

**Dawson Band  
Handbook  
2019-2020**

## **WELCOME TO THE DAWSON EAGLE BAND!**

On behalf of the entire Dawson High School Band staff, we are excited to welcome you to the Dawson Band Family! The Dawson High School Band and Catalyst Color Guard Family are blessed with an amazing group of students and parents. As we grow our program, the successes we will achieve over the years are directly attributed to the complete effort by the school administration, students, and parents.

This handbook will address the procedures, policies, and expectations for each student in the Dawson High School Band. Please read through this entire handbook and take note of which policies affect your child. The directors reserve the right to edit, enhance or change items in this handbook as required for the benefit of the entire organization.

The Dawson Band is the most visible organization on campus. Participation in band is a year-long commitment and one that revolves around recognizing and improving the individual student and the TEAM. Our students participate throughout the year in the following activities: Football games, marching band competitions, region band auditions, winter contest, UIL Concert and Sight-reading, Spring Concert, Percussion Concerts, Solo & Ensemble, Spring Trip, pep rallies and other community events.

It is our goal as music educators to help our students develop an appreciation for and love of music. The study and performance of music is an opportunity that our young people need to experience. It is not our goal as teachers to make professional musicians but rather to enable them to fully enjoy the life-long benefits of making music.

We believe that the success and growth of our program will hinge on three elements: purpose, unity and focus.

Our purpose is to provide our students with the most positive and supportive environment for which they can develop their musical skill 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 learners and connoisseurs 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, grow as individuals, and grow as a band program.

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 and concert season as well as the numerous other activities in which the students will participate. More importantly, we know the Eagle Band students will continue their success into the rest of their lives and whatever endeavors they choose to pursue through the life lessons learned in the DHS Eagle Band and Catalyst Color Guard!

We wish for each child to have all the success possible in the DHS Eagle Band and Catalyst Color Guard! GO EAGLES!

## **Handbook Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to set guidelines and policies that focus on the proper implementation of membership requirements, tryouts, performance expectations, attendance, fundraisers and general rules. The Eagle Band Member must abide by and exemplify all guidelines and policies outlined in the Eagle Band Handbook, Dawson High School Student Handbook, and the PISD Handbook and Code of Conduct.

### **Philosophy**

The Eagle Band exists first and foremost to represent Dawson High School and PISD. The Eagle Band also exists to promote good sportsmanship, good citizenship, represent our school as a musical and competitive fine arts unit, and wholesome and enthusiastic school spirit organization.

It is our goal as music educators to help our students develop an appreciation for and love of music. The study and performance of music is an opportunity that our young people need to experience. It is not our goal as teachers to make professional musicians but rather to enable them to fully enjoy the life-long benefits of making music and to retain the necessary skills to be successful later in life regardless of their career path.

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 and academic achievement both on and off campus.

### **Expectations of Student Members**

- Prospective members must have junior high band experience and audition with a director to be placed in the appropriate band class.
- Members are expected to participate in required activities throughout the year.
- Members should use discretion in their commitments to multiple extracurricular activities.
- Members must attend the June summer camp, August summer camp, and all rehearsals/performances before the start of school and when school starts.
- 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 the Eagle Band begins immediately upon notification of band placement.
- Members understand that until proven otherwise, the band Leadership Team will be considered 'right' in all instances. When a director is not in the room, leadership members have full authority.
- Members must adhere to all guidelines and policies in this handbook.

## EAGLE BAND AND CATALYST COLOR GUARD CONDUCT GUIDELINES

The goal of the Dawson High School Eagle Band is to achieve excellence in performance while maintaining the highest level of integrity either on or off the performance stage. In order to reach this goal, students are expected to display strong character and disciplined habits during band class, rehearsals, performances, any trip off campus (in district or out of district), during free time in the Band Hall, and any time while representing the Eagle Band. Pride, self-discipline, teamwork, and respect are the foundation of every great organization.

