

BEARCAT REGIMENT-ALEDO BAND

ORIENTATION 2023-24

BAND DIRECTORS

- Joey Paul jpaul@aledoisd.org 817-235-5585 cell (Director of Bands)
 - Jake Albin jalbin@aledoisd.org (Assistant Director)
 - Dexe Moore dmoore@aledoisd.org (Assistant Director)
 - Scott Stephens sstephens@aledoisd.org (Assistant Director/Percussion)
- Junior Marquez jmarquez@aledoisd.org (Color Guard Director)

COMMUNICATION TOOLS

- Join Remind 101 (will send you an email on the code to join in the spring)
 - Charms High School Band Calendar
 - **Go to aledobands.com**
 - **Login to the parent/student member in the upper right corner**
 - **School Code Login – [aledohsband](http://aledohsband.com)**
 - **Click on the public calendar**
- Aledobands.com (High school band website)-lots of resources and history

HOW DOES AN 8TH GRADER OR NEW MEMBER SIGN UP FOR BAND?

Select band as one of your courses for the 2023-24 school year. Everyone is automatically in the marching band /concert bands/guard/percussion classes if you have had previous band or guard experience. Auditions for which concert band, drumline/front ensemble, and guard placements are held in the spring but each student will have a place in the program. The goal is to make sure all students are participating and have a place to belong. Band is a full year course.

BAND FORMS

- Medical history (google form will be sent out later)
- UIL medical history (required by UIL-will send to you later in an email)
- UIL physical before band camp or auxiliary camp (required by UIL-will send to you later in an email)
- Update your MS Charms Account- Please do this asap and make sure everything is current in charms. Including cell numbers, student email, parent emails
 - acknowledgement forms (sent out during summer band camp)
 - drug testing permission form (AISD will send a link out later)

WHAT IS THE MAY MINI-CAMP FROM MAY 17TH, 18TH, & 22ND TIME IS 5:00 P.M. -7:00 P.M.?

This camp is designed for the entire marching band. Individuals will learn the 2023 opener and several other traditional Regiment standards. During this camp we will practice techniques students should practice over the summer in preparation for the upcoming summer band marching camp. Bus transportation to the high school may or may not be provided for the incoming ninth-grade students after school for the May mini-camp depending on availability of bus drivers. All students will receive their BOA/UII State 2023 contest music and receive their pep rally/stand music. Please pick your child up at the high school band hall after practice. We will be practicing inside.

WHAT IS THE MAY BEARCAT REGIMENT COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE ON MAY 22ND AT 7:00 P.M. ?

The band will perform a few spirit tunes and the opener to their 2023 Marching Production. This will be around a 30-minute performance concluding their May Mini Camp.

WHAT IS THE PERCUSSION & GUARD AUXILIARY CAMP FROM JUNE 5TH - 9TH (GUARD) & (PERCUSSION) TIME IS 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM?

This camp is **mandatory** for those students that are in the percussion and guard units. Since marching percussion and guard are so critical to the success of the marching band this extra time is needed to create a foundation of solid fundamentals and start learning.

Cost is \$150.00 (this cost is not part of yearly band fees since this is an auxiliary camp) for the week and includes meals. This fee helps offset the extra instructors that are hired to teach the camp. The date will be determined soon in the next few days.

WHAT IS BAND CAMP IN LATE JULY/AUGUST?

Summer Band Camp will be July 24-August 15 for all students in the band or guard. The majority of these camp dates will be from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Lunch is included with the yearly band fees. Other times will be from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. when teachers have professional training/workdays. These specific dates will be finalized more when the 2023-24 school calendar is rolled out by the Aledo ISD. Summer band is used to prepare music, learn show drill for the 2023 contest show and condition their bodies in preparation for the upcoming marching show and football season. We will have several social activities to help students' bond with one another! Lots of work and lots of play! If school tentatively started on August 16^h the schedule would look something like this.

