



**CATALYST COLOR GUARD
STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK**

2021-2022



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Catalyst Colorguard Officer Information

[Catalyst Colorguard Officers.pdf](#)

WELCOME TO CATALYST COLOR GUARD!!

On behalf of the Dawson High School Band and Catalyst Color Guard and the Dawson Band Booster organization, we extend a warm welcome to all Catalyst Color Guard Members. We are excited about your participation in DHS award winning Catalyst Color Guard! We pride ourselves in maintaining a strong presence not only in our local school community, but also on the national stage. This document is to provide you the rules, policies and expectations of the Catalyst Color Guard program and it is our goal that these guidelines be followed in their entirety.

Our **purpose** is to provide our students with a positive and supportive environment for which they can develop their musical, visual, and performance skills and to provide many educational opportunities for them to witness and experience. This will provide each student with the tools to be a life-long learner and connoisseur of the musical and visual arts.

We believe that as members of the Eagle Band and Catalyst Color Guard, **unity** will make us stronger and enable us to achieve heights beyond our own expectations. We truly know that T.E.A.M. means Together Everyone Achieves More! As a team we will learn together, improve together and grow together. This will ultimately create a culture rooted in dedication and support for our program and community.

Our students will develop the ability to **focus** on a goal or task so they can complete it with excellence. We believe that our students will develop pride in our program and themselves through the structure of focused attention and the reward of completing a task at the highest level.

With these attributes, we know that our students will be successful in marching season, winter guard season, and solo and ensemble and all performance opportunities, for which the students will participate. But more importantly, we know the Catalyst students will continue their success into the rest of their lives and whatever endeavors they chose to pursue.

We wish for all the success possible for your child in the DHS Eagle Band and Catalyst Color Guard.

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Director of Catalyst Colorguards

Aaron Brown
Director of Bands

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Assistant Band Director

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Assistant Band Director

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Handbook Goals/Objectives

The goals of this document is to set uniform guidelines and policies that focus on the proper implementation of membership requirements, tryouts, performance expectations, attendance, fundraisers and general rules. A Catalyst Member must abide by all guidelines and policies outlined in the Catalyst Handbook, Pearland Independent School District Student Handbook and Glenda Dawson High School Code of Conduct.

Philosophy / Purpose

Being a Catalyst Member is an honor and special privilege. Catalyst exists first and foremost to represent Dawson High School and consist of students in ninth through twelfth grade. Catalyst also exists to promote good sportsmanship, good citizenship, represent our school as an athletic and competitive fine arts unit specializing in color guard as an art form. This is fulfilled through competitive performance opportunities using equipment, props, dance, choreography and music to portray our art. Catalyst members should exemplify both individual and group behavior suitable to their position within the catalyst team (member/officer/etc.).

Members of this group have a fundamental responsibility to play a leadership role in building teamwork and helping the school achieve its goals and objectives. Because of these responsibilities, members are expected to maintain a higher standard of behavior both on and off campus and academic achievement than that of their peers.

OBJECTIVES

Catalyst members are expected to be physically and mentally skilled in learning and remembering routines with accuracy and technique at the standards set by the directors. They are also expected to be able to publicly demonstrate a skill level suitable for the team position and the timing necessary for group performance. Off the field, they are expected to act as “brand ambassador” of the Catalyst and Band program as well as all DHS programs through support, personal attitude and attendance at required events.

MEMBERSHIP

-  Prospective members must attend a mandatory tryout clinic and participate in the scheduled auditions before qualified judges.
-  Realizing the current dress code stipulates that tattoos may be covered to create compliance, this is impractical with dance and drill team performance because of physical demand and costume/uniform alteration requirements. Therefore, perspective members and members must not have tattoos that require special coverings, such as make-up, costumes or bandages to create compliance with the dress code or uniform requirement of the organization.
-  Members are expected to give their time to participate in required activities throughout the year. These activities may range from performances to fundraiser activities.
-  Members should communicate with the director regarding scheduling conflicts, in a timely fashion.
-  Members must attend all summer camps and prep work between the end and start of the school year to ensure a marching spot.
-  Members and their parents shall be aware of the responsibilities and the expenses of the organization.
-  Parents are expected to support the member in complying with all guidelines and policies of the school and the organization.
-  Membership for Catalyst Color Guard begins immediately upon notification of acceptance.
-  Members understand that there is a student chain of command. If a captain or officer is leading the group, they are to be respected at all times (no exceptions). When a director is not in the room, officers have full authority.
-  Members must adhere to all guidelines and policies in this handbook. Exception: For membership purposes, academic eligibility does not apply until the semester following the members' acceptance begins.
-  Members are to follow all school dress codes, and dress codes outlined in this handbook regarding rehearsals/football games/performances. Dress codes are important and are to be followed in their entirety.

CONDUCT GUIDELINES FOR BAND MEMBERS AND CATALYST COLOR GUARD

Note: Parents are expected to be aware of these guidelines and help reinforce them at all times.

***Students will follow all rules and policies stated in the PISD Student Handbook and Code of Conduct, as well as in the Dawson High School Student Handbook. This includes any time under supervision (including trips).**

<https://www.pearlandisd.org/dresscode>

1. Students will show respect for:
 -  All fellow students, directors, and volunteers.
 -  All property of Catalyst Color Guard and the Eagle Band, as well as that of fellow band students.
2. Students will follow instructions from directors, student leaders, and designated band chaperones.
 -  Instructions will be followed the FIRST time they are given.
 -  Students will not disrupt instruction at any time.
3. Students will be on time (which means early!) for all rehearsals, performances, and activities.
4. Students will have appropriate equipment, attire and supplies at all times.
5. Students will be prepared to contribute to rehearsals and performances by fulfilling individual practice obligations and working to improve their musical skills.
6. Students will have a positive and willing attitude.
7. Students will use appropriate language at all times.
8. Students will refrain from inappropriate public displays of affection as defined in PISD's Student Handbook and Code of Conduct.
9. Students will not lie, cheat, steal, vandalize school owned materials or tolerate anyone who does.
10. Students will not eat or drink in the Fine Arts Gym. Food, drink, and gum are not allowed in any rehearsal or performance area.
11. Students will follow all bus riding rules and travel policies set forth by Pearland ISD, as well as the Eagle Band and Catalyst Color Guard.
12. Students will follow instructions from directors, student leaders, and designated adult chaperones at all times. It is not the responsibility of the student to question the instructions given.
13. Students will be in their assigned rehearsal area ready to work at the set rehearsal times.
14. Students will be respectful and quiet in and around rehearsal spaces, at all times.
16. Students will not play on equipment they do not own or have permission from a director to use.
17. Students will not touch, handle, borrow, or use another students instrument, uniform, equipment or personal belongings.
18. Students will follow proper classroom etiquette, rehearsals are expected to be silent so everyone's time will be utilized wisely.
19. Students will keep their equipment in the designated storage area, this area is to remain clean and neat at all times.
20. Students will utilize their assigned storage locker for personal items/guard bags during rehearsals. Personal belongings are Not allowed to be stored in the colorguard equipment storage room. Bags should not be brought into rehearsal unless requested by a director. Locks are required to be used at all times.
21. Students will follow all PISD policies regarding drug and alcohol. No student shall possess, use, transmit, or attempt to possess, use or transmit, or be under the influence of drugs, tobacco, and/or alcohol on school premises or off school premises at a school related or band related activity, function, or event. The DHS Band Staff will contact school authorities and will contact local law enforcement immediately if any of the above items are found on any student for any reason.