### General Conduct & Student Expectations

As a band member, you are expected to display above average conduct at all times! This is not limited to band activities, but encompasses daily classroom and campus behavior. Failure to maintain good conduct will result in disciplinary action at the discretion of the band director.

(Note: Parents, volunteers, and chaperones should be aware of these guidelines to help reinforce them at all times.)

1. 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. Remember that students represent the DHS Band program, our school, our school district, community, and their parents at all times.
2. All students are expected to conduct themselves properly at all times. Display of profanity, temper, flagrant violation of rules, etc. will not be tolerated. Individual behavior during a band function is a reflection of the entire organization.
3. Students will show respect for:
4. All fellow students, directors, and volunteers during transit and while at any location.
5. All property of the Eagle Band, property of Pearland ISD or students' personal property.
6. Students will follow instructions from directors, student leaders, and designated adult chaperones.
7. Instructions should be followed the first time they are given.
8. Although a student may not agree with instructions given to them or given to the entire group, they will still follow the procedures that have been set forth by the directors and/or adult chaperones.
9. Students will not "over-think" the instructions that are given.
10. Students will not disrupt instruction at any time.
11. Students will be on time (which means early) for all arrivals, departures, and scheduled meeting times.
12. Students will quietly enter and exit the band hall and fine arts hallway.
13. Students will be in their assigned rehearsal area ready to work at the set rehearsal time.
14. Students will wear appropriate, school approved clothing at all times.
15. Students will use appropriate language at all times, including (but not limited to) transit to and from any destination.
16. Bullying or hazing in any way, shape, or form; directly or indirectly; in person or via the internet, will not be tolerated for any reason. At the discretion of the director, you will be removed from the program immediately and you will be referred to campus administrators for disciplinary action. Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose. Bullying has three key components—unwanted, aggressive behavior; a real or perceived power imbalance, and repetition; and the potential to be

repeated over time. The combination of these three factors creates a situation that moves beyond conflict to become persistent persecution. Dawson high school is a bully free zone. We are committed to providing a safe, educational environment that promotes positive interaction among all that enter. Students are encouraged to report any incident of bullying to their teacher, counselor, or assistant principal. All reports will be investigated and handled according to circumstances of each individual event.

17. Students will refrain from inappropriate public displays of affection as defined in PISD's Student Handbook and Code of Conduct. "Students will not show any public display of romantic affection or engage in inappropriate contact disruptive to other students, adults, or the school environment."
18. Students will not lie, cheat, steal, vandalize (including writing on music stands, walls, etc.), or tolerate anyone who does.
19. Students will not forge signatures on documents as this will not be tolerated. Both students and parents agree that if a student falsifies a signature or document where items have been secured for the student based on the document, all money will still be due (such as airfare, hotel, charter buses for a spring trip, etc). Failure to make payments according to the payment schedule will result in the student being placed on the fines and fees list. Regardless, the student will receive ISS and will be removed from the program at the director's discretion.
20. Students will not play on equipment they do not own or have permission from a director to use. Students will not touch, handle, borrow, or use anyone else's instrument, uniform, or personal belongings.
21. Students should ask for permission to speak by raising their hand and waiting to be acknowledged. All rehearsals are expected to be silent so everyone's time will be utilized wisely.
22. When allowed in the band hall, either before or after school, students will not disturb any rehearsal in progress.
23. Students should keep their equipment in the designated storage area, and keep said storage area clean and neat in appearance. Students who demonstrate great difficulty with this may lose the privilege of having a storage area in the band hall.
24. Students will utilize their assigned storage slot / locker for instrument cases during rehearsals. Cases should not be brought into rehearsals unless requested by a director.
25. Students will follow all bus riding rules and travel policies set forth by Pearland ISD, as well as the Eagle Band Staff and Color Guard Director. See Travel Guidelines on page 30.
26. Since all PISD campuses are drug and alcohol free, all of our DHS Band events, rehearsals, performances, and in-state or out of state trips will be as well. No student shall possess, use, transmit, or attempt to possess, or be under the influence of drugs, tobacco, tobacco substitutes (dips, chews, pipes, electronic cigarettes, any type of vaping device, etc) 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. If we are at any school event, performance, or spring trip, both student and parents agree that a student in violation of this policy will be sent home immediately at the parent's expense. The cost will include the transportation of the student and district employee since we are not allowed to transport students on their own. This includes car, shuttle bus, charter bus, train, or airplane. At the discretion of the directors, the student will be moved down in band placement or will be removed from the band program. As stated in the student handbook: PEARLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT IS SMOKE FREE AND TOBACCO FREE. Student use of tobacco (including smoking, dipping, or chewing) is prohibited on campus. Possession of tobacco is likewise prohibited. Students caught using or in possession of any tobacco product will be assigned a

