

Glenda Dawson High School
Band Boosters *presents the*

2026-2027 Parent Resource

Flight Guide

DAWSON EAGLE BAND

DAWSON CATALYST GUARD

Updated September 25, 2026

DAWSON BAND BOOSTERS *Parent Flight Guide*

Congratulations! You are a Band Parent!

Welcome to the Dawson Eagle Band and Catalyst Guard family. Your student is beginning a busy, challenging, and rewarding experience. As a band parent, your support matters. You are your student's biggest fan, encourager, and helper throughout the season. Band will be a big part of your student's high school experience. The more you learn, volunteer, and show up, the more connected you and your student will feel.

Dawson High School Band Boosters
P.O. Box 84134, Pearland, Texas 77584
Website: dawsoneagleband.com

Facebook *public page* — Dawson Eagle Band: facebook.com/dawsonhsband
Facebook *private group (parents only)* — Dawson Band Boosters: facebook.com/groups/dawsonbandboosters
Instagram — Dawson Eagle Band: **@dhseagleband**

Dawson High School Band Boosters, Inc. is registered as a 501 (c) (3) organization. Tax ID 208914457

Communication

We will use various forms of communications. Marching band season has a lot of moving parts, therefore parents will need to stay informed in these ways:

1. **Weekly Snapshot -** Mr. Brown sends out an agenda for each week through CutTime and posted in the Band App. These will keep you up to date on rehearsal times, call times, etc. These are sometimes sent Tuesday/ Wednesday to finalize weekend times.

2. **Band App** - The directors use the BAND app to send quick, concise text messages to the entire band family (students & parents). Please download and set up an account.
   - Download the free app:
     - Apple App Store
     - Google Play Store

   - You will join 2 Band Groups:
     - Dawson Eagle Band group (Parents & Students)
     - Dawson Band & CG Parents (where anything parents need to know will be posted)

3. **CutTime -** The directors will send a signup to CutTime (please contact Mr. McCray if you have NOT received an invite to this). CutTime is an integral part of the communication process.
   - You will receive an invite from the directors to join.
   - LOGIN as a GUARDIAN with your phone number.
   - You can pay your BAND FEES, verify information, and view various things.
   - Update personal contact information for you and your student each year.

4. **Google Calender -** The directors update the Band Google Calendar to reflect practice, game, and contest schedules. There is a Master Band Calendar all bands use through Marching Season and then individual band Google calendars for Spring Concert Season. All band calendars can be access on our the Dawson Band Website.
   - Click here for the Master Band Calendar

Fees and Required Purchases

Band fees and required purchases are handled in two places:

- **CutTime, managed by the band directors**
- **Zeffy, managed by the Dawson Band Boosters**

Families should review both areas carefully. Some fees are assigned by the directors in CutTime, while other required items are purchased through the Band Booster Zeffy links.

Step 1: CutTime Fees

CutTime fees are added by the band directors. These fees are usually added to student accounts in June and can be paid between June and Band Registration in July/August. Questions about CutTime fees should be directed to a band director.

CutTime Fees for All Band Students:

$ 200 — PISD Fine Arts District Fee
$ 150 — Marching show uniform/hat wrap ($115 for front ensemble)
$ 20 — Ultimate Drill Book
$ 18 — 2026 Show Shirt
$ 16 — Gloves *(brass & woodwind players)*
$ 20 — Region Band Entry Fee *(Wind Ensemble & Symphonic)*
$ 10 — Solo Contest Fee
$ 60 — Marching Shoes *(or those who need shoe upgrade)*
$ 20 — 9th grade Region Band Fee *(Wind Ensemble, Symphonic & Concert)*

Additional Travel Fees for BOA San Antonio sent through Perform America

$ TBD— BOA San Antonio Fee (~$90-$300, depends on timing) will be sent by directors at a later date.

Additonal for Percussion

$ 40 — Percussion Supplies Fee
$ 60 — PISD Fall Instrument Repair Fee
$ 60 — PISD Spring Instrument Repair Fee

Additional for School-Owned Instruments...

$ 60 — PISD Fall Instrument Repair Fee
$ 60 — PISD Spring Instrument Repair Fee

Additonal for Catalyst Guard... *see Guard Handbook*

Step 2: Required Band Booster Purchases Through Zeffy

In addition to CutTime fees, families must also complete required Band Booster purchases through Zeffy.

These purchases cover items and services provided by the Dawson Band Boosters, including meals, uniform-related items, and student supplies.

Families will check out through the correct Zeffy link:

- Freshman/9th Grade Zeffy Link
- 10th–12th Grade Zeffy Link

Required Booster Purchases include:

$ 265 — Tailgate Fee *Covers meals for game days and contest days. Tailgate meals help make sure students are fed during long game and competition days.*
$ 11 — Band Uniform Cleaning
$ 23 — Water Jug Tote *(all incoming students or those needing a replacement)*

Required Reds, Blacks, and Tank Purchases

Students need Reds and Blacks for marching season. These are worn for practices and under the marching uniform. Families are encouraged to buy **two sets** because students may have a football game on Friday and a contest on Saturday.

Reds & Blacks + Tanks

$ 12.00 — Reds (shirt)
$ 13.50 — Blacks (shorts)
$ 13.00 — Black tank top to wear under show uniform

Purchasing Guide for New Band Parents

This guide shows what students need for each part of the band year. Some items are included in CutTime fees, some are purchased through the Band Booster Zeffy link, and some are purchased by families on their own.

ITEMS

Required Marching Season Items...

Purchased by You:	**Where to Purchase:**
Flip folder/extra pages	Purchase through Music & Arts or Amazon
Lyre (only woodwinds or if directed)	Purchase through Music & Arts or Amazon
1-gallon water jug (any color, any brand, e.g Coleman/Igloo)	Purchase at Lowes, Walmart or Amazon
Neck strap (if directed)	Purchase through Music & Arts or Amazon
Solid Black long socks (without logo or any heel colors)	Purchase Walmart, Target, or Amazon
Included in your CutTime Fees:	
Marching Gloves	Included in CutTime Fees
Marching Shoes	Included in CutTime Fees
Ultimate Drill Book	Included in CutTime Fees
Show Shirt	Included in CutTime Fees
Purchased through Booster Zeffy Fees:	
"Reds & Blacks" - practice shirt/shorts	Included in Zeffy Fees
Dawson Eagle Band water jug sling/tote	Included in Zeffy Fees
Under-uniform Black Sleeveless Tank	Included in Zeffy Fees
Optional Items:	
Yard sign	Purchase through Zeffy Link
Band Yearbook	Purchase through Band Booster Website (Treering)
Extra practice gear (Shirts/Shorts etc)	Purchase through Zeffy Link/Spirit Wear/Crafty Pear

*** Percussion may have different dress requirements*

ITEMS

Required Concert Season Items...