Any behavior, which is not representative of good citizenship, as perceived by the band staff, may result in the student's dismissal from the band activity as well as permanent removal from the band program. This will be at the discretion of the band directors. This applies to the actions of all students and student leaders in both public and private events, as well as actions taken during and beyond the scheduled school day and rehearsal time.

SEVERE INFRACTIONS

It is our hope that we do not have to resort to the following list of guidelines, however it is in place for the protection of all students involved in this organization. We strive for good behavior, as that has a direct influence on student and program success. Students who demonstrate severe violations to the listed guidelines stated above will be subject to discipline by the administration of Dawson High School. Punishment may include permanent removal from the Eagle Band and Catalyst Color Guard program.

SEVERE INFRACTIONS – On PISD school grounds.

Students who demonstrate severe violations of the guidelines as stated above will be subject to discipline by the administration of Dawson High School. Punishment may include permanent removal from the Eagle Band and Catalyst Color Guard program.

SEVERE INFRACTIONS for Trips – Off PISD campuses (Also, see the Trips section in this handbook).

A student that violates the guidelines as stated above or causes any other disciplinary problem not stated above will be subject to disciplinary action by the Dawson High School Band Staff and School Administration. During the trip however, punishment may include but is not limited to:

- 🚩 Charter Bus/School Bus Detention Center – The student will be sent to a temporary detention center on the bus. There will be a specified amount of time (a minimum of one hour) that must be served while being supervised by an adult chaperone.
- 🚩 On-Location Detention Center – The student will be required to sit and be supervised by an adult chaperone at a pre-defined chaperone location for a minimum of one hour.
- 🚩 Students that refuse trip detention will be required to serve double or triple the time when we return to DHS the following week or may not be allowed to participate in scheduled activities for the remainder of the school year.
- 🚩 Like in school punishment, off campus disciplinary action may include school detention, ISS, or suspension for inappropriate behaviors when the student returns to school. A student may also be removed from the DHS Eagle Band and Catalyst Color Guard Program.

DEMERITS

Demerits are used for improper conduct. Demerits will not affect the student's grade, but will affect active status in the organization. Members are expected to maintain proper conduct during all practices and performances as well as outside Catalyst and DHS activities. Catalyst Members are ALWAYS Catalyst Members. This means that each student must conduct themselves as one at all time...twenty four hours a day seven days a week, twelve months a year.

All demerits issued will be in effect for a period of one year. (June through May). Please note that demerits are up to the discretion of the director. There can be demerits assigned that do not fall under any of the categories below. See chart:

Attendance and Tardies	Demerits
Unexcused absence from performance	Possible Dismissal
Unexcused absence from rehearsal or meeting	3 & Conditioning
Tardy to game, run through, roll call, or trip without phone call to director	2 & Conditioning
Tardy to game, run through, roll call, or trip with phone call to director	Conditioning
Tardies that result in a detention in any other class	1 Demerit
Tardy to rehearsal for any reason not excused at director's discretion	1 Demerit & Conditioning
Dress Out, Costumes	Demerits
Failure to wear proper uniform or uniform undergarments	1 per item
Chewing gum, eating, drinking, nail polish, jewelry in costume	1 per item infraction
Going out in public in uniform	1 per item

Make-up, costume, hair fixed, equipment, nail polished removed at roll call/inspection (not complete, etc.)	1 per item
Dirty Keds, Dress Suit or other specified group clothing	1 per item
Failure to pass inspection	1 per item
Incorrect dress for daily rehearsals to include clothing, hair and jewelry	1 or conditioning per Dir.
Conduct	Demerits
Public displays of affection	2-5 – director’s decision
Unsportsmanlike conduct	1-5
Un-lady like conduct in uniform, dress suit or in public at guard events	1-5
Profanity in public	3-5
Hickies	5
Body Piercings (i.e. nose, lip, tongue, eyebrow, belly button, ear spacers)	5 & Conditioning / Dismissal
Tattoos according to membership guidelines	Dismissal
Letting a non-member in the band hall/rehearsal facility without director approval	3
Failure to keep clean the following areas: guard room, dressing areas, performance areas, gyms, dance room, locker rooms, etc.	1 & Conditioning
Insubordination	Demerits
Talking back to an officer or Director	1 – 10
Failure to obey commands	3
Leaving practice early for any reason without permission	1-5
Skipping a rehearsal	5 & Conditioning
Failure to turn in fees, forms, or money on a due date	Conditioning
Talking or moving in formations	1 & Conditioning each time
Talking during rehearsals or when asked not to speak	1 & Conditioning each time
Talking to non-members during an on-going rehearsal	1 & Conditioning each time
Failure to respect any teacher, administrator or PISD staff member	1-10
N in conduct	2
U in conduct	3
Other	
Use of cell phone, ipod or other electronics when not permitted	5 & Conditioning & electronics turn in to office
Equipment needing repair must be done before rehearsal begins. It is recommended to be done daily before you leave. Rehearsal time will not be missed to repair equipment	Conditioning
Failure to comply with any of the above	Detention on director’s time frame.

Demerit Probation

-  Any member that accumulates 10 or more demerits will be placed on demerit probation.
-  Member must successfully complete the demerit probation form within one week without director or officers ‘chasing’ it down.
-  If a member reaches 15 demerits in one year, that member will automatically forfeit their membership on the team and will be dismissed from Catalyst.
-  Any member may only be on probation for one year.
-  Members on probation will sit out of performances at the director’s discretion.
-  A year lasts from June to May based upon the next summer camp start date.

Physical Conditioning

Physical conditioning may consist of any of the following assignments:

- ✘ 20 pushups
- ✘ 2-3 laps around football field or 4-8 laps around gym floor
- ✘ 2-4 passes of lunges
- ✘ Wall sit

Physical conditioning will be given for minor offenses to include, but not be limited to:

- ✘ Tardy to roll call with a phone call to the director
- ✘ Missing items at inspection
- ✘ Missing clothing at practice
- ✘ Hair not pulled up in pony tail
- ✘ Wearing Jewelry to class, rehearsal, or performances
- ✘ Minor conduct problems at directors discretion
- ✘ There may be conditioning assigned that does not fall under the categories above.

Members that fail to take care of their conditioning after practice work off double the amount the following day. Officers that fail to have a member work off their conditioning will condition with that member.

Dismissal from Catalyst Color Guard

These offenses may result in forfeiture of membership in Catalyst Color Guard. All decisions are by the directors and are final. Catalyst members are leaders and role models in PISD and must choose to behave accordingly.