disciplinary consequence and/or a referral to the Pearland Police Department to be issued a citation. Disciplinary consequences can include ISS or an

27. alternative placement center. The use of tobacco free substitute products (dips, chews, pipes, electronic cigarettes, etc.) is also prohibited as well as clothing that promotes tobacco products.
28. 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, moved down in band placement, or permanent removal from the band program. This will be at the discretion of the band directors. This applies to band students and student leaders in both public and private events. The behavior stated in this section also includes negative social media postings, social media postings endorsing or including items from #20 above (alcohol, cigarette type products, etc).
29. A student that consistently receives school detention or receives any form of severe punishment including ISS, school suspension, etc. may be permanently removed from the band program or moved down in band placement at the discretion of the band directors.
30. Students will have positive attitude!

#### **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**

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 band 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 Program.

### **Locks, Lockers, & Band Hall**

Each member will be issued a Dawson Eagle Band lock. The lock is specific to our band program since it will be gray on the front with the word "band." At August band camp, all students will be issued their lock. It will be the student's responsibility to maintain the lock in good working condition and to return their assigned lock to the band staff at the end of the school year. Students that do not maintain their lock in good working condition or lose it will be required to pay an \$8 lock replacement fee. Students that do not return their lock or pay the \$8 replacement fee will have their name placed on the school's fines and fees list.

Lockers should be closed and locked at all times. Each member is responsible for keeping their locker clean and tidy since it is a direct reflection on the entire organization when visitors are in the band hall. Students are only allowed to keep music related items in their lockers including their instrument, black binder with all music, and any necessary music accessories relevant to the high school band educational process. Homework, books, backpacks, food, etc. are not allowed in your band locker for any reason since we have had specific issues in this area (ants for example). Additionally, students will not be allowed to leave clothes, shoes, or any other related item in their band locker. Students that do not follow this policy will be given two warnings. On the third warning, the student will lose their locker privilege. All of the student's items will be removed and stored in the band office for student pickup and we will remove the school issued lock and replace it with a new one. Please remember that for backpacks, homework, personal items, etc., every student at Dawson High School is able to obtain a school locker right outside the band hall in the school hallway. Please use these lockers for general school items and any other personal items.

### **Rehearsal Rooms**

Practice Rooms Practice rooms are designed specifically for practicing. There should be a maximum of four students practicing in a room at any given time. Practice rooms are not for talking, studying, changing clothes, or for your personal storage. Students not in compliance with practice room procedures may be referred to the assistant principal's office.

### **Percussion Room**

The Percussion Room is for percussion students only. Non percussion students should not be in the percussion room for any reason. Like the practice rooms, the Percussion Room is not for talking, studying, changing clothes, or for your personal storage. Students not in compliance with practice room procedures may be referred to the assistant principal's office.

### **Large Ensemble Room (Small Band Hall)**

The Ensemble Room is for any large ensemble practicing, or group of students that are required to rehearse together. This could be in preparation for the Ensemble Contest, help sessions (for music pass-offs), etc. The Ensemble Room is not for talking, studying, changing clothes, or for your personal storage. Students not in compliance with Ensemble Room procedures may be referred to the assistant principal's office. All rules stated in "Lockers & Band Hall" will apply.