Provided by You	
White collared tux shirt (If wearing Tuxedo)	Purchase through Band Booster Club
Solid Black Dress Socks (If wearing Tuxedo)	Purchase Walmart, Target, or Amazon
Solid Black Dress Hose (If wearing Dress)	Purchase Walmart, Target, or Amazon
Black closed-toe flat dress shoes (NOT marching shoes or heels allowed)	Purchase Walmart, Target, or Amazon
Provided by Band	
Tuxedo Pants	Provided by Band
Tuxedo Jacket	Provided by Band
Cumberbund & Bowtie	Provided by Band
Formal Dress	Provided by Band

Dawson Eagle Band Calendar

Summer Band Dates

PERCUSSION CAMP
May 26-29, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
July 20-22, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

CATALYST GUARD CAMP:
June 22, 24, 29th, 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.
July 1, 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.
July 20-22, 9 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

PHYSICALS DUE: July 20

NEW MEMBER MARCHING:
July 22, 7:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.

MARCHING BAND CAMP *(Full Band):*
July 23-24, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
July 27-31, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Aug 3 - 7, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Aug 8, 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Aug 10-14, 4:30 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.
Aug 17, 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

PARENT PERFORMANCE:
Monday, August 17, 7:30 p.m.



Band Registration Day – Saturday, July 25th - 8:30am-11:30am

- Pay band fees on CutTime
- Background check if going to volunteer
- Complete and turn in any forms
- Join Dawson Band Boosters
- Chaperone/Volunteer sign up
- Pick up ordered Band Booster items

(yard signs, reds & blacks, black tank, decals, etc.)

Rock-A-Thon Fundraiser Kick-off - Tuesday, August 4 from **3:30-4:30pm**

Rock-A-Thon Overnight Lock-in – Friday, July 31st from **7:00pm-3:00am**

Booster Club Meeting - Monday, August 17- 7:00pm

School Starts – Wednesday, August 19th.

Saturday Rehersals
August 22, 8 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Saturday Rehearsals @ PISD Stadium: August 29, Sept. 19

TYPICAL AFTER SCHOOL MARCHING PRACTICE SCHEDULE

WINDS/PERCUSSION After School Practice Schedule

Monday	Percussion only 4:00 – 7:00 p.m, *(stay after school)*
Tuesday	Winds Only 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. *(stay after school)*
Wednesday	Full Band 4:00 – 6:15 p.m. *(stay after school)*
Thursday	Full Band 4:00 – 6:15 p.m. *(stay after school)*
Friday	GAME DAY *(stay after school, dinner, bused to/from game)*

*** Watch for Weekly Snapshots for adjustments to the weekly schedules when GAME DAY is on Thursday or Saturday ****

CATALYST GUARD After School Practice Schedule

Monday	3:15 – 6:15 p.m. *(stay after school)*
Tuesday	No Rehearsal
Wednesday	4:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	3:15 – 5:45 p.m. *(stay after school)*
Friday	GAME DAY *(stay after school, dinner, bused to/from game)*

Marching Contests *(*must qualify)*

October 3	Bands of America — Iowa Colony
October 10	Lone Star Preview — Woodforest Stadium
October 17	UIL Region Marching Contest — Channelview
October 31	UIL Area Marching Contest*
TBD	Community Showcase Performance
November 6-7	Bands of America Super Regional, Alamodome in San Antonio
November 9-10	UIL State Marching Contest*, Alamodome in San Antonio

Dawson Eagle Football Schedule

The Dawson Eagle Band performs at all varsity games starting August 28th. Our football team usually makes it at least a round or two more into playoff games. Visit the Dawson Football website to view their game schedule.

Dawson Eagle Band Directors



Aaron Brown
Director of Bands
(Wind Ensemble)
brownr@pearlandisd.org



Emmy Hedden
Assistant Band Director
(Symphonic Band)
heddene@pearlandisd.org



Dominique McCray
Assistant Band Director
(Concert Band)
mccrayd@pearlandisd.org



Josh Hartwell
Assistant Band Director
(Percussion & Cadet Band)
hartwellj@pearlandisd.org

Catalyst Color Guard Director

What to Expect Month By Month

JULY/AUGUST - Season kickoff and marching preparation.
Summer Band rehearsals - Start July 23rd
Band Registration - July 25th
Chaperone Meeting - August 13th
Summer Band Picture Day
Rock-a-thon kickoff and fundraiser - July 31st
Parent Meeting
Parent Performance - Aug. 17th
Water Wars and Lot Party
Sewing Day for uniforms
First Day of School - Aug. 19th
Saturday Rehearsal - Aug 22nd
Booster General Meeting

SEPTEMBER - Full marching season begins.
Full Ensemble rehearsals
Clinician rehearsals
Football Games (home and away)
- Elkins (Away Game) - Sept 4th
- Alvin - 8th Grade Night (Home Game) - Sept 11th
- Pearland (Visitors at The Nest) - Sept. 18th
- Rayburn Homecoming performance (Home game) - Sept 25th
- Shadow Creek (Away Game) - Sept 26th

Spirit Night fundraiser
Region Jazz auditions

OCTOBER- Major contest season.
Bands of America Contest (Iowa Colony) - Oct 3rd
Lone Star Preview Contest - Oct 10th
UIL Region Marching Contest - Oct 17th
UIL Area Marching Contest - Oct 31st
Football Games (home and away)
- Shadow Creek (Away Game) - Oct 2nd
- Brazoswood (Pink out) (Home Game) - Oct 9th
- Dobie (Away Game) - Oct 15th
- BYE WEEK - Oct 23rd
- Memorial - Senior Night (Home Game) - Oct 30th

Spirit Night fundraiser

NOVEMBER - Marching season finale and transition to concert band.
Parent & Community Show/ State Send-Off - TBD
Football Games (home and away)
- Manvel (Away Game) - Nov 6th

UIL State Marching Contest - Nov 9-10th
Bands of America contest - Nov 6-7th
Football playoff games **must qualify*
Concert uniform fittings
Freshman Region auditions