- 🚩 Catalyst member who has been suspended or received an ISS or ALA assignment will forfeit membership. (Exception: a student may serve a one-day assignment for dress code or tardies...only one opportunity given each year).
- 🚩 Catalyst member who is on Scholastic Probation for two consecutive six weeks will forfeit their membership. This is defined as receiving a 69 or lower in at least one class.
- 🚩 Student found possessing, using, transmitting or to be under the influence of drugs, alcohol, etc while at school, in costume or Catalyst wardrobe, while representing the organization.
- 🚩 Smoking tobacco in any Catalyst clothing or while representing Catalyst or DHS.
- 🚩 Receiving 15 demerits.
- 🚩 Any member that receives an MIP, DUI, DWI, or other drug or alcohol related offense will automatically forfeit their membership.
- 🚩 Theft of team or individual property.
- 🚩 Hazing or initiation of any student by another student.
- 🚩 Members who have tattoos that require special coverings, such as make-up, costumes or bandages to create compliance with the dress code or uniform requirement of the organization automatically forfeit their position from the team.
- 🚩 Members who assault or harass directors or team members automatically forfeit their position on the team.

- 🚩 Members involved in creating, leading, or participating in an initiation process automatically forfeit their position on the team.
- 🚩 Any student unable to meet the physical requirements will not be allowed to participate as a team member and will automatically forfeit their position on the team.
- 🚩 Any offence not covered in this handbook, but which is clearly and logically an offence shall be declared appropriate for dismissal by the directors.

*****From time to time issues may arise that are not covered in this handbook. When such issues are behavioral and conduct based, the principal and directors may exercise disciplinary action in accordance with school district policies. Such behavioral and conduct offenses may lead to dismissal from the organization.**

Lockers, Guard Storage Room and Fine Arts Gym

Each member will be given a “Blue locker” in the band hallway and a locker in the Dance Room locker room, located in the fine arts hallway. Each member is responsible for keeping their locker clean and tidy, and locked. This is very important as our spaces are a direct reflection of our organization. There were many issues last year with students missing belongings, PISD is not responsible for any item that may be taken or misplaced from an “unlocked” locker.

Place all personal items inside of locker. Do not leave personal items on the floor in front of lockers or in unlocked lockers. The guard room is to store equipment and belongings too the color guard program only. It is not a personal storage room...please keep all personal items out of the guard room. Furthermore, if something is out of place in the guard room, it is expected that the member that notices it take care of it.

CATALYST CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Each catalyst member will participate in class, which serves as an extension of our rehearsal and training process. The director, and staff, will guide student performers to learn a vast variety of skills ranging from dance to designated areas of equipment use (flag, rifle, saber). All areas of the course requirements will be part of the grading systems.

The main areas of focus in this course are:

Equipment / Skills Testing

Form Design

Body/Movement / Skills Testing

Rehearsals

Performance

Exams

Equipment

Each student will have a given set of skills for each piece of equipment. These include but are not limited to:

Flag

Drop Spins
Cones
Flourishes
Pull Hits
Thumb Flips

Silk Toss
Prayer Toss
Pole Toss
Horizontal
45 toss

Rifle

Right hand spins
Left hand spins
Push Catch
Spin, Spin, Flat, Dip
Flourishes
Single
Double
Triple

Quad / Five / Six
Horizontal
Butt toss
Tip toss
Pull Hits
Carve toss
Toss from spins
Catches

Saber

Right hand spins
Left hand spins
Reverse Spins
Spin, Spin, Flat Dip
Single
Double
Triple
Quad / Five / Six

Horizontal
Flips
Hilt toss
Blade toss
Tip toss
Toss from spins
Catches

Form Design

The execution of the drill sets during marching season and the staging during winter guard.

Body / Movement

Attention
Feet positions
Port de bras
Ronde de jambe
Releve'
Tendu'
Plie'

Balance
Jazz walk
Jazz run
Sote'
Leaps / Jumps
Pirouette
Across the floor

Rehearsals

During football season, the guard will follow the same rehearsal schedule as the band. You can see that schedule at: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=d6vmvpfc9q8qnigharbmbplvv8@group.calendar.google.com> in addition to any handouts that may accompany the calendar. Please realize that the guard may have an adjusted schedule to accommodate the use of the field or a specific requirement. **Your flexibility is required and greatly appreciated.**

Post Fall Contest Season, the color guard will have a separate rehearsal schedule. That schedule will be dependent upon gym availability, contest schedule and other various activities. *Rehearsals begin when the last person arrives and is ready to rehearse.* **The full time allotted will be used starting when all are ready to begin. A parent or ride with another student does not excuse tardiness at any time. Again, your ability to be flexible is required and appreciated.**

Since after school practice is co-curricular, all students are required to attend and participate in all after school rehearsals to receive credit. Failure to attend rehearsals will result in a zero. Please do not schedule doctor's/dentist's appointments during after school rehearsals. There are days set aside for appointments, etc. Please refer to the calendar for specific days.

If an absence is pre-approved and excused, the student will be allowed to make up the time missed at rehearsal to earn credit for that assignment. An appropriate amount of time will be allowed to make up missed rehearsals predetermined by the directors. Any un-excused absence or non-pre-approved excused absence, (including appointments), is not eligible to make up missed rehearsal time to earn credit for the assignment, except in the case of extreme emergency. (Such as: death in the immediate family, hospitalization, etc.)

However, if a student misses a practice during a performance week (and that absence is not preapproved, or proper notice is not given) then the student will not be allowed to perform that week and may forfeit their performance spot for that season.

Dressing Out

Each day there is assigned clothing to be worn during practice. Dressing out appropriately is part of each member's daily participation grade. Additionally, each member's hair must be pulled back in to a tight pony tail or braided and should not be messed with during rehearsal. **No hair bows or decorative items may be utilized to hold hair in place. Additionally, no jewelry may be worn. Jewelry is defined as any type of earring, ring, necklace or bracelet including those made of ribbons, string and such.** This is out of safety for the student performers as it is likely and very possible for equipment to get caught, pulled or tangled, jeopardizing student safety. Individual rehearsal is required for each member to learn the skills required for any given show. Do not assume that any member will get enough 'practice' in rehearsal.

Electronics Use

Cell phones are a wonderful asset for each student and family. It allows strong communication opportunities between parents and students. However, during rehearsals (especially winter guard rehearsals), there will be no electronics in the rehearsal space. There is an exception during fall band and that is for the Ultimate Drill Book, which is only accessed on their phones. During this time students will only utilize the phone in action and will always need to remain stored in their fanny packs when not in direct use. Each student will be required to place their cell phones in their locker prior to the start of rehearsal. They will not be allowed to check their phones during rehearsal. Students should not be checking their phones for messages at every break as there is a lot of time

lost/wasted during our limited rehearsal time. Cell phones can also very easily cause distractions that can affect their rehearsal performance and growth, it is important that we maximize our time together. The students will pick up their electronic device after rehearsal and all items are picked up and put away. **There are no exceptions.**

All Catalyst rehearsals are closed to parents, family, friends, and guest unless specific permission is given by the directors. Please be on time to pick up your child outside of the band hall, or the Turner Campus, at the end of each rehearsal. Please allow your child fifteen minutes (15) after the posted ending time of rehearsal to pick up your child. Rehearsal starts when the last member arrives and ends after the time commitment has been realized. They will pick up and pack equipment after rehearsals. Your attention is greatly appreciated.