### **Guard Room**

The Guard Room is NOT for any band member to enter or go through. This includes males and females (Any band student in the guard room will be referred to the AP's office). The guard room is to store equipment and give the guard a place to change clothes prior to rehearsals. It is not a personal storage room.

## **Rehearsals**

How they Work in General During the 1st semester of marching/football season, the band is required to rehearse on the outside parking lot/marching field. The maximum allotted time we are given as stated by our governing organization (University Scholastic League) is 8 hours of rehearsal time per week. However, please note that there are special allowances to this rule for football game days and marching contest days. You can see our schedule at [www.dawsoneagleband.com](http://www.dawsoneagleband.com). Please realize that the band may have an adjusted schedule to accommodate the use of the field or to use The Rig Football Stadium for a specific requirement. Your flexibility is appreciated.

For the marching season, we might specify days where particular colors of clothing need to be worn for practice (So we can easily read the formations from the band tower or Rig Stadium). Also, remember that 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. Music Memorization/Marching Memorization should be done on your own...rehearsal takes place as a group (if you ever need help, you can ALWAYS ask a section leader or drum major for help!!)

During the rest of the year, the band will have a "lighter" rehearsal schedule compared to marching season. That schedule will be dependent upon our UIL Concert & Sight Reading contest schedule, scheduling of clinicians, and other various activities. Typically, students do not rehearse more than 3 ½ hours per week after marching season, compared to the 8+ hours during marching season and 8+ hours of other organizations at DHS. Again, your ability to be flexible is appreciated.

Since after school practice is co-curricular, all students are required to attend and participate in all after school rehearsals to receive full 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 [www.dawsoneagleband.com](http://www.dawsoneagleband.com) calendar for specific days.

## **MARCHING BAND**

The Dawson HS Band is one of the most visible and recognizable organizations at Dawson High School. Since we run our program as a “year long” program, all band students in grades 9 – 12 are required to participate in the Marching Band if they are to participate in the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic, Concert Band 1 and 2. Students that perform on non-traditional marching band instruments may be excused from the marching band requirement, depending on the instrumentation needs in the current marching band season. Exemption will be approved at the discretion of the band director. If this occurs, no P.E. credit will be given to the student.

Students who participate in PISD sponsored co-curricular sports or activities such as cheerleading, drill team, or football may be excused from participation at the discretion of the band director. Please note different solutions will be presented for varying situations. However, if there is no PISD sport/activity conflict on a marching band rehearsal day, performance day (including football games), or contest day, the student is required to attend the marching band event with the rest of the band. For this reason, students involved in a PISD activity are still required to pay and get fitted for the required marching band items to participate with the marching band. Students may also be excused from participation in the marching band for other reasons such as medical complications or physical disabilities. Such exemptions will require official documentation and will be verified by the band directors. For obvious reasons, the student may not be eligible for P.E. credit.

### **Section I: Summer Band Camps**

The Eagle Band and Catalyst Color Guard hold rehearsals each summer before the start of the fall semester. The purpose of these rehearsals is to allow the band to adequately prepare for the upcoming marching season and prepare for Region Band Auditions in November & December. This is also an important time for the students 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, 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 primary marching position at the start of the marching band season and may not be placed in the top performing bands (or may be removed from the top performing band). Parents should make travel and vacation plans with this schedule in mind. Check the website ([www.DawsonEagleBand.com](http://www.DawsonEagleBand.com)) for schedules.

### **Section II: Marching Band Positions**

#### **Primary Marchers (Varsity)**

Students who earn a primary position in the marching band will perform at all football games and marching competitions. A primary marcher is a student who:

1. Successfully completes the memorization requirement for music by the due date.
2. Consistently demonstrates a high understanding of marching fundamentals and coordination skills to execute the drill without injuring themselves or others.

3. Is consistently punctual in report times.
4. Is consistently present at all rehearsals and performances.
5. Consistently maintains academic eligibility.