DECEMBER - Concert season and region band events.
Fall Band Auditions
Region Band Auditions - December 5-6
City of Pearland Hometown Christmas Parade
Dawson Winter Concert - December 10th
Holiday Party
UIL Solo submission deadlines

JANUARY - Auditions and winter contest season begins.
Area Band Auditions - January 10th
Region Orchestra rehearsals
Region Orchestra Clinic and Concert
Freshman Region and Jazz Clinic
Solo and Ensemble preparation
Booster General Meeting
Drum Club rehearsals
Take Flight Winter Guard Contest

FEBRUARY - Solo and ensemble focus.
Solo rehearsal schedules
TMEA convention - February 10-13th
UIL Solo and Ensemle Contest - February 21st
Cadet and Prep Band solo contest
Spring Trip meeting
All-State student recognitio

MARCH - UIL preparation.
Spring Break
Pre-UIL Clinic - March 19-20th
Pre-UIL Concert - March 24th
Bingo Night fundraiser
Drum Club rehearsals

APRIL - Concert UIL and guard championships.
UIL Concert and Sightreading - Non-Varsity April 7-8th
UIL Concert and Sightreading - Varsity April 15th
Guard Friends and Family performance
TCGC State Championships (AA and Varsity Guard)
Band Banquet
Percussion Ensemble concert
Shadow Creek Music Festival
Spring Camp - April 19th - 23rd
Drum Major auditions

MAY - Year finale.
Spring Concert - May 6th
Wind Ensemble performance at University of Houston
Dawson Graduation
Last Day of School
Percussion May Camp









Welcome

Welcome to the whirlwind of being a part of the Dawson Eagle Band and Catalyst Guard! Your enthusiastic support and active participation is wanted, expected, and very much appreciated — especially by your own student! There's a lot to know about marching season. In this Parent Flight Guide, some "seasoned" parents (aka Band Booster officers) have attempted to highlight what we think will help you, as a parent, have a fun-filled, rather than stressful, band experience. Band is much more than just a class elective for your student... with over 300 members, the Dawson Eagle Band is THE largest student organization at Glenda Dawson High School and is filled with the best Eagle spirit and pride.

Band is about learning, teamwork, commitment, time management, forging friendships, and fun. Take pride in the effort your student will be expending to be a part of their Dawson Band family. Respect and encourage your student and other students by taking an active role in supporting the organization. Every family should commit to this support by: Volunteering at games and fundraising activities. Volunteering to assist in a support role that interests you. Being there at performance time whether it's in our beautiful Dawson auditorium concert hall or at a football game on a hot, humid OR cold, drizzly OR perfect fall temp Friday night — our Dawson Band Booster parents are ALWAYS there together and having the best time! Our Dawson Eagle Band Parent Flight Guide may not have all the answers you seek, so be sure that you familiarize yourself with the Official Band Handbook issued by the Directors. Consider ours a serious yet lighthearted attempt to make your family's Dawson Eagle Band & Catalyst Guard experience more enjoyable.

Go BAND and go CATALYST!!!
Terryl Winter
Dawson Band Boosters President, 2026-2027
dawsonbandboosterspresident@gmail.com



2026-2027 Dawson High School Band Boosters Elected Officers

President	Terryl Winter
Vice Presidents	Toni Sherrill, *Fundraising* Treysi Isabel, *Catalyst Color Guard* Binita Patel, *Procurement* Michael Potase, *Prop Crew* Anjili Sabharwal, *Marching* Kila Savoy, *Marketing* Nick Hallmark, *Pit Crew*
Secretary	Kristen Gates
Treasurer	Holly Tatuaca

See page 9 for the full list of 2026-2027 Dawson Band Boosters board AND current chair openings.

Shop Kroger for Dawson!
Link your Kroger Shopper's Card at
kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards
to **"Dawson High School Band"** for every purchase to support the Dawson Eagle Band!

Purchase Your Gift Cards Here!
Download the Raise Right App and help the band raise money with your purchase of gift cards. Hundreds of different brands! Everything from retail, gas, travel, and groceries. A donation for the band with your purchase!
https://www.raiseright.com/enroll?enrollCode=ETGJQM7GK2PX

Dawson High School Band Boosters
P.O. Box 84134
Pearland, Texas 77584
Website: dawsoneagleband.com

facebook.com/groups/dawsonbandboosters
Instagram: **dawsonbandboosters**
Email: dawsonbandboosterspresident@gmail.com

Dawson High School Band Boosters

The Dawson High School Band Boosters support the Dawson Eagle Band through fundraising, volunteer service, and parent communication. A strong band program takes support from many families. Booster volunteers help feed students, prepare uniforms, chaperone events, move equipment, build props, support fundraisers, and help the directors keep events running smoothly. If your student is new to band, this is a great way to meet other parents, learn how the program works, and support your student during their high school band experience.

Who? What? When? Where? Dawson Band Boosters!



What is Band Boosters?

Dawson High School Band Boosters is a nonprofit organization that supports the Dawson Eagle Band through volunteer service and financial support. Dawson High School Band Boosters, Inc. is registered as a 501(c)(3) organization.

What does Dawson Band Boosters do?

The Boosters help cover costs and provide support that are not fully funded through Pearland ISD.

Booster funds help support:

- Guest clinicians
- Drill writing
- Contest entry fees
- Contest transportation
- Color guard equipment and supplies
- Equipment maintenance and replacement
- Competition day snacks and water
- Senior scholarships
- Band Banquet

Booster volunteers also help with:

- Uniforms
- Tailgate meals
- Chaperoning
- Equipment trucks
- Props
- Fundraisers
- Event support
- Communication with families

Fundraisers and Sponsorships

Most Booster funds come from membership dues, donations, fundraising events, and corporate sponsorships. Donors and sponsors may be recognized in football programs, concert programs, the 18-wheeler, and other band materials, depending on sponsorship level. In-kind donations are also welcome.

Membership

Families are encouraged to join Dawson Band Boosters each year. Membership helps support the full band program and gives families a direct way to stay involved. Families may also choose upgraded membership levels for additional perks. Details about membership levels, benefits, and deadlines are shared during registration and can be viewed online at the Dawson Band Booster Website.

Volunteer Requirements

Complete the Annual PISD Background Check starting in July.