- 🚩 Tutoring should take place during non-rehearsal time. Mornings are recommended for days with after school rehearsal. It is recommended that students prepare their teachers for their arrival at all tutorials. Eagle hour is also a great time for tutoring and if an after school tutoring session is in conflict, students will need to reach out to the Director with enough advance notice for proper approval. If not student is responsible to make up the time lost.

Performances and Performance Rules

Performances are a **mandatory** part of the program. Note that there are no un-important rehearsals or performances. There is always the possibility of play-off games during football season that will require Catalyst to rehearse both football routines and winter season's competitive programs. Catalyst prepares the majority of our winter competition season's programming on weekend/holiday 'camp' type of rehearsals. These include the beginning of the Thanksgiving holidays as well as the beginning and end of the Christmas holidays and **Spring Break**. All students will have rehearsals over **Spring Break** toward the end of the week. It is customary for us to have competitions the weekend spring break begins and ends.

Performance Rules are not limited to, but will include the following: (directors reserve the right to create rules as needed for the safety, consistency and presentation of the organization.)

- 🚩 A member must be present at **ALL REHEARSALS** in order to perform.
- 🚩 Loss of a performance position may include but not be limited to: attendance, daily and performance appearances, lack of memory of routine, technique of skills required, projection, flexibility, coordination, strength and endurance. **No member is ever guaranteed to perform.**
- 🚩 The director makes the final decision on who will perform for any given performance. The director's decision is final.
- 🚩 If a member is absent or tardy to a rehearsal, performance or work session, the member is held responsible for all announcements and information given during the missed activity. The directors will not be responsible for getting information to each individual member that is not in class or at rehearsal on time.
- 🚩 Unless otherwise noted in the schedule, it is to be understood that each member will come to show/rehearsal or meeting place with their hair completed prior to loading the bus and departing for the event.
- 🚩 Before each performance, the guard will go through an inspection of all costumes, packing and equipment prior to departure. Failure to be prepared may result in loss of performance opportunities at the discretion of the directors.
- 🚩 If your absence is pre-approved and excused, the student will be allowed to make up the time missed at rehearsal to earn credit for that assignment. An appropriate amount of time will be allowed to make up missed rehearsals predetermined by the directors. Any un-excused absence or non pre-approved

excused absence is not eligible to make up missed rehearsal time to earn credit for the assignment, except in the case of extreme emergency. (Such as death in the immediate family, hospitalization, etc.)

- 🚩 Students and parents should not ask to miss any type of rehearsal or performance. Missing a performance will not be allowed and a skipped performance may set up your student for dismissal from the organization.
- 🚩 Tutoring ALWAYS should take place during non-rehearsal time.

***IMPORTANT NOTE TO PARENTS: While with the guard at games, performances and competition, your child is there to be part of the team. Visits from parents in the stands, on the buses, etc. are prohibited. If an emergency message needs to get to your student, then do this through the directors. There will be appropriate times for parent visits at many of our events, but not all of them. You and your student will be advised in advance of these opportunities. Please do not put your student in an uncomfortable situation by approaching them when they know you should not. Furthermore, public events and competitions are NOT the time to have a private discussion with any director.**

Exams

Each member will have examinations on skill sets, routines, and performance. Fine Arts, which includes, Catalyst Color Guard is a co-curricular activity. Each student earns grades for all after school rehearsals as well as in class assignments and participation.

Grading Policy

Catalyst members will be graded in two basic areas - daily grades and test grades. Daily grades are weighted 40% and test grades are weighted 60%. The director will add additional grading opportunities as the show/schedule permits. Here are some possible grading areas.

- 🚩 Participation Grade (daily grade). This is a weekly grade. Each week day is worth 20 points for a total of 100 for the week. Your grade is earned by the 4 A's (Attendance, Attire, Attitude, Approach).
- 🚩 Performance Grades (test grade). Each student has the ability to earn a test grade for participating in performances home run-throughs, assigned performance tests and a written exam each six weeks.
- 🚩 Weekly Exams (test grades). Skill exams will be given each six weeks.

Private Lesson Program

Private lessons are a **required** part of the Catalyst Color Guard program. This program provides a high quality enhancement to classroom instruction. Teachers are all specialists in color guard and/or dance. Lessons are extremely valuable to the individual student. All students are required to take individualized private instruction as it is the best way to make sure that you can be the most prepared. The first year of Catalyst is the most difficult as there are so many new skills to learn and these private lessons allow the student to focus on the exact skills they need to succeed.

- Students are required to attend 1 lesson or masterclass a month. This is one additional hour that is provided for specific student instruction. Students will be notified at the beginning of Summer Band what the 2021-2022 procedures will be on this.

***A Note on Self-Practice**

For each student to fully maximize their performance, Catalyst Color Guard requires individual practice of skills in all areas of color guard. It is understood by the member that self-practice is required for success. The directors reserve the right to require homework of self-practice if individuals or the team are not fulfilling their responsibilities. This homework will be performed for a grade.

ELIGIBILITY – NO PASS, NO PLAY

1. **All band and guard members must pass every class (subject) in order to be eligible for extra-curricular activities. This includes all football games, music contests, and performances that are of a competitive nature. If a member fails one (1) subject (below 70) he/she is ineligible for the following three weeks reporting period. (See PISD policy below for exempt classes.) This causes frustration, disappointment, and tends to lead toward discouragement in other areas. Please keep a close check on all grades and strive to maintain a good academic standing in all subject areas.** Students must be passing all classes at the end of the next three weeks to regain eligibility.
2. Activities not affected by eligibility rule include sectionals, rehearsals, and public performances not related to competitive events. **ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT THESE ACTIVITIES!**
3. A guard member desiring to audition for color guard officer must have and maintain an “S” in conduct in all classes. Failure to do so may result in loss of leadership position.
4. A guard member desiring to audition for color guard officer must have been eligible each six weeks for the entire school year prior to their audition.
5. If a student becomes ineligible during a period of a trip/competition, the parents understand that they are required to reimburse the Band Boosters and/or DHS for the cost of the entire trip. Grades, registration for the next school year and/or diploma will be held until the balance is paid in full. No exceptions.

THE PISD POLICY FOR NO PASS, NO PLAY

A student may NOT participate in any extracurricular activity if a grade lower than 70 is earned in any class at the end of the six-weeks reporting period. This student may continue to participate in all practices and preparations as determined necessary by the coach, director, or sponsor of the organization during this time of ineligibility. This student may regain full eligibility status to participate in the extracurricular activity if at the end of the designated 3 weeks period all grades in all classes are equal or greater than 70.