Special Note:

Students who do not to meet the requirements above may be subject to one or a combination of the following:

1. Loss of position as a primary marcher and then become a secondary marcher.
2. Loss of performance opportunity.
3. Reassigned to a different band .

### **Secondary Marchers (Junior Varsity)**

Students who earn a secondary position in the marching band will perform at all football games and assist with performance preparations at all marching competitions. They will meet the same requirements of primary marchers and will participate & march in both rehearsals and football performances. Instead of marching at contests, they accept the responsibility of “stage crew” to help us setup and tear down the field (yes, this is a scored portion of our show).

### **Section III: General Attendance**

In order to have and maintain the highest quality marching band, attendance from all members is essential. The following guidelines outline the attendance procedures and policies for the marching band.

Roll Check – Roll check will start 5 minutes before the start of rehearsal. Students will check in with a designated member of their section who will turn the attendance in to a director.

Tardiness – Students not in the attendance block at the appropriate time will be marked tardy. Points will be deducted from that rehearsal’s grade.

Multiple Tardies – Students who have one or more than one tardy shall be subject to one of the following consequences, at the discretion of the band director.

1. Points deducted from the student’s grade.
2. Demotion from Primary to Secondary marching spot.
3. Loss of marching privilege at a football halftime performance or marching band contest/performance for that particular week.

Absence – A tardy will be converted to an “absence” 15 minutes after the rehearsal begins and a grade of zero (0) will be given.

Extreme “emergency” absences will be excused at the discretion of the directors. The student will need to speak with a band director in advance to obtain the necessary clearance. Appointments, tutorials, etc. will not be counted as an excused absence. Extreme personal illness requiring professional medical attention, death in the family, and serious problems may be considered as an excused absence so long as there is an open line of communication from the student and/or parent. Students who are continually ill, may need to provide a doctor’s note releasing them for participation in order to insure the well being of the child and to reduce band director concerns of that particular student. Students that suffer mild symptoms of illness

should plan to be at practice. Students will have at least one afternoon free per week during the marching band season. These days should be used for appointments and routine professional visits.

Students who have one or more unexcused absences will be subject to one of the following consequences:

1. Loss of marching privilege for one game.
2. Loss of spot as a primary marcher.
3. Removal from the marching band and loss of physical education credit.

#### **Section IV: Marching Band Rehearsals**

- Respect everyone on the marching band field; we're all working toward the same goal.
- Prior to all rehearsals, eat healthy and drink a lot of water. No Sodas and Candy!
- Be punctual. Everyone will be on time, aim to arrive 5 to 10 minutes before practice begins.
- Water breaks are meant for your health and comfort. DRINK WATER!!!
- Standing is the only acceptable position on the marching band field unless instructed otherwise (ex: when a director tells you to kneel while he/she gives instructions).
- Pay attention to general instructions at all times. Listen attentively and respond appropriately.
- FUNdamentals will make us successful! Therefore, we expect everyone to participate fully.
- To keep your spot on the marching field, meet all music memorization deadlines.
- No jewelry during rehearsals except watches.

#### **Section V: Marching Band Performances**

Performances are an important part of the band program. The DHS Band and Catalyst Color Guard perform at ALL Dawson High School varsity football games (except scrimmages). The band not only performs its halftime show with pride and spirit at football games, but also carries on the tradition of that pride and spirit in the stands. In addition to football games, the marching band will also perform at various competitive marching festivals/contests, the U.I.L. Marching Contest, as well as possible local and national parades. Please observe the following.

Members must be present at ALL rehearsals in order to perform at the football game or marching band contest.

