



Everything You Need to Know About the Georgetown High School Band 2021-2022!

Who Are We?

- The Georgetown High School Band is one of the most successful and storied programs in the state of Texas! The Eagle Band has won 3 TMEA Honor Bands, and 5 UIL State Marching Championships. The Band has also been awarded the prestigious Sudler Flag of Honor, as well as being invited to the BOA National Concert Band Festival in Indianapolis, Indiana. In recent years, the band has been a finalist at many marching band contests including the Vista Ridge Marching Festival, the Texas Marching Classic. Concert ensembles have earned consistent Sweepstakes at UIL Concert and Sight-reading, and the Georgetown Jazz Ensemble has received superior ratings and Best in Class at many Jazz Festivals, as well as host our own Jazz Festival. **In 2017, the GHS Band qualified for the UIL State Marching Championship for the first time since 2000!**
- Our students are successful not only in marching and concert band, but many areas outside of band. They are leaders of other organizations, athletes, and young scholars. Many band students place in the top 10% of their respective classes while taking Pre-AP and AP classes. Strong academics and a well-rounded student involved in multiple activities on campus are encouraged and supported by the staff.
- We not only have students making Region Band, advancing to the Area level, and making the All-State Band, but we also have students bringing home division I medals in UIL and GISD Solo and Ensemble Contests. Students also have opportunities to participate in Full Orchestra at UIL and the GHS Fine Arts Department Musical.

What Is Important To Us?

- The development and growth of our students into disciplined, caring, responsible individuals.
- Our goals are more subtle and important than competition. However through competitions and performances, we develop our band students into team players! As team players, we are able to appreciate the rewards of hard work and discipline and can support each other through the learning process and through successes as well as failures.
- Our students strive to do their best, both in and out of the classroom as well as on the marching field. They are held to a higher academic and behavioral standard than the general student population.
- Our Band motto as voted on by the 2015-2016 Georgetown Band is “Pride, Commitment, Excellence!”

Communication

The GHS Band primarily communicates via Remind. This is a text message app available online, and on Android and IOS. Please join your remind group

Students - text @gband2122 to 81010

Parents last name A-L - text @gparenta-l to 81010

Parents last name M-Z - text @gparentm-z to 81010

Band Website - bookmark our website at gband.org join the

Member Page and subscribe to our calendar

Charms - please make sure your information is updated in Charms at charmsoffice.com

Facebook - Follow @GeorgetownEagleBand

Course Credits

Students enrolled in high school Band for four years will earn the following course credits toward their graduation requirements: **4 semesters of Physical Education=2 credits** (1/2 credit during the fall semesters); **8 semesters of Fine Arts = 4 fine arts/elective credits**. A total of five elective credits are needed to graduate. In other words, four years of band will take care of your PE, fine arts, and elective requirements for graduation.

Taking Band and other Electives/Athletics/Activities

High School is a very important time in a student's life, because it is a time to explore multiple activities and begin to focus on a path for the future. With that in mind, the staff supports students being involved in multiple activities. **BAND CLASSES ARE NOT SCHEDULED DURING ATHLETICS CLASSES DURING THE SCHOOL DAY.** We have band students involved in all clubs, sports, and activities on campus. The band staff, coaches and counselors all work together to make sure that band fits into every student's school and afterschool schedules. **Along these lines, students who are entering 9th grade can take athletics, band, other electives, and Pre AP and AP Classes. Every year across Texas, thousands of band students take multiple Pre AP and AP classes and are successful. This means a student can take up to 32 credits during their high school career. The band staff can help students make adjustments to their schedule if need be with Counselors.** Along with academic excellence, Band and other activities are a VITAL part of a high school student's resume when they apply to college. College admission and scholarship officers **love** seeing well-rounded students who have handled the responsibilities of multiple activities in high school.