CATALYST POLICY FOR IN-ELIGIBILITY

If a student becomes in-eligible during the year, they may be removed from the current show performances, but will still be required to participate in all rehearsals, classes, etc. **If a student becomes in-eligible twice during the same school calendar year, they will be removed from the organization at the first opportunity.** Any member that would like to be considered for a weapons position must have been eligible at all times the previous year. If a weapon becomes ineligible during the year, they may be removed from the weapon line and may not be eligible for the weapon line. The director’s decision is final.

GRADE OF INCOMPLETE

A student with an “Incomplete” grade at the end of a grading period is ineligible at the end of the seven-day grace period unless the “Incomplete” was replaced with a passing grade prior to the end of the seven day grace period.

EXTRA CREDIT WORK

Extra credit work, or work (including re-test) turned in after the grading period or evaluation has ended may not be considered when determining a student’s eligibility for extracurricular activities except in the case of an “Incomplete” grade as noted above.

EAGLE BAND COURSE CREDIT

Members of the Dawson Eagle Band earn P.E. credit during the fall semester for marching band, and fine arts credit in the spring semester for concert band. The Texas Education Agency requires 24 credits for graduation from a Texas Public High School, including credits in both P.E. and Fine Arts. Students in band for four years at Dawson High School will earn two credits of P.E. and two credits of fine arts. Students enrolled in electives other than band have to find room in the schedule for P.E. and fine arts courses. On the other hand, students in the color guard will have room in their schedules for additional advanced courses of their own choice. One can easily see that those students in band who plan to attend college have a real advantage over those students not in band.

Attendance

-  Attendance and participation is required in all class periods, rehearsals, sectionals, clinics, and performances including marching competitions, winter guard competitions, (including all competitions affiliated with the WGI organization and the WGI World Championships), parades, special shows, summer camp and any other schedule performance. **All other activities must be scheduled at times other than class and rehearsals (i.e. lessons, tutoring, drivers-ed, doctor appointments, etc).** If a student is in school at any time of the day and misses class on the same day for appointments, then the student will have an unexcused absence.
-  Students who are academically ineligible must attend rehearsals, classes and other events as assigned by the director that are allowed by the no pass no play rule and PISD policies regarding this rule .
-  Refer to performance rules for additional information (see page 21).
-  Students are to use both the calendars handed out and the calendar that is set and posted by the directors on <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=catalystcolorguard%40gmail.com&ctz=America/Chicago> It is understood that Catalyst Color Guard members will have to be flexible as the calendar may change based upon circumstances surrounding performances, competitions, facility availability and required rehearsals to complete tasks. These adjustments will be provided with enough advance notice as possible.
-  If an absence is pre-approved and excused, the student will be allowed to make up the time missed at rehearsal to earn credit for that assignment. An appropriate amount of time will be allowed to make up missed rehearsals predetermined by the directors. Any un-excused absence or non-pre-approved excused absence is not eligible to make up missed rehearsal time to earn credit for the assignment, except in the case of extreme emergency. (Such as death in the family, hospitalization, etc.)

SUMMER BAND

The Eagle Band and Catalyst Color Guard hold rehearsals each summer before the beginning of the fall semester. The purpose of the rehearsals is to allow the band to adequately prepare for the upcoming marching season. This is also an important time for the students to meet and greet each other. In a group as large as the Eagle Band and Catalyst Color Guard, students need to have time to establish bonds of friendship and a strong work ethic. Students build a true “esprit de corps” during summer rehearsals. This relationship with each other and the group as a whole makes summer band the most important time of the year for the whole organization. No grades are assigned during summer band; however, these rehearsals are required to continue membership in Catalyst Color Guard; attendance

is checked and marching positions in the contest/competition show are assigned based on attendance, work habits and development of skills taught during the summer rehearsals. Students who miss all or part of summer band are immediately behind the rest of the group, and may battle the rest of the season just to “catch up” instead of striving to excel. In addition, they will likely not receive a performance position at the start of the marching band season. Generally, summer band begins at the end of July or beginning of August, regardless of the date for the beginning of the PISD school year. Parents wishing to see their child excel in the Catalyst organization should make travel and vacation plans with this schedule in mind. Check www.dawsonagleband.org for schedules and changes to the schedules.

CATALYST COLOR GUARD SUMMER CAMPS: *Mini Camp June 3 and 4, July Camp 20th-23rd*

Catalyst Color Guard has an annual June Camp the first week of summer. Our camp will be at Dawson HS so no travel or additional cost will be associated with this camp. Camp is required and part of the evaluation process of each student. If a student is allowed to miss color guard summer camp, (advance permission is required in very rare and special circumstances – twice in 7 years), the student will be significantly behind the rest of the organization and will not be eligible for a performance spot during marching season. There are also camps in July and August. See the calendar.

FOOTBALL GAMES, WINTER GUARD EVENTS

Catalyst Color Guard performs at **ALL** Dawson High School varsity football games (except scrimmages) The color guard not only performs its halftime show with pride and spirit, but also carries on the tradition of that pride and spirit in the stands.

HOME GAMES

Game Day Procedures will be distributed at the beginning of the school year.

AWAY GAMES

These are treated essentially the same as home games. The only difference is the time in which the student is to report to the DHS band hall. This assembly will vary depending upon the length of the trip to the game site. An itinerary will be issued prior to game day, which will give the assembly time and approximate time of return.

PARENTS, PLEASE BE ON TIME TO PICK UP YOUR CHILDREN. WE ARE SELDOM MORE THAN 20 MINUTES LATER THAN THE APPROXIMATE TIME OF ARRIVAL AS STATED ON THE ITINERARY. DIRECTOR COMMUNICATION WILL BE GIVEN ON EXACT HOME TIMES TO HELP ASSIST IN THIS MATTER.

We do not have control over the number of timeouts or penalties incurred during the football game. The directors feel very uncomfortable and cannot leave any student unattended at the band hall after everyone else has gone home. PLEASE help us out by being there to get your son/daughter as soon as possible.

Winter Guard Events

There will be specific schedules for each event given to the students and sent via email to all parents on the email list.

Public Etiquette

In public, each member is to remember that they represent Catalyst Color Guard, The Eagle Band Program, Dawson High School and Pearland ISD. Below is a guideline of expected behavior while in public and/or in costume.

We are an ensemble; a team; a group; a performing unit. We are public figures...and our community is going to be watching everything we do. These guidelines are in place for the benefit of the entire color guard. When we are a unit, we are not individuals. We must remember: perception is everything.

It is imperative that we are dressed appropriately and look as "one team". **Your hair must be correct before we leave for a performance and may not be taken down until you are instructed to do so by the director.** You need to make all arrangements on your own to make sure that you are dressed accordingly. Your directors or officers will let you know what to wear for school on spirit days, for travel, for shows and any other event that requires us to be seen as an ensemble. There are no excuses...do not let your team down. You should have more than one pair of Keds, extra rehearsal shirts, extra socks, etc. so you will not find yourself in a situation where you not appropriately dressed for any color guard rehearsal, function or event. Additionally, on show days, no colored fingernail or toe nail polish...clear is fine.