Before each performance, the band will go through an inspection of all uniforms, packing, and equipment prior to departure. Students will be expected to pass the uniform inspection with the following:

- Black MTX Marching Shoes
- LONG Black Socks (No, not Blue!)
- Black Compression Gear
- Marching Band Uniform
- No jewelry or wristbands of any kind (including but not limited to hands, neck, ears, lips, etc.)
- All hair must be able to fit comfortably in the required marching hat. Otherwise, the student will not be allowed to march.
- No heavy makeup allowed. Students are only allowed to wear a "light application" of makeup that is not noticeable to others, at the discretion of the directors or adult chaperone. No lipstick will be allowed given the process of playing a wind instrument, and/or looking the same for percussionists.
- Failure to be prepared with information above may result in loss of performance opportunities at the discretion of the directors for the performance day, or loss of marching position.

## **Section VI: Music Inspection**

Music inspection will occur before all football games and marching band performances that will utilize music which is not part of the field/competition show. Students will be asked to display music, lyre (if appropriate), and flip folder. Students who do not pass music inspection will not be allowed to perform.

## **Section VII: Uniform Inspection**

Prior to student departure for a marching band performance, students must pass a uniform inspection. In order to board the bus, students must have their complete uniform, music, flip folder, and other components for the marching performance. At the discretion of the band directors, students who do not pass the uniform inspection will not be allowed to attend the event and will jeopardize their marching position for the remainder of the season.

## **Section VIII: Football Game Procedures**

The football game is viewed as a performance of the band program. Such performances include all aspects of the game from arrival to departure.

1. Students will arrive at the set report time. Students will load and be prepared to travel at the set load time.
2. Students will load the buses with all equipment needed for the performance. The section leaders will inspect all students boarding buses prior to departure. Students not meeting uniform, music, and loading guidelines will be sent home and not allowed to participate. Students will receive an unexcused absence for such occurrences and other consequences may follow (such as removal from primary marcher, etc.) at the discretion of the band directors.
3. Upon arrival at the performance area, students will prepare equipment for unloading. Students will unload busses when instructed to do so by a chaperone or director. Exit the bus in black shoes, black socks, uniform jackets and pants on.
4. Unpack instrument – Place cases in a location designated by the directors.
5. Students will report to the designated meeting area and line up when instructions are given. Students will march in to drum cadence upon instruction from a drum major or director.
6. Students will sit with their assigned instrument section at all times during the game.
7. Students will not accept food or drinks from parents, relatives, or friends
8. Students needing a restroom break must be accompanied by a chaperone. Restroom breaks will not be granted during pre-game activities nor in the second quarter of a football game.
9. While seated, band may stay relaxed but must stay in their correct seat, attention forward, ready to play at any moment. Students will be expected to listen for and watch the directors and drum majors during the game. Students will need to be prepared to perform at all times.
10. Students will refrain from playing their instruments on an individual basis. The band will perform as a group or with approved small ensembles. While playing, pay attention to the Drum Major – always!
11. At the appropriate time, the band will be dismissed from the stands for the half-time performance. At this time, the band must move quickly, quietly, and efficiently to the appropriate area. Students will need to be focused on the director's and drum major's instructions.

12. At the conclusion of the half-time performance, students will return to the stands with their instrument and uniforms completely on, and continue the in-stand performance throughout the remainder of the game.
13. During the 3rd quarter, we may or may not participate in the good sportsmanship procedures of officer meetings and introductions. The band president will create a schedule of which student leaders participate in this event.
14. At the conclusion of the game, students will load busses quickly and efficiently.
15. Upon return to the band hall, students will ensure that all personal items, uniforms and instruments are placed in the proper storage areas. See Unloading Procedures on the previous page.

PARENT NOTE: While with the band at games, performances and competitions, your child is there to be part of the team. Visits from parents in the stands, on the buses, etc. are prohibited. If a 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 child will be advised in advance of these opportunities. Please do not put your child in an uncomfortable situation by approaching them when they know you should not. Also, public events and competitions are NOT the time to have a private discussion with any director. Thank you for your understanding and consideration.

#### **Section IX: Arrival Back to Dawson Procedure**

Students will be responsible to see that their instrument is picked up and stored correctly upon the unloading of the instrument truck. Get YOUR instrument out of the way once it is unloaded and put it away. No one departs the Band Hall until instrument truck is unloaded. Return uniform (hung properly) to uniform room. Help loading crew and cooler crew unload by taking items to appropriate storage areas. EVERYONE helps to clean their locker or instrument area in the band hall. It should be completely clean before we leave.