July 24-28 - 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (tentative all region masterclasses for Wind Ensemble 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

July 29 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Bearcat Regiment 101 Administrative, Parent Orientation, Picture and Uniform Day

July 31-August 4 - 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (tentative all region masterclasses for Wind Ensemble 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

August 5 - 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Drill Learning)

Aug 7-11 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (normally teachers have required professional training/workdays)

Aug 14-15 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (normally teachers have required professional training/workdays)

The goal for summer band is to get 50% of the show/production on the field before the school starts. If we have teacher training in the morning on these dates the times would flip to 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

WHAT IS THE MARCHING BAND'S REHEARSAL SCHEDULE DURING A SCHOOL WEEK?

Typically, we do a Monday and Tuesday and Thursday/Friday morning.

All rehearsals are mandatory. The rehearsal schedule could change depending on the overall school/district scheduling. If it changes, you will be notified in advance so plans can be made. The charms calendar is a great resource for high school band updates.

WHAT ARE MONDAY AND TUESDAY AFTER SCHOOL REHEARSALS DESIGNED FOR?

Monday and Tuesday after school rehearsals are mandatory for all members of the band. These rehearsals are crucial to the success of the marching band, as this gives us an extended time period to learn and reinforce **new** drill for the show.

WHEN DO EARLY MORNING MARCHING BAND REHEARSALS END?

Morning rehearsals are historically on Thursday and Friday morning starting at 6:45 a.m. They will continue until the HS football season is over. For several years, this has been mid-December due to the continued success of the football program. At times, we utilize Friday mornings only during the play-off season because of the cold weather. The indoor facility is normally available on Friday mornings for the band too.

WHEN DO AFTER SCHOOL MARCHING BAND REHEARSALS END?

After school rehearsals will end after the last marching competition – usually the end of October or the first part of November.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR JAZZ BAND?

All students must be enrolled in the main band class and audition in May for Jazz 1.

Jazz 2 and 3 starts in January and will rehearse on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday at 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. You must be a member of the main band class to be in any jazz ensemble. This is a great opportunity to start learning a secondary instrument in the high school program. We always need piano, guitar, and bass players. Talk to Mr. Albin/Mr. Moore if you would like to learn a secondary instrument for jazz.

WHAT ARE THE CONCERT BAND MORNING REHEARSALS?

Early morning rehearsals will begin at the conclusion of marching season and will continue throughout most of the fall semester. In the spring semester, students will then attend early rehearsals for concert band sectionals. As we get closer to spring contests, sectionals turn into early morning full band rehearsals. The Varsity Wind Ensemble starts early morning rehearsals in mid-January. The concert season rehearsal commitment is much like middle school band.



WOODWIND INSTRUMENT INFORMATION

Please make sure you have the necessary supplies when entering the high school band Woodwinds-reeds, ligatures, high school level mouthpieces & instruments, practice music stand, metronome/tuner/clip, and breather. Use your beginner woodwind instrument for marching and you are encouraged to upgrade your concert instrument. Remember there is no difference between a concert and marching instrument when it comes to care and maintenance. Both require it. Email Mr. Albin jalbin@aledoisd.org for information and help on picking an upgraded woodwind instrument.

BRASS INSTRUMENT INFORMATION

Trumpets/Trombones-Straight, Cup & Practice Mutes, Valve Oil, Grease, other misc. cleaning supplies, high school level mouthpieces & instruments, practice music stand, metronome/tuner/clip, and breather. Please email Dexe Moore dmoore@aledoisd.org if you have questions on instrument upgrades before you purchase. Silver Professional Trumpets & Brass Professional Trombones are highly encouraged.

PERCUSSION INFORMATION

A huge majority of mallets are purchased for the marching season through the school district. Please contact Mr. Stephens at sstephens@aledoisd.org for any extra mallets or supplies they should have when they arrive at high school.

CAN A FRESHMAN LETTER IN BAND/COLOR GUARD?

Yes, details are in the HS Band Handbook and based on a point system.

DOES THE MARCHING BAND HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADVANCE TO THE UIL STATE MARCHING CONTEST EVERY YEAR?

Yes, starting in the Fall of 2023 all bands will have the opportunity to advance to the UIL Area and State Marching Band Championships in San Antonio, TX. The band also competes yearly in Bands of America Regionals and Super Regionals through the Music for All organization.