Only neutral bra and spanx may be worn with our Catalyst Spirit Tee on spirit days. No colored items of any kind will be permitted. Earrings may be worn (or provided) for these days. No other jewelry will be permitted while in spirit clothing. Additionally, only neutral colored bras with clear straps may be worn with costumes. Spanx and appropriate bra should be worn with costumes. Underwear may not be worn under costumes. Underwear creates lines in the body's form and interrupts view of the costumes. There are no exceptions.

When we are in public, please do not forget to use your southern charm and best manners. You never know who it is you may be speaking too...or who is watching you.

When walking around in costume, your hands are to be behind your back and your head held high with pride.

Stands Etiquette – We want every one of you to have FUN at the football games. However, we can't forget that we are there to support our school and football. We will assign you seating for the games. The color guard will sit in an area/seating pattern that will look nice and organized from all areas of the stadium. We always want to look awesome. Being in the stands is a form of performance in itself. You are to stay in your assigned seat in the rows that are required for us to look our best.

While in the stands, there are a few things that we must all do.

-  When the band plays the fight song, we will all stand and support our school...each and every time the song is played.
-  When cheering our team on, we need to do it with dignity and pride. We want to make sure our cheers are heard, but not interrupted as unruly.
-  When an officer or director asks you to sit and be quite, please do so immediately.
-  If an injury occurs to one of our player, the color guard will stand with hands behind the back until the player is removed from the field. This shows respect and pride.
-  We will stand for the Star Spangled Banner with our hand over our heart and face the flag. Our free hand will be by our side. We do not talk, look around or play around during the Star Spangled Banner.

- 🚩 Please just pay attention to your officers and directors if things change during a game.
- 🚩 We will not be going in and out of the stands. Once in the stands, we will be there to stay for the duration of the game. We will have designated rest room break before the game begins. No guard member is to go to the restroom alone. You will have a chaperone with you and travel as a group. Hands will be behind your back as you go from place to place.
- 🚩 Half Time Preparation, Performance, and Review – We will go down to warm up at the beginning of second quarter at every game where we perform. You will be given instructions prior to this time on the ‘order’ of warm up. (It will be different every week as our show grows).

Preparation - When we go down, your hands will be behind your back. You will be instructed by a director or officer on what equipment to pull out. You will NOT spin, toss or rehearse on your own. You will wait for the group as our time is VERY limited. You will get equipment and fall into the expanded block. We will face away from the field so we can prepare. Please block out ALL things going on around you as we have a show to do.

Performance – We will line up on the ready line when our time dictates that we do. We will fall in line with our feet at attention and our equipment in our hands. Head is up and we do NOT SPEAK A WORD to anyone....we do not look around...we focus in and do a mental review of our upcoming performance. Standing still is a skill that sets us apart from others. This is why we work so hard....so represent yourself and Catalyst professionally!

Review – After every show, you will gather your equipment and fall in line behind your officers. You will then ‘follow the leader’ to the designated location and follow into a circle and close feet at attention. You will wait for your director or officer to give review and instructions. After we return equipment to the bags/buckets, we will line up, (hands behind back) and go to our seating area.

- 🚩 Officers – officers are an extension of the director’s arm and authority. Please respect these people as they do many things to make your life easier in color guard. They will give you directions in rehearsals, when traveling, at shows, in the stands, etc. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Packing List for Performances (Example)

This list is a guide for your child to pack their materials for all performances. You should expect items to be added and deleted from the list as required by the event. Here are staple items...a specific list will be handed out prior to the first show.

You must wear CLEAR/GEL DEODORANT with all costumes

- | | |
|---|---|
| Band Aids | Make Up and Eye Lashes |
| Bobby Pins that match your hair (not barrettes) | Pony Tail Bands |
| Dance Paws | Q-tips |
| Dress Sweats | Safety Pins |
| Feminine products as needed | Show Shirts |
| Hair Products | Small Mirror |
| Hand Sanitizer | Spanx |
| Handy wipes | Appropriate under garments for all costumes |
| Black Keds | Dress travel suit |

Things that are NOT ALLOWED in your guard bag: (You may have these on the bus and on your ‘down time’ only). Cell Phone iPod Food Candy Gum

Catalyst, please pay attention: If a cell phone or iPod is found in use by an officer or director, your electronic device will be confiscated and not returned directly to you. Your parents will need to make an appointment to see me for the return of that item.

Equipment Responsibilities

Color guard equipment (flags, sabers, rifles, props, floor, etc.) as well as our other equipment (costumes, carts, electronics, etc.) is PISD property and is to be well-taken care of. Catalyst members agree to:

- 🚩 Roll flags when not using them and placing them on the floor
- 🚩 **Not allow anyone not in color guard to use or handle our equipment**
- 🚩 Be responsible for each item that is used by that member – take good care of it
- 🚩 If some piece of equipment needs repair, take care of it or report to officer or directors. All equipment repairs should be done before or after rehearsal. Do not put it off.
- 🚩 **Be responsible for any equipment taken off campus – making sure you have it for all classes, rehearsals, performances and competitions.**

TRAVEL GUIDELINES

BUS RULES

For each performance, the Eagle Band and Color Guard moves over 300 students, their instruments, and equipment. It is necessary that each student understands and abides by the rules to facilitate this enormous task in the safest, most efficient way possible.

1. Follow the PISD bus rules posted at the front of each bus and use common sense (pick up trash, do not sit in the aisles, do not stand while the bus is in motion, only sit two to a seat, etc.)
2. Upon arrival at destination, remain seated until the director or designated adult chaperon has given instructions.
3. Directors, drivers, and chaperones have the authority to assign seating to any student on the bus in the event of disciplinary problems or failure to abide by bus rules by any individual(s). If needed the entire bus convoy will stop to address the misconduct by any student. Please do not be the student that the entire convoy stops for.
4. Leave all buses clean of trash and personal belongings upon return. Each bus will have an assigned captain. The captain will check to see if the bus has been cleared of all trash. If not, the captain will select students to clean the bus. If selected, the students should work quickly and efficiently to maximize their time to complete the task successfully.
5. CD Players, iPods, and DVD players must be played with headphones on. If one person is allowed to play their music or DVD player loudly, so is everyone else, which becomes distracting to the rest of the bus. If needed, please plan ahead to bring necessary splitters to share with the person next to you. The district, school, directors and band boosters are not responsible in the event of loss or theft. The directors (not chaperone) will approve movies brought by students. Plan to bring both VHS tapes and DVD's (you never know what type of media the busses will have).
6. Use common sense. Do not sit in the aisles, sit more than two to a seat, stand while the bus in motion, etc. In addition, do not use flash photography during night time hours. This is a safety issues with the bus driver that can potentially cause an accident. Flash photography during daytime hours will be allowed.
7. Any traveling misconduct will be referred to the DHS Directors. Again, if needed, the entire bus convoy will stop to address any misconduct by any student. Please do not be the student that the entire convoy stops for.
8. Remember, have a positive attitude and we will always have a GREAT trip.