Students can take 8 courses every year at GHS. This allows for a total of 32 credits that can be earned in high school. Students can take band and multiple other activities/electives and remain in band. Here is an example 9th grade schedule

Class 1 – Math

Class 3 – English

Class 5 – Foreign Language

Class 7 – Athletic/Choir/Art/Orchestra

Class 2 – Science

Class 4 – Social Studies

Class 6 – Band

Class 8 – Health/Engineering/CTE

Band Courses Offered at GHS

The following classes are offered in the Georgetown HS Band Program:

- Band I-IV – This is the primary band class. This class is required to be taken by all students in the band program. This class consists of Marching Band and Holiday Band in the Fall Semester and Concert Band in the Spring Semester. This class is further divided into the following ensembles:
 - Wind Symphony (Varsity Band) – open to 9th-12th, by audition only
 - Wind Ensemble (Non-Varsity Band) – open to 9th-12th, by audition only
 - Symphonic Band (Sub-Non Varsity Band) – open to 9th-12th, no audition
- Instrumental Ensemble I-IV – This is an elective that may be taken by students in 9th-12th grade. This class allows students free time to practice and receive one on one instruction from Directors. Students in this class will be required to participate in the All-State process and Solo and Ensemble.
- Jazz Ensemble I-IV – This is the Jazz Band at GHS. This class is open to 9th-12th grade, and entry is by audition only. The Jazz Ensemble hosts a jazz festival at GHS, travels to compete in other festivals in and out of state, and gigs at various events around town.
Auditions for the Jazz Ensemble open in May 2021.

Spring Training Camp

Spring Training Camp: The Eagle Band will host a mandatory Spring Training Camp April 26-30, 5:00-7:00pm at GHS. **Attendance is required for all current and incoming members.** Spring Training will provide much-needed fundamentals for the Summer months and also introduce current members to incoming 9th graders. The event will end with a community show-and-tell of next Fall's competitive marching show.

There is a live Google Calendar on the band website www.gband.org that can be synced to smart devices. Accordingly, please plan your other activities around our band rehearsals and performances. PLEASE CHECK THIS CALENDAR REGULARLY.

Summer Band Camp

All students will report to GHS for Summer Band Camp at 8:00 AM on July 26, 2021. Missing the practices during Spring Training AND/OR Summer Band Camp causes students to begin the school year behind their peers in marching and playing skills. Due to our schedule, we do not have time to catch-up summer no-shows and late-comers with the rest of the group. If these students start behind in July, they will most likely not earn a Varsity marching spot in the contest marching show and, instead, will march as a JV member. Please consider scheduling vacation time prior to July 24, 2021. **Our first football game is August 27th, 2021. The band is expected to perform at the first football game.**

Summer Band Camp Dates at GHS

July 26 - July 30 – 8:00am to 5:00pm (8:00-12:00 outside)

August 2-6 and August 9 – 8:00am to 5:00pm (8:00-12:00 outside)

August 10-13 - 5:00pm-9:00pm

August 14 - Super Saturday! 8:00am-4:00pm, 5:00pm Performance and Celebration

August 16-17 - 5:00pm-9:00pm

August 19 – Regular Weekly Rehearsal Schedule Begins (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday)

August 27 – First football game

Rehearsals and Performances during the School Year

(All rehearsals, sectionals, and performances are **REQUIRED**.)

Marching Band rehearsals during the fall: Rehearsals are held after school. **We schedule most weeks to allow students to have one afternoon completely free of band activities.** A tentative weekly schedule would be as follows: Monday 4:30-7:30pm; Tuesday 4:15-6:45pm; Wednesday NO REHEARSAL; Thursday 4:15-6:45pm; Friday Football Game Performance 4:30pm-10:30pm; Saturday (Select Dates in September-November) All Day.

Please schedule doctors/dentist appointments etc. on WEDNESDAY (days you do not have band). Marching Band rehearsals end at the conclusion of the competitive season, which will be November 3, 2021.

Physicals

Every band student is required to have a yearly physical to participate in band. The physical must be after May 1, 2021 in order to be valid. Students may get physicals from their doctor as long as they use the GISD form. Please check this site for physical information <https://www.georgetownisd.org/Page/4618>

Staff: The GHS Band Staff is Mr. Justin Smith, smithj9@georgetownisd.org; Mr. Weston Scholten scholtenw@georgetownisd.org; Mr. Jed Leach leachj@georgetownisd.org; and Mr. Rick Scruggs scruggsr@georgetownisd.org Mr. Smith's number is 512-943-5100 x7184

www.gband.org

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