IS REGULAR ATTENDANCE IN THE BAND/COLOR GUARD IMPORTANT?

Yes, all these groups are dependent on all its members. Unlike most other classes where individuals are accountable only for their own success, band students' success is, in large part, dependent on the full participation of all those who have made the commitment. Communication and attendance are key factors when being in a band organization. Time management skills are highly encouraged and taught in the high school band programs. Students must be enrolled in both the fall and spring semester.

BAND & GUARD FEES

Band & Guard Fees for the 2022-23 were 700.00. This fee is used to help offset other expenses not covered by the district and band boosters. It includes personal marching related items, uniform accessories, travel expenses, district football meals, playoff game meals, August camp meals, marching competition meals, shirts, shorts, gloves, snacks and drinks, uniform cleaning, alterations, replacement items, composite board picture, recordings/copyright fees, master classes, clinicians, techs, marching band drill supplies, spring contest fees for UIL/Percussion/Guard, etc. We do our best to avoid any surprises in asking for any money on a weekly basis. **We will not let money stand in the way of a child's music education.**

BAND & GUARD FEES

You can pay band fees in one lump sum or an installment plan will be offered. The band department will always work with you to make sure **EVERY CHILD** can participate in band. **Communication is key.** Pay by check, cash, credit card or money order...checks are made payable to Aledo Band. Mr. Paul will send information out in May when you can start paying band fees.

EXTRA BAND FEES

- Wind Players: Rental & Maintenance Fee is \$100.00 each **per instrument** (School instruments only)
- Percussion: Rental & Maintenance Fee - \$150.00.

OPTIONAL BAND SPRING TRIP

Past trips have included San Antonio, South Padre, Corpus Christi, Galveston, Houston, Retreats in various areas around the Lone Star State.

In State Trip – 2024 (normally in April)

Out of State Trip – Spring Break 2025

The band has traveled to California, Chicago, Colorado, Louisiana, Florida, Missouri, Tennessee, Arkansas, Georgia, North Carolina, New Mexico, Arizona, Indiana, Oklahoma and Nevada.

All trips must be approved by the Aledo ISD administration.

WHAT IF I PAY EXTRA BAND FEES?

- Basically, we will take the balance of the extra band fees and add to your \$700.00. You can pay one total lump or installments by check, cash, or online.

- For example; Your child rents a tuba and sousaphone.
 - ➤ 700.00 band fees
 - ➤ 100.00 tuba rental
 - ➤ 100.00 sousaphone rental
 - ➤ 900.00 Total

- For example: Your child is a percussionist.
 - ➤ 700.00 band fees
 - ➤ 150.00 Percussion: Rental and Maintenance Fee
 - ➤ 850.00 Total

- For example: Your child is a guard member.
 - ➤ 700.00 band fees
 - ➤ 300.00 Winter Guard (NEW for 2023-24)
 - ➤ 1000.00 Total

ARE FUNDRAISERS OFFERED TO HELP OFFSET THE COST OF BAND?

- Yes.

DRESS ATTIRE AND ITEMS TO BRING FOR CAMP

- Tennis Shoes
- Socks
- Shorts
- Shirt
- Hat for shade
- Sunscreen
- Marching Instrument
- Mask (I hope not)
- ½ Gallon Water Jug completely filled (you purchase, must be orange, white, black) Regiment Koozie (Included in the band fees will be used to cover the water jug). The koozie has a strap and pockets.
-

WATER ACCESSORIES

All students must have a water cooler and Regiment koozie to use during the season for all rehearsals, practices, football games, and trips.

Bottled Water Every student must bring 1 case of bottled water for trips and general activities where water coolers are not effective alone. Please bring them during summer camp before the first day of school please. with your name on the case and your section leader will take care of storing it in the band hall. This was a tremendous success last year.

DOUBLE REEDS

- Double reed players (oboe/bassoon) have several options for marching band. You can learn a secondary instrument, audition for the front ensemble (Percussion), or audition for the color guard.
- Double reed players have learned traditionally learned flute, clarinet, saxophone, low brass, and percussion instruments. If you are interested in percussion email Mr. Stephens or guard email Mr. Marquez. Any other instrument, email Mr. Paul.