TRIPS

The Color Guard will attend performances/ competitions and educational events outside the Pearland area. This can be an overnight trip usually consisting of multiple nights. Each student is excused from classes for one (1 or 2) school day(s). Each academically eligible student (See no pass, no play for eligibility rules.) is required to participate on this trip if it will be a competition. **Any student will forfeit payments if not eligible.** If a student becomes ineligible during a period of a trip/competition, the parents understand that they are required to reimburse the Band Boosters and/or DHS for the cost of the entire trip for the individual student. Prior to the trip, an itinerary is made available to all members and parents,

which will give all pertinent information concerning the trip. Portions of the fundraising done throughout the year will be used to help offset the cost of trips. The cost of the trip is determined on a yearly basis.

The following is the PISD Trip Regulations for overnight trips taken by musical organizations. We will comply and enforce these regulations, as they are from the Pearland ISD Administration and approved by the PISD Board of Trustees.

1. There will be no boys in girls' floors/rooms or girls in boys' floors/rooms for any reason. **Any student violating this rule will be sent home.**
2. Students are not to be outside of their rooms after curfew unless accompanied by an adult chaperone. Students will be given a chaperone's telephone number to call in case of emergency. **Any student in violation of this policy will be sent home.**
3. The possession or use of any tobacco products, alcohol products, drugs, chemicals, inhalants or any other intoxicants or mood-altering drugs is prohibited. **For any student violating this policy, we will contact the local police department to file a police report, contact the student's parents, and the student will be sent home and referred to his/her campus administrator. The student will be removed from band or color guard.**
4. Students will turn in all medications to designated chaperone and/or nurse. No medications will be carried by students unless approved, according to PISD Student Code of Conduct.
5. Any property damage will be paid for by the student(s) involved.
6. Students are not to leave an assigned area for any reason or get into any vehicle other than school designated transportation.
7. Any student in violation of local or state laws will be turned over to the local law enforcement authorities. **If the student is returned to the organization, he/she will be sent home.**
8. **Any student, who excessively violates trip guidelines, will be sent home.**
9. Students will follow all policies set forth in the DHS Handbook and follow common sense and good judgment guidelines. **A student may be sent home for failure to use good judgment.**
10. Violation of any of the rules listed above may result in permanent removal from the DHS Band.
11. If a student must be sent home for any reason, the parent/guardian of the student agrees to pay the full cost of the student's return trip to Pearland, Texas. The parent/guardian of a student in violation of trip rules will provide appropriate information (credit card number, etc) to the school district personnel in order that appropriate return transportation may be purchased.
12. Dawson High School, the employees of Pearland ISD and the Dawson HS Band Boosters are not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

Additionally, if the directors feel your behavior falls outside of the list above, you will be sent home or held in detention as outlined in this handbook.

PROCEDURES FOR SENDING A STUDENT HOME FROM A TRIP

1. Director will call to obtain the schedule and cost for common carrier transportation (bus, airplane, etc.).
2. Student will make a collect call home to the parent or guardian. Prior to the student conversing with the parent/guardian, the director will inform the parent/guardian of their child's offense and that they are to be sent home.

3. Parent/guardian will be asked on which common carrier they would prefer their child to be placed for the trip home.
4. Parent/guardian will be informed of the time schedule and cost of the common carrier, which they will pay.
5. Parent/guardian may have the option of coming to pick up their child if they do not want their child to be sent home by common carrier.
6. Student will be immediately separated from the rest of the organization.

MEDICATIONS

If you are on any medications that will need to be administered during a full day event or on a trip, you are required to fill out the PISD “Authorization for Administration of Medications & Waiver/Indemnification From Liability During Overnight Field Trips” forms. They must be returned to the directors no later than three (3) days prior to the field trip. You will also need to provide a completed Field Trip Medication Form along with a self-administration waiver signed by parents and physician. These forms can be found on the dawsoneagleband.org website. If you have specific questions, please ask a director.

EXPENSES TO EXPECT/ITEMS REQUIRED

As with all extra-curricular activities, there will be expenses incurred with Catalyst Color Guard and the Eagle Band. Pearland ISD provides much of the funding for the Eagle Band and Catalyst Color Guard, as does the Band Booster Organization. However, there is a limit to these funds. Thus, there are a number of items that students/parents will be expected to provide for successful participation in the Catalyst. Most of the items to be purchased will be ordered on or before the end of June. New members are required to purchase all personal items the first year. There is no need to “repurchase” any of these items unless they need replacement. Returning members must have all items listed. If they have lost or damaged an item, a new one needs to be ordered. Returning members may order additional items if they would like more than one of any item. This will not include basic essentials for traveling to shows, personal monies for trips, etc. The following are some of the EXPECTED expenses for the school year.

ITEM	USE/DESCRIPTION	APPROXIMATE AMOUNT Includes shipping/Tax
Jazz Shoes	Used during marching season	\$30.00
Gloves	One Pair. You may order extra gloves if you like	\$17.00
Black Guard Bag	Official bag used all years	\$45.00
Show Shirts	One for marching season and one for winter season	\$30.00 Fall Band Shirt is \$12.00
Official Spirit Tee	Used on game days and to travel in	\$25.00
Blue Track Suit	Custom DHS Designed logo jacket and pants	\$130.00
ADDITIONAL ITEMS	PURCHASED ON YOUR OWN	
Ked's Tennis Shoes	Plain black Canvas (the simplest style) of Keds is the only approved shoe for events. They must be lace up with no color trim and black laces. Please plan to buy two pairs as they may wear out. NO EXCEPTIONS	Payless, Target, etc. Two pairs are recommended. (approx. \$15)
Undergarments	Females: leotard cut spanx or mid-thigh cut spanx Males: Dance Belt	Spanx.com Target

	You will also need underwear that will not ride up for rehearsals. NOTE: We do not wear underwear with our spanx under our costumes	Wal-Mart Dance Stores (approx. \$18)
Neutral Bra	Appropriate NEUTRAL COLOR BRA with CLEAR ADJUSTABLE STRAPS only. The best will be a bra with adjustable straps that allows halter, strappy, one arm, strapless, etc.	
Water Jug	Each student will need a 1-gallon water cooler to drink from at rehearsals. There is NO SHARING of containers for health reasons	Walmart, Target, Academy, etc.
Black Bag Supply Items	You will receive a specific list of items that need to be in your red bag each week.	Attached List
Trip / Other fees	Use/Description	APPROXIMATE AMOUNT
Tailgate Fee ANNUAL FEE	Fee for meals supplied before each football game and some competitions during this season.	\$150.00 each year
Solo/Ensemble Contest	Required for all students. Payment is due usually in April near the end of the coming school year.	\$15.00 or \$10.00 for each event per student
PISD Color Guard Fall Semester Fee ANNUAL FEE	Used for transportation, group entry fees, equipment, miscellaneous items, etc. All items become property of Catalyst Color Guard and DHS	\$200.00 for year
PISD Color Guard Spring Semester Fee ANNUAL FEE	“	\$200.00 for year
Trip Fees (In-state) *BOA San Antonio	This is usually a trip to Dallas or College Station for a regional event or State Championships. Each trip cost is determined by the actual trip and will differ.	\$250.00 (estimate)
WGI Trip**	This is a world championship in Dayton, Ohio. **Catalyst usually goes every OTHER year to Dayton, Ohio.	\$1000.00 (estimate)