As required by Pearland ISD, a background check must be performed on every person that will be volunteering and chaperoning with the band or color guard. Complete the Annual Pearland ISD Volunteer Application/ Background Check by following these steps to added to our approved band volunteer list:

- Complete and submit the Pearland ISD Volunteer Application: https://www.pearlandisd.org/departments/hrs/volunteers-chaperones.
- Once you have been approved as a Pearland ISD volunteer, you will receive a confirmation email from the district. Sometimes this email may go into spam folders, so be sure to also check them. Forward your confirmation email to dhsbbvolunteers@gmail.com. Your name will be added to our approved band volunteer list.
- Pearland ISD employees are not required to fill out this form and may send an email to dhsbbvolunteers@gmail.com confirming you are an employee.

This process may take several weeks so we recommend that you go ahead and seek approval early on. To see a list of all Booster Committees and Chairs, visit the Dawson Booster Band Website.

Dawson High School Band Boosters

DAWSON BAND BOOSTERS	Elected Officers 2026-2027	
President	Terryl Winter	281-703-2496, dawsonbandboosterspresident@gmail.com
Vice President — Marching Season *(chaperones, tailgating & uniforms)*	Anjili Sabharwal	281-687-7885, dawsonbandboostersmarching@gmail.com
Vice President — Pit Crew	Nick Hallmark	205-789-9169, dawsonbandpitcrew@gmail.com
Vice President — Props Crew	Michael Potase	713-598-2245, mpotase@yahoo.com
Vice President — Catalyst Color Guard	Treysi Isabel	281-221-4036, dawsonbandboosterscolorguard@gmail.com
Vice President — Marketing	Kila Savoy	281-455-5192, dawsonbandmarketing@gmail.com
Vice President — Fundraising	Toni Sherrill	281-701-7600, dawsonbandboostersfundraising@gmail.com
Vice President — Procurement	Binita Patel	262-391-9415, dhsbbprocurement@gmail.com
Secretary	Kristen Gates	281-450-9617, dawsonbandboosterssecretary@gmail.com
Treasurer	Holly Tatuaca	dawsonbandboosterstreasurer@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE	CHAIR	CONTACT
Marching Season Volunteers...		
Chaperones	Fred Kho Jennifer Sherman & Scott Swafford	713-231-7649, dhsbbchaperone@gmail.com J=979-574-4499, S=281-772-5195
Tailgate — Competitions	Becca King **Open Position**	713-829-6340, rmking27@gmail.com dhsbbcomptailgate@gmail.com
Tailgate — Game Days	Trey & Maritelle Gounah	281-222-2320, dhsbbtailgate@gmail.com
Seat Covers (football games)	Kelly Sarafin-Terry	832-798-6367, dhsbbseatcovers@gmail.com
Snack Bags	Melinda Mendoza-Scott	832-496-6088, dhsbbsnacks@gmail.com
Uniforms - Marching Season	Rhiana Potase Jennifer Haskins Toni Sherrill	281-433-7272, dawsonbanduniform@gmail.com 714-334-7275, dawsonbanduniform@gmail.com 281-701-7600, dawsonbanduniform@gmail.com
Events...		
Rock-A-Thon (July/Aug)	Terryl Winter	281-703-2496, dawsonbandboosterspresident@gmail.com
Take Flight (Feb TBA)	Treysi Isabel Melinda Mendoza-Scott	832-496-6088, dawsonbandboosterscolorguard@gmail.com 832-496-6088, mcmendoza01@yahoo.com
Bingo Night (April TBA) Solo/Ensemble Concessions (Feb. 21)	Melinda Mendoza-Scott Toni Sherrill Kaki York-Ward	832-496-6088, mcmendoza01@yahoo.com 281-701-7600, dawsonbandboostersfundraising@gmail.com 281-299-4536, kyorkward@outlook.com
Band Banquet (Spring TBA)	Trey & Maritelle Gounah	281-222-2320, dhsbbtailgate@gmail.com
Car Wash (August TBA)	**Open Position**	
Programs & More...		
Corporate Sponsorships	Grant King	DHSBBsponsors@gmail.com
Membership	Meghan Minard	DHSBBmembership@gmail.com
Alumni Program	Toni Sherrill	281-701-7600, million0402@yahoo.com
Media/Photography	Stephanie Boehm	281-513-6311, dhsbandmedia@gmail.com
Spirit Nights (monthly)	Li Ma	DHSBBspiritnight@gmail.com
Senior Scholarships (Spring 2027)	Marian Gilbert	713-412-9879, mlgilbert@live.com
Spirit Wear	Terryl Winter	281-703-2496, twinter21@gmail.com
Uniforms — Concert Season	Rhiana Potase Amber Chundrigar	281-433-7272, dawsonbanduniform@gmail.com 330-881-5684, dawsonbanduniform@gmail.com
Yard Signs	Carrie Cummings	936-520-6845, cbcummings76@gmail.com

Summer Band: What to Expect

Band Placement and Auditions

Auditions are held in late spring for high school concert band placement. A second audition is usually held in late fall for students who may be ready to move up.

Dawson currently has five bands:

- Prep Band
- Cadet Band
- Concert Band
- Symphonic Band
- Wind Ensemble

Marching Fundamentals Camp

Incoming freshmen attend a marching fundamentals camp in May. During this camp, students learn:

- Basic marching steps
- How to play while standing or moving
- Dawson band expectations and routines
- How to work within their section

This camp also gives freshmen a chance to meet older students and learn skills they can practice over the summer.

Summer Band Camp

Summer band camp begins during the last week of July. Attendance is mandatory.

Some groups, including color guard, percussion, and student leaders, may also have additional weeklong camps in May and/or July. Some sections may schedule summer sectionals to begin learning show music.

During the first weeks of camp, students usually complete:

- Uniform fittings
- Individual portraits in band uniforms
- Marching practice
- Music rehearsals
- Sectionals

Camp schedules may vary, but students should expect full-day rehearsals with a built-in lunch break. Students stay on campus and should bring lunch from home.

What Students Should Bring

Students should come prepared for long days in the Texas heat. Bring/wear each day:

- A full gallon water jug with the student's name on it
- Lunch from home
- Snacks
- Sunscreen
- Lip balm with sunscreen
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Cooling towel
- Wear comfortable athletic clothing
- Wear supportive tennis shoes or sneakers

Students should not wear jeans, flat shoes, sandals, Crocs, or shoes without support.



Summer Band: What to Expect Continued...

What to Wear
Students should dress for heat, movement, and comfort.

