpage for the most up-to-date info: [tinyurl.com/deerfieldbandwarrior](http://tinyurl.com/deerfieldbandwarrior).*

Date	Time	Details	Whom
Friday, August 4	9:30a-2:30p	WMB Leader Training	MB Leaders & DMs
<b>Monday, August - Friday, August 11</b>	<b>8:00a-4:00p</b>	<b>WMB Band Camp</b>	<b>Full Marching Band (WMB)</b>
Monday, August 14	6:00-7:00pm	Warrior Welcome	Senior Advisors & Leaders Only
Tuesday, August 15	8:30-10:00am	WMB-HP Joint Performance	WMB
	2:00-6:00pm	WMB Uniform Fittings	WMB: Grade Hours
Thursday, August 17	3:30-5:00pm	After School Rehearsal	WMB
Tuesday, August 22	5:00-7:00pm	Evening Rehearsal	WMB
Thursday, August 24	3:30-5:00pm	After School Rehearsal	WMB
<b>Friday, August 25</b>	<b>4:30-6:00p</b>	<b>Dress Rehearsal</b>	WMB
	<b>7:00-10:00p</b>	<b>FB Game 1 Performance</b>	WMB
Tuesday, August 29	5:00-7:00pm	Evening Rehearsal	WMB
Thursday, August 31	3:30-5:00pm	After School Rehearsal	WMB
Tuesday, September 5	5:00-7:00pm	Evening Rehearsal	WMB
Thursday, September 7	<del>3:30-4:30pm</del>	After School Rehearsal	WMB
	6:00-7:00pm	Open House Jazz Performance	JB
<b>Friday, September 8</b>	<b>4:30-6:00p</b>	<b>Dress Rehearsal</b>	WMB
	<b>7:00-10:00p</b>	<b>FB Game 2 Performance</b>	WMB
Tuesday, September 12	5:00-7:00pm	Evening Rehearsal	WMB
Thursday, September 14	3:30-5:00pm	After School Rehearsal	WMB
Tuesday, September 19	5:00-7:00pm	Evening Rehearsal	WMB
Thursday, September 21	3:30-5:00pm	After School Rehearsal	WMB
Friday, September 22	4:00-6:30pm	Mums Fundraiser Pick Up	All Bands
Tuesday, September 26	5:00-7:00pm	Evening Rehearsal	WMB
<b>Thursday, September 28</b>	8:10-9:30am	BandORama Dress Rehearsal with guest MS bands	WMB + MS
	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>BandORama Concert – DHS Warrior Gym</b>	<b>WMB &amp; JB</b>
Tuesday, October 3	5:00-7:00pm	Evening Rehearsal	WMB
Thursday, October 5	3:30-5:00pm	After School Rehearsal	WMB
	8:00pm	ILMEA Virtual Auditions Due	Anyone Interested
<b>Friday, October 6</b>	<b>4:30-6:00pm</b>	<b>Dress Rehearsal</b>	WMB
	<b>7:00-10:00p</b>	<b>FB Game 3 Performance: Homecoming</b>	WMB
Tuesday, October 10	5:00-7:00pm	Evening Rehearsal	WMB
Thursday, October 12	3:30-5:00pm	After School Rehearsal	WMB
<b>Friday, October 13</b>	<b>4:30-6:00pm</b>	<b>Dress Rehearsal</b>	WMB
	<b>7:00-10:00p</b>	<b>FB Game 4 Performance: Senior Night</b>	WMB
<b>*Thursday, October 19*</b>	4:00-7:00pm	Dress Rehearsals @ Caruso MS, exact schedule TBA	ALL BANDS: CB, SB, WE, JB
	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Fall Band Concert @ Caruso MS</b>	<b>CB, SB, WE, JB</b>
Friday, October 27	Eve	<i>Football Playoffs Begin</i>	<i>Optional WMB event</i>
Monday, October 30	3:30-4:30pm	Monday Afternoon Jazz Auditions	Any interested student
Saturday, November 4	all day	ILMEA Band/Choir/Orchestra Festival	Select students