Please note, that if your child has the privilege of being a Catalyst Color Guard Member, they are committed to the fees required for participation. All personal items and fee items are committed, ordered and spent before the end of May each year. **If your child leaves the organization, is removed for any reasons, or forfeits her position on the team, the full amount of the fee commitment is due.** *Students who quit mid season, and have signed a commitment form, will be charged for any uniform or equipment that was purchased for the student for the show. Your child may not be exempt from finals, may not be able to register the following school year and perhaps may not be able to graduate until all monies owed PISD are paid. Please do not take this commitment lightly.

***Please note that no refunds will be given.**

Fundraising

A large portion of our organizations expenses that are not personal in nature are raised funds by our students and our parent organization. Our two biggest fund-raisers are the Rock-A-Thon, and the Indoor Winterguard

Competition which is known as Take Flight. These funds help pay for contest entry fees, equipment, travel, housing, technicians, and other expenses as needed. (The guard fees do not cover everything that we need for the entire year).

Rock-A-Thon will begin as soon as we get our new guard selected. The Take Flight competition will normally take place in late January or early February. The Dawson Dash is in late January or early February.

Catalyst expects each member to 'do their part' in these fund-raisers. We will set goals for the team and for the individual. Each member of catalyst is expected to take part in collecting donations for Rock-A-Thon each year. Each Catalyst member is required to volunteer at Take Flight for the full day and are required to sell ad space in the competition program. These fundraisers are crucial to our organizations success and help us compete at the highest levels with reasonable fees. Please note: the Dawson Catalyst Colorguard competes at more competitions than any organization on the entire campus (up to 10 per year).

Every other year, Catalyst competes in the WGI World Championships; the price of the trip will usually be outlined by September/October. Each student will have the responsibility to raise funds to help pay for that trip. Our Rock-A-Thon, Take Flight Competition, Dawson Dash and the Silent Auction and Showcase are organization wide fundraisers. The directors will then determine how much or how little of that general fund will be applied to the over-all student and director trip costs. We will reduce each student's trip cost by the amount of money applied by the directors after the fund raisers.

****Please note: In 2017, due to the success of our fundraisers, we were able to reduce each girl's WGI trip cost by \$250.**

EARNING A LETTER JACKET IN COLOR GUARD

Please see Requirements on the District Website: <https://www.pearlandisd.org/Page/692>

S.A.T. / A.C.T. TESTING

The SAT and ACT College entrance exams are critical portions of a high school student's academic regiment. Much research has been done that proves that students studying music are much more successful at these exams than students not studying music. The testing agencies that administer these exams set the dates these tests will be given at least a year in advance and publicize these dates to allow students to plan. The band and color guard directors of Dawson High School understand the importance of these tests and encourage students to take these exams. The directors plan rehearsals and performances throughout the school year to allow students to take these exams at least twice in the year without a conflict. **It is the responsibility of the student and parent to make sure to sign up for these exams only on the days that have no scheduled event.** There will always be at least two dates per test, per year to choose from.

We encourage all of our students to participate in the Sunday testing that is provided by the SAT and ACT organizations.

DAWSON EAGLE BAND AND CATALYST COLOR GUARD BOOSTER ORGANIZATION

Dawson High School Band Boosters, Inc. is a non-profit organization providing support for the Eagle Band through volunteer service and financial assistance. To achieve this goal, it takes many dedicated volunteers all working together as a team throughout the year. The help of each band member's family is needed to provide the necessary support for a successful band program. Financial assistance is needed to cover items not typically included in the Pearland ISD budget. Each year (usually in May), the Booster Membership approves a budget which helps support such important items as:

-  Clinicians who train the students in the finer details of using their instrument and equipment and assist in improving the band's marching and concert skills
-  Fees associated with the drill writing
-  Entry fees to some contests
-  Transportation to some contests
-  Purchase of special music
-  Purchase of some guard equipment and supplies
-  Maintenance of equipment
-  Purchase of new equipment
-  Senior scholarship program
-  An End-of-the-Year Celebration Banquet

Catalyst Color Guard Website – www.DawsonEagleBand.com

Catalyst uses a website to keep parents and students informed of information and events. Please refer to it often. Some items found on the website include:

- Announcements
- Link to Band Calendar
- Pictures
- Email addresses for Directors and Booster Officers
- Forms

CHARMS - www.charmsoffice.com

An email will be sent detailing more about Charms once your child is selected for the team. This website will have all of your students' personal and financial information and you will be able to log in with the following info:

- dawsonband
- your student's PISD ID #

BANDAPP- www.band.us Invite code: <https://band.us/n/aea55dv2n6Q9E>

BandApp is a new resource that we started using during the 2019-2020. It is the best way for us to communicate with important documents as well as sharing joys, successes, photos, videos of performances etc. It is also used for updating our return times for events, offers private messaging options as well between student/teacher and parent/teacher. This app is intended to be used for Parent and Student communication.

CALENDAR

<https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=catalystcolorguard%40gmail.com&ctz=America/Chicago>

The Eagle Band uses a website to keep parents and students informed of information and events. Please refer to it often. Some items found on the website include:

- Announcements
- Link to Band Calendar
- Pictures
- Email addresses for Directors and Booster Officers
- Forms

Catalyst Committees

Catalyst has our own set of committees in addition to those of the DHS Band Boosters. Here are a few that are used each year:

Snack Packs

Winterguard floor and prop transportation

Costume care

Take Flight Contest:

- Take Flight Contest Director
- Concessions
- Advertising/Vendors
- Warm-Up Room
- Judge's Hospitality

CATALYST COLOR GUARD FORMS

2021-2022 School Year

The PDF provided has the following forms. All must be completed and on file before the student will be fully accepted as a catalyst colorguard member. Forms must be completed and turned in by Tuesday May 25th to ensure position on the 2021-2022 team. They can be emailed to the director or turned in at one of the May practices in person.

[Catalyst Forms 21.22.pdf](#)

-  Student / Parent Profile Form – completely filled out
-  Medical Release Form
-  UIL Student / Parent Marching Band Acknowledgment
-  Band and Catalyst Trip Permission Form
-  Photo/Video Release Form
-  Social Media Contract
-  Catalyst Color Guard Fees Form
-  Private Lesson/Masterclass Agreement Form
-  Payment Options
-  Commitment Form

Student Physicals: In order to participate in any guard rehearsal a student must have a school physical on file, this is in compliance with UIL. Please go to the following link to attain your physical:

<https://www.pearlandisd.org/Page/14416>