Recommended clothing:

- Athletic shorts or non-cotton shorts
- T-shirts or tank tops
- Comfortable, heat-appropriate clothing
- Hair pulled back for students with long hair
- Supportive tennis shoes

Please avoid clothing that is too short or difficult to move in.

Food and Hydration Tips
Hydration is one of the most important parts of summer band. Students should bring a full gallon jug of ice water every day. Many water jugs look alike, so write the student's name or initials on the jug.

*Helpful tip: Instead of using regular ice cubes, freeze large cups of water to make ice blocks. They melt more slowly and help keep water cold longer.

Students should also eat breakfast before rehearsal. A good breakfast includes protein, fruit, and a carb. Heavy, greasy foods and dairy may not sit well in the heat.

Good Snack Ideas:

- Fruit
- Granola bars
- Crackers
- Cold Grapes
- Protein Snacks

Heat Safety
The directors and section leaders give students frequent water breaks. Students should use every water break to drink water, cool down, and reset. Safety is always the top priority. The goal is to keep students healthy, prepared, and ready for a successful marching season.

Band Leadership

Band leaders and section leaders are there to help students learn, stay organized, and feel connected. If a student is confused, nervous, or unsure what to do, their section leader is a great first person to ask.

Students should get to know their section leaders early in the season. Section leaders can help with:

- Music questions
- Marching basics
- What to bring, Where to go
- How rehearsals work

Drum Majors Haobo Shi, Sofia Castillo, Emmerie Ricketts, Athena Zhou
Color Guard Captians: Amaris Romo, Paris Sonier, Claire Moore
Brass Captains: Nate Hawks, Henry Hughes
Woodwind Captains: Austin Tatuaca, Ethan He
Percussion Captain: Daniel Tadesse
Flute: Shine Liang, Addyson Lineberg, Nathan Melius Melek Talib, Katherine Wu
Clarinet: Amadea Barsan, Caroline Mao, Sydney Phillips, Kyle Zhou
Bass Clarinet: Austin Tatuaca
Saxophone: Evan Erskine, Lany Jiang, Max Xiao,
Low Sax: CJ Dunn, Zane Stevenson
Trumpet: Claudia Rodriguez, Stanley Sun, Oliver Lito
Mellophone: Rian Harris, Abby Hawks, Noah Matthes, Katelyn Riley
Trombone: Caroline Cummings, Blair Earl, Josh Meng
Euphonium: Clara Lemoine
Tuba: Marcus Flores, Anthony Rodriguez
Percussion: Ivan Shen - Front Ensemble, Daniel Tadesse - Snare, Caleb Wilson - Quads, David Chen - Bass, Paul Hansen - Cymbals

Marching Season

Once school begins, the marching band becomes the main focus of the fall semester.

During football season, students from all five Dawson bands come together to form the Dawson Eagle Marching Band.

Percussion students are also assigned to specific marching roles, usually Front Ensemble or Battery/Drumline. These groups focus on percussion-specific music, technique, and responsibilities.

During the school day, students attend their assigned band class. After school, the full group rehearses together as the marching band.

The marching band performs at varsity football games, including halftime shows, stand tunes, pep songs, and other school spirit music. The band also competes in several marching contests each year, usually on Saturdays in October. You may hear this busy part of the season called "Band-tober."

Marching Season Continued...

Marching Band Roles

Dawson's marching band includes several different student roles. Each role is important to the success of the show. All students, regardless of their role, are expected to learn the show music and complete music pass offs. Even if a student is not marching a varsity spot at contests, they are still part of the marching band and must stay prepared.

Varsity Members

Varsity members march on the field at every football game and contest. These students have assigned spots in the marching drill and perform the full show on the field.

Varsity spots are usually assigned in early August. Students earn these spots through marching tests, playing tests, pass offs, and overall readiness.

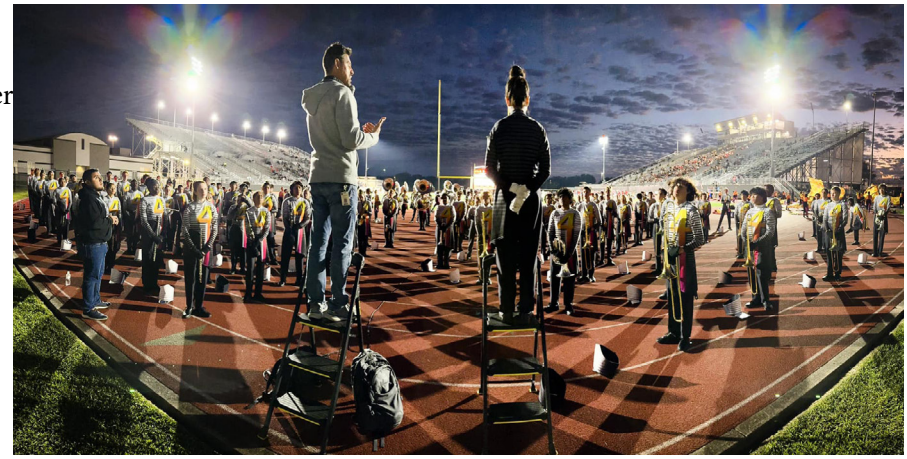
Prop Crew Members

Prop Crew members handle and move the show props during all football games and contests. They are part of the performance and help make sure props are in the right place at the right time.

This role requires focus, timing, teamwork, and dependability. Props are an important part of the visual design of the marching show.

JV Members

JV members march during football game halftime performances. During contests, they may have other responsibilities that support the full production.



JV members may help with:

- Sideline Crew
- Pit Crew
- Props
- Electronics
- Equipment
- Other contest-day needs

JV members continue to learn the music and drill throughout the season. If a varsity spot opens because of injury, eligibility, or another need, JV members may be ready to step into that role.

Every Dawson band student has a job that matters. Whether a student is marching a varsity spot, moving props, performing at football games, or supporting the contest production, each role helps the band succeed.

Band Credits and Graduation Requirements

Band can count toward graduation requirements. Two years of band satisfies both the PE and fine arts requirements. Students who continue in band for their junior and senior years earn elective credits. Students may also have the option to use a GPA waiver and take band as a pass/fail course. Four years of band can also satisfy a Fine Arts endorsement, either as a primary endorsement or an additional one.

Marching Practice Location

Marching practice takes place in the parking lot on the north side of Dawson High School. Football yard lines are painted on the pavement so students can learn their drill. **When dropping off or picking up your student, do not drive or park on the practice field area with the painted football lines.**

Use the Cullen entrance at Dawson High School. Turn right and drop off or pick up in front of the auditorium on the northeast side of the school.