Date	Time	Details	Whom
Sunday, November 12 *Cancelled*	3:30-7:00pm	School Chest Gala Gig – CANCELLED Stay tuned for another opportunity for this fundraiser	JB
Saturday, November 18	all day	ILMEA Jazz Festival	Select students
Monday, November 20	3:30-4:30pm	Monday Afternoon Jazz (MAJ) Begins	Auditions from April or Oct. 30
Thursday, December 7	6:00pm	Wind Ensemble Honors Recital in R100	WE Sem. 1 Honors Credit Students
<b>Wednesday, Dec. 13</b>	<b>5:00-6:30pm</b>	<b>Dress Rehearsal</b>	All bands
	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>All-Music Extravaganza CONCERT in *new* DHS Auditorium!!</b>	<b>All Bands, Choirs &amp; Orchestras</b>
Friday, January 12	5:00-9:30pm	Northshore Honor Band @ Lake Forest HS	Select students
Saturday, January 13	all day		
Tuesday, February 20	3:30-6:00pm	Wind Ensemble Auditions for 24-25 school year	Any interested student
<b>*Saturday, February 24*</b>	<b>4:00-7:00pm</b>	<b>Dress Rehearsal</b>	<b>JB &amp; MAJ (with Choraliers)</b>
	<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Jazz Night Concert</b>	
Monday, February 26	3:30-4:30pm	Jazz Lab Begins	Anyone interested or new to jazz!
<b>Thursday, March 7</b>	<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Spring Band Concert</b>	<b>All Bands</b>
Thursday, April 4	3:30-5:00pm	Jazz Band Auditions for 24-25 EB Jazz & MAJ	Any interested student
<b>Saturday, April 6</b>	12:00-4:00p	<b>Solo &amp; Ensemble Festival @ HPHS</b>	Required: Honors WE, Optional all others
<b>Saturday, April 6</b>	2:00-9:00pm	Northshore Percussion Festival ( <b>Concert 7:00p</b> ) @ New Trier HS	Required: All WE, SB, CB Percussionists
Wednesday & Thursday, April 17-18	3:30-4:30pm	Drum Major Clinics for 24-25 school year	Any interested WMB member
Wednesday, April 24	3:30-5:00pm	Drum Major Auditions	Any interested WMB
<b>Friday, May 10</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Finale Band Concert &amp; Awards - DHS Auditorium</b>	<b>All Bands</b>
Monday, May 13 (Holt's guess - exact date TBA)	7:00pm	Honors Night - Jazz Performance	JB only
Thursday, May 23	6:00pm	Jazz Band Honors Recital in R100	JB taking Sem. 2 Honors Credit
<b>Monday, May 27</b>	<b>8:30am-Noon</b>	<b>Memorial Day Parade</b>	<b>WMB</b>

CB – Concert Band  
 JB – Jazz Band  
 MAJ – Monday Afternoon Jazz  
 MB – Marching Band  
 + This is an addition to the WMB Schedule

SB – Symphonic Band  
 SS – selected students  
 WE – Wind Ensemble  
 \*date\* are changed dates from original publication in April 2023

### SUBSCRIBE TO DHS BAND GOOGLE CALENDAR

This calendar is also available as a Google Calendar at [tinyurl.com/deerfieldhsband](https://tinyurl.com/deerfieldhsband). You can subscribe to the calendar by clicking on the plus sign on the bottom right-hand corner of the screen. The Google version only includes dates and times, not the information about which band is involved, but it may be a useful quick reference for you.

## **CONTACTING MS. HOLT**

Ms. Holt's direct phone number is **(224) 632-3165**. Her e-mail is **pholt@dist113.org**. Voice mail and e-mail are checked on a daily basis and you can usually expect a reply within 24 hours when school is in session.

## **FRIENDS OF THE ARTS - Join & Support! Help Enrich DHS Arts Programs!**

Learn more about the DHS Friends of the Arts at: [www.dhsfriendsofthearts.org](http://www.dhsfriendsofthearts.org) and visit their Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/DHSFOA](http://www.facebook.com/DHSFOA).

# Band Handbook Signature Form

***For ease of important dates for band and performances, these are the major, mandatory, graded performances for the 2023-2024 school year:***

- Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 7:00pm – Fall Band Concert (at Caruso MS)
- Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 7:30pm – All-Music Winter Concert
- Saturday, February 24, 2024 – Jazz Night (JB & MAJ only)
- Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 7:30pm – Spring Band Concert
- Saturday, April 6, 2024 – Solo & Ensemble Festival @ HPHS & Percussion Festival @ NT
- Friday, May 10, 2024 at 7:30pm – Finale Band Concert

*I have read and understand the policies and calendar included in this handbook.*

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Student's Name (please print)

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Student Signature

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Parent/Guardian Name(s) (please print)

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date

***This is for a Grade: Detach/print this page and return it to Ms. Holt in class by Friday, Sept. 1, 2023.***