Tailgate Meals: Game Day and Contest Meals

The time between the end of school and call time is often very short. To help students eat before games and contests, Dawson Band Boosters provides Game Day Meals, also called Tailgate.

These meals are served before football games and contests, usually in the cafeteria. Booster volunteers help serve the meals.

Tailgate meals are required and purchased during registration through the Dawson Eagle Band Booster website. Tailgate fees also include breakfast and snacks on long competition days.

Dietary restriction options are available. Food allergies can also be accommodated, but families should provide that information during registration so plans can be made in advance.

Parents can also volunteer with the Tailgate Committee. It is a great way to help, meet other parents, and support the students during marching season.

Marching Uniforms

The school provides every student with their traditional marching uniform, which consists of a bib (pants), shirt, jacket, and hat. In addition to this uniform, there may be additional uniform pieces that are specific to the season's marching show (known as the show uniform).



Students are fitted for their show uniforms during May Camp, and for their traditional uniforms and marching shoes during the first part of summer band camp.

The uniforms remain at the school. The Uniform Committee maintains and makes them available for each event. Parents can also volunteer with this committee to help with uniform fittings, alterations, washing the uniforms, and helping students dress before games and competitions.

Why Is My Student Not Marching at Contests?

Some parents may notice that their student marches at football games but does not march on the field at contests. A marching show is designed with a specific number of spots on the field. These are often called varsity marching spots. Because the drill is written for a set number of students, not every student will have a varsity field spot at contests.

Students who are not in a varsity marching spot still support the full production through JV, Prop Crew, sideline support, pit support, electronics, equipment, or other contest-day responsibilities.

What Is Drill?

Drill means the specific places each student moves to during the marching show. In parent terms, it is where students go on the field and how they move during the performance. Students use the Ultimate Drill Book app (included in band fees) to learn drill.

What Is a Pass Off?

A pass off is a test. Students may be asked to play music for a grade, chair placement, or marching spot. Directors or section leaders listen and give feedback.

All students must learn the show music and complete required music pass offs, regardless of their marching role. Pass offs help directors know who is prepared and who needs more support.

What Is a Call Time?

Call time means the time a student must be fully ready to begin. For example, if call time is 7:00 a.m., the student should already be in the correct place, wearing the correct attire, and have all needed equipment by 7:00 a.m. It does not mean the student should arrive at 7:00 a.m. A good rule is to arrive at least 15 minutes before call time.

Student Game Day Plans

Call time is announced the week of each performance. Students should arrive ready with everything they need for the game, including:

- Water jug
- Instrument
- Props, if assigned
- Tall black socks
- Marching shoes
- Reds and blacks
- Black tank
- Lyre/music
- All uniform pieces



Before leaving Dawson, students usually:

- Change into reds and blacks and/or black tank
- Attend rehearsal
- Eat their Game Day Meal, or Tailgate, in the cafeteria
- Put on uniforms and retrieve their hat box
- Go to uniform check
- Listen to speeches, awards, and final instructions
- Load buses by section

All students are required to ride the bus to and from games and contests. Each bus has adult chaperones and/or a band director. If a student has an extenuating circumstance and needs alternate travel, an alternate travel form must be completed, signed, and returned to a band director as early as possible before the event.

After the Game

After the game, all students return to the band hall. Before leaving, students must:

- Unload buses and equipment trucks
- Put away instruments and equipment
- Return uniforms and hat boxes
- Hang up uniforms correctly

Students usually return to Dawson around 10:30 to 11:00 p.m., but times vary based on the game length and travel distance. Directors or chaperones usually post the bus arrival ETA on the band app. Students should also text parents when they are getting close to Dawson. Some band members - such as percussion, large instruments, quartermasters, and student leaders - have additional responsibilities and generally leave the school later than others.



Parent Pick-Up

Parents can either park in the front parking lot at Dawson or accessing the school entrance off Cullen. See the blue areas in the photo. Please keep the side driveway clear so buses can unload safely. Drive carefully and be patient. Game days are long for students, staff, volunteers, and families.

Game Day Schedule

Typical Schedule for HOME GAME DAY – *(subject to change, dependent on game start times)*

2:50 p.m. — Rehearsal
3:50 p.m. — Load, eat game day meal (tailgate), dress (change into uniforms)
5:00 p.m. — Inspection/meeting
5:15 p.m. — Load buses, then head to The Nest
6:00 p.m. — Arrive at The Nest
7:00 p.m. — Game Kick-off

Typical Schedule for AWAY GAME DAY – *(subject to change or vary by game location)*

2:50 p.m. — Rehearsal
3:35 p.m. — Load, eat game day meal, (tailgate) dress (change into uniforms)
4:45 p.m. — Inspection/meeting
5:00 p.m. — Load buses, then head to the away stadium
6:00 p.m. — Arrive at away stadium
7:00 p.m. — Game Kick-off

Game Day Must Haves:

- Bag filled with:
    1. "Reds and blacks" and black tank when wearing show uniform
    2. Long black knee socks (no skin showing when you sit down)
    3. Marching shoes
- Gallon water jug and tote. Can fill with ice from the band ice machine and water before leaving. The ice machine cannot fill all 300+ jugs, so be sure your jug is full of ice in the morning.
- Flip folder and all of your music, hat box with gloves
- Marching Uniform
- Lyre (woodwinds only), marching instrument, and mouthpiece/reeds (must purchase your own, even for school-owned instruments)
- If it's cold, only black jackets with no logos are allowed (unless it's a Dawson Band jacket or Dawson letterman jacket)

Uniform Etiquette

- No eating, drinking or chewing gum
- No jewelry, (earrings, necklaces, rings)
- No fingernail polish

Starting School & No Pass No Play

The first day of school can be a long day for band students. They go through regular first-day classes, then head to after-school band practice that lasts into the early evening. Students may come home tired, hungry, and overwhelmed during the first week. Packing a filling after-school snack can help them refuel before rehearsal.
Fridays during football season are especially long. Students may start their day around 7:15 a.m. and finish after the football game that night. For away games, students may return very late, sometimes after midnight.

No Pass No Play

The Texas Education Agency classifies band as a performing art. Concert and marching performances are part of the class, so rehearsals and performances are required and count toward the student's band grade. If a student earns below a 70 in any class at the end of a six-week grading period, they may lose eligibility for extracurricular activities. Students who are ineligible are still responsible for band class and technique class requirements. This may include sectionals, assignments, and required class activities.

Progress reports are issued in the middle of each six-week grading period for students who are borderline or failing. Students may be able to regain eligibility if they are passing at that progress report. For questions about eligibility, contact Mr. Brown.

Parent Game Day Plans

Game days take a lot of support. More than 300 students need help with meals, uniforms, buses, chaperones, and equipment.

Parent volunteers help with:

- Serving Game Day Meals, or Tailgate
- Helping students get dressed into uniforms
- Chaperoning games
- Packing and moving equipment
- Driving equipment trucks

Food or drinks CANNOT be given to students in the stands. It WILL be taken away. **The band and color guard are in uniform and in performance mode while in the stands. Rest assured that they are fed dinner right before changing into uniforms. They have their gallon water jugs.**

Signups are usually shared during registration and throughout the season. You do not need to volunteer every week, but all parents are encouraged to help in some way.

All volunteers must have an updated Pearland ISD background check on file each school year. Complete the volunteer application at https://www.pearlandisd.org/departments/hrs/volunteers-chaperones — volunteers must re-apply each school year at the start of summer band.

Home Games

Home games are played at "The Nest" on Dawson game days. The stadium is located next to Pearland High School at 35/ Main Street. The Dawson home side is the west side of the stadium, which is the taller side.

Free parking is available at the stadium. A free shuttle may also run from Pearland Junior High South. The shuttle is especially helpful for the Dawson-Pearland game.

Most games begin at 7:00 p.m. and end around 10:30 p.m.

School colors are red, blue, and white. Parents are encouraged to wear band shirts, shirts with their student's instrument, band spirit wear, or "Band Parent" shirts.

Food and Drinks in the Stands

Students are not allowed to eat or drink in their uniforms.

The band and color guard are in uniform and in performance mode during the game. Students are fed dinner before changing into uniforms and have their gallon water jugs with them.

Tickets

Dawson Eagle football games are fun, and tickets must be purchased in advance.

For home games, tickets are purchased through the Athletic Ticket Office on the Pearland ISD website.

Away game tickets are usually purchased through the opponent's website. Prices are often lower if purchased before game day.

Many concession stands are cashless and accept credit cards, debit cards, or Apple Pay. Many stadiums have a clear bag policy, so check details before you go.



Watching the Band

One of the best parts of being a band parent is watching your student perform. The band performs in the stands throughout the game and performs the marching show at halftime. At the beginning of the season, the halftime show may only include part of the full show.



Please note that parents are not allowed in the band section of the stands. Only chaperones are permitted in this gated area.

Please cheer for all bands. Visiting bands and competing bands work hard too, and good sportsmanship matters.

Be Considerate in the Stands

Please be respectful of:

- Other spectators
- Band parents
- Students
- Volunteers
- Facility staff

Try not to stand in front of others during the whole game. It is fun to stay and support the full game, especially because the band always has a great time after halftime.

Video and Social Media Rules

You may take personal videos of the band's performance at football games and parent performances only.

Do not post videos of the band's performance on public social media sites, even your own page.

The band does not have the rights to publicly distribute recordings of the performance. Posting videos could cause problems for the program.

Videos may only be shared in approved private band spaces, such as:

- The private Band App group
- The private Dawson Band Boosters Facebook group

Do not take or post videos at contests.

If you are volunteering on the field at contests, you may not have a camera out.



NEVER post videos of our band performing on ANY social media sites, even your own.

Why? The band does not have rights to distribute recordings of the performance.

ONLY exceptions...
1. Our PRIVATE Band app group
2. Our PRIVATE Facebook Band Boosters page

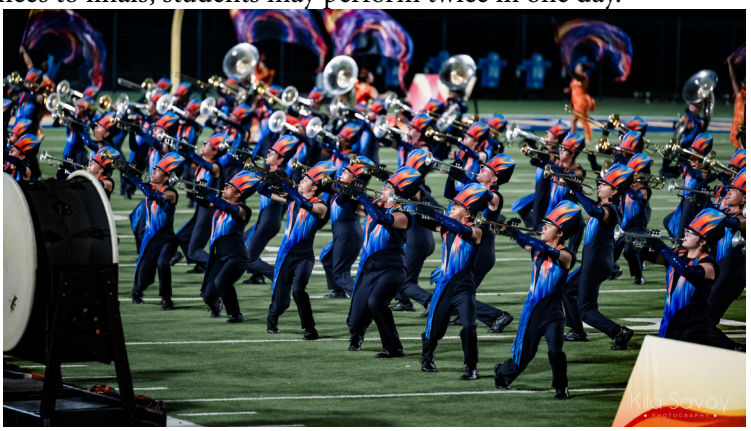
You may take personal videos of the band's performance at football games and parent performances only, but
NEVER post videos of our band performing on ANY social media sites, even your own.
The band does not have the rights to distribute recordings of the performance and doing so could get the band in trouble. Do not take videos at any contests.
If you are working on the field as a volunteer, you are not allowed to have a camera out at contests, either.

Competition Season

The marching band participates in several festivals and competitions each fall. October is usually the busiest month, with many weekends including both a football game and a marching contest.

At the Competition

Marching contests often include prelims and finals. If the band advances to finals, students may perform twice in one day. Competition days are long, so students should come prepared.



Students must stay with the band at all times.

Once the band arrives at the host school, students usually:

- Change into full uniform
- Warm up with their section and the full band
- Line up to enter the field
- Perform the show
- March off the field
- Return to the bus area

Before the performance begins, the announcer will ask if the drum majors are ready. After the show, the head drum major salutes the judges, and the band exits the field. After performing, students usually gather near the buses for final instructions from the directors. They may be allowed to dress down to their reds and blacks/black tanks to eat and watch other bands.

The Dawson Band Boosters provide meals and snacks on competition days. After all bands perform, drum majors gather on the field for scores and awards. Once awards are finished, students return to the buses and travel back to Dawson. Students may leave after all equipment, uniforms, and instruments have been returned and put away.

Competition Etiquette

Band parents represent Dawson just like the students do. Please help us show respect to every band, school, and facility.

When another band is performing:

- Stay seated
- Do not talk loudly
- Do not enter or leave the stands
- Put down umbrellas, large signs, and fat heads
- Do not block anyone's view
- Do not make negative comments about other bands

Every band has students who have worked hard. Please cheer for them and treat them the way we want others to treat Dawson.

When Dawson performs, cheer loudly before and after the show. Let the students know you are proud of them. Your energy encourages them and shows great support for the program.

No Time for Visits

During games, contests, performances, and rehearsals, students are with the band or guard as part of the team. They need to stay focused and follow the directors' instructions.

Please do not visit your student in the stands, on the buses, in warm-up areas, or before a competition performance.

If you need to get an emergency message to your student, contact a director. Do not approach your student directly.

Families will be told when parent visits are allowed. Please wait for those times.

Public events and competitions are not the right time for private conversations with directors. Contact them later if you need to discuss a concern.

Concert Season

Concert season begins after marching season ends. Later in the fall, each student is issued a formal concert uniform. Families are encouraged to purchase all required non-issued items early in the school year.

Concert Uniforms

The school provides the main concert uniform.
<u>For students wearing tuxedos,</u> the school provides:

- Black tuxedo pants
- Black tuxedo jacket
- Black bow tie
- Black cummerbund

Families are responsible for providing:

- Solid white tuxedo shirt with wing tips or classic turndown collar
- Solid long black dress socks
- Black dress shoes (NO marching shoes)

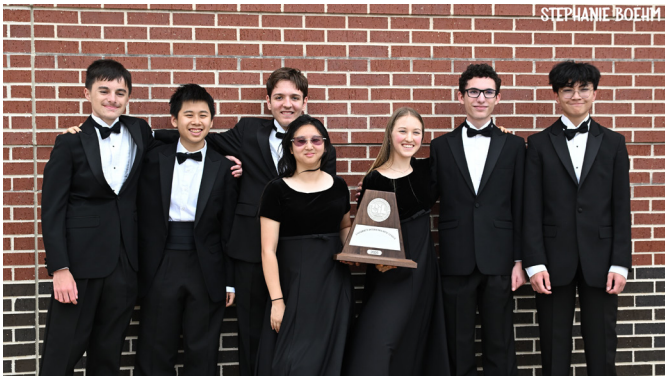
Tuxedo shirts with banded collars and regular white dress shirts are not allowed. Tuxedo shirts may also be ordered through the Boosters Uniform Committee.

<u>For students wearing dresses,</u> the school provides a long concert dress.

Families are responsible for providing:

- Solid black hose or long black dress socks
- Black closed-toe dress shoes with low or no heels (NO sandals or high heels)

Sports bras should not be worn with the concert dress because of the wide neckline.



Uniform Care

Concert uniforms stay at school and are maintained by the Uniform Committee. Students are responsible for hanging up their uniforms properly after each use.

When Concert Uniforms Are Worn

Concert uniforms may be worn for:

- Winter Concert
- Spring Concert
- Pre-UIL Concert
- UIL Concert and Sight Reading
- Freshmen and Region Band performances
- Region Orchestra
- All-State performances
- Other Concert Compeitions

All-Black Professional Attire

Some performances may require all-black professional attire instead of the school-issued concert uniform. This may include percussion performances, Wind Ensemble performances, All-Region Jazz Band, solos, small ensembles, or other individual and group events.

All-black professional attire is not provided by the school.

Concert Season Performances

Several performances are held during concert season, including:

- Holiday Concert in December
- Percussion Concert
- Pre-UIL Concert in March
- Spring Concert in May
- Shadow Creek Music Festival

Most performances are held at Dawson High School.

Concert Season Competitions

The University Interscholastic League, or UIL, sponsors music competitions during concert season.

Students may participate in:

- Solos
- Small ensembles
- Large ensembles, or full band competitions

Band FAQ

Is band expensive?
A competitive band program has costs beyond what the school district provides. Dawson Band Boosters helps cover many program needs through fundraising, fees, and parent support.Dawson Band works to keep costs as reasonable as possible. Fees are used to support student instruction, performances, travel, equipment, and the full band experience.

Is band time-consuming for students?
Yes, especially during marching season. Summer Band begins before school starts so students can learn the show, adjust to marching style, and build confidence before the first football game.

During the school year, rehearsal times become more routine. UIL limits the number of rehearsal hours outside the school day, and the directors follow those rules.



Band is a big commitment, but it also helps students build:

- Responsibility
- Time management
- Leadership skills
- Teamwork
- Confidence
- Lasting friendships

Is band time-consuming for parents?
Booster Meetings will be scheduled quarterly. You'll always walk away with information your student forgot to tell you. Band can take time for parents too. Families help with transportation, late pickups, volunteer jobs, fundraisers, and event support. Parent involvement helps the program run smoothly and gives families a chance to connect with the band community.

Parents are encouraged to:

- Watch Band App for updates
- Know call times
- Arrive early for pickup
- Consider carpools
- Volunteer when possible
- Attend games and contests

How can parents help?
There are many ways to support the band. You do not have to volunteer for everything, but every family is encouraged to help in some way. The more parents who help, the easier the work is for everyone.

Can parents help their own student after performances?
Please do not do your student's job for them. Students are responsible for putting away their instruments, uniforms, and equipment after rehearsals, games, and contests. This helps them learn responsibility and take ownership of their role in the band. Parents can help the program, but students should handle their own assigned responsibilities.

Band FAQ Continued ...



What is Band Banquet?
Band Banquet is a year-end celebration for band students. The event honors the year, celebrates student accomplishments, recognizes seniors, and includes awards and scholarships. The theme, location, menu, and cost may vary from year to year.

What is the social side of band?
Band helps students build friendships quickly. Many sections have traditions, mascots, section shirts, jokes, and bonding activities.

Some activities may be informal and not organized by the school, directors, or Booster Club. Participation is optional.

Parents are encouraged to get to know other band families by volunteering, attending games, and supporting events.

Does the band take trips?
The Dawson Eagle Band may take an extended trip every other year. Trips are usually optional and may include performances, clinics, sightseeing, and group activities.

Trip details, cost, payment plans, and deadlines are shared when a trip is planned.

What are All-Region and All-State?
All-Region and All-State are individual audition opportunities through TMEA. Students may audition for All-Region Band, Region Orchestra, Area, and All-State Band or Orchestra. Auditions begin in the fall, and students should practice early and often if they plan to participate.

Does the band participate in community events?
Yes. The Dawson Eagle Band and Catalyst Color Guard may participate in community events such as the City of Pearland's Hometown Christmas Parade. Details are shared through official band communication channels.