GO HOME!! All of you are loved, but go home and get some rest! Students who display difficulty in following the loading and unloading procedures may lose the privilege of utilizing the instrument truck. Parents: Please pick your child up on time.

PARENTS, PLEASE BE ON TIME TO PICK UP YOUR CHILDREN. WE ARE SELDOM MORE THAN 10 MINUTES LATER THAN THE APPROXIMATE TIME OF ARRIVAL AS STATED ON THE ITINERARY. MANY TIMES WE ARE EVEN EARLY.

Remember that we do not have control over the number of timeouts or penalties incurred during the football game which might delay our DHS arrival. The directors feel very uncomfortable and cannot leave any student unattended at the band hall after everyone else has gone home. Like you and your child, we also want to go home as quickly as possible to spend time with our families. PLEASE be there to pick up your son/daughter as soon as possible.

#### **Section X: General Public Etiquette Reminders**

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

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 band and color guard. When we are a unit, we are more than individuals. We must remember: perception is everything.

It is imperative that we are dressed appropriately and look as “one team”. Your directors or officers will let you know what to wear to school on spirit days, for travel, for shows and any other event that requires us to be seen as an ensemble. For marching season, you should have your specified marching shoes, show shirt, extra black socks, etc. so you will not find yourself in a situation where you are not appropriately dressed for any band rehearsal, function, or event. Additionally, on show days, no colored fingernail or toe nail polish...clear is fine. Please, no jewelry.

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 to or who is watching you.

### **Stand Etiquette**

We want every one of you to have FUN at the football games. However, we cannot forget that we are there to support our school, our football team, and our community while in the stands. We will assign you seating for the games. The band will sit in an area/seating pattern that will look nice and organized from all areas of the stadium. We want to look awesome at all times. 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.

1. ALWAYS have 100% of the required music for that particular week. If you want to play more stand tunes as the season progresses, show us that you are prepared on the music we already handed from previous weeks.
2. 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.
3. When an officer or director asks you to sit and be quiet, please do so immediately.
4. Please pay attention to your officers and directors if things change during a game.
5. Students 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 a designated rest room break after halftime.
6. 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).
7. There will be no eating or drinking in the stands or when you go to the restroom. Students found eating or drinking will not be allowed to march that particular football game or upcoming football game. The only exception to this rule is a medical condition (which requires a doctor’s note) and water.
8. Due to the national and historical significance, students will memorize the Star Spangled Banner and play it from memory while in the stands or at any other event. If you have rests, we do not talk, look around or play around.
9. Students will also memorize the school song and fight song.

Items that are NOT ALLOWED in your hatbox or instrument case in the stands or in the performance area. (You may have these on the bus and on your ‘down time’ only). - Cell Phone, Ipad or similar - iPod / Mp3 player - Candy - Gum - Food or Drinks If a cell phone, iPod, or similar device is found in your hands, hatbox,

or instrument case (during marching season) or is on your music stand while rehearsing/performing indoors at any time during the school year, your electronic device will be confiscated and not returned directly to you. Your parents will need to make an appointment to see a director for the return of that item. We will treat all rehearsals and performances just the same as academic teachers do during the school day.

## **Section XI: Band Uniform Guidelines**

### **General**

Students will be held financially responsible for the uniform and its' components if there is damage. Be very careful when you sit and what you lean against! Each student will be required to supply payment for repair or replacement as determined by the Uniform Committee Chair and Band Director. The student's name will be placed on the DHS Fine's List if payment is not received in a timely fashion.

### **Uniform Issue and Return**

1. With the uniform crew's permission, students will pick up uniforms from the uniform rack at least 15 minutes prior to report time for any event.
2. Students should follow the posted pick up/return guidelines.
3. Students will be issued a uniform storage number. This number should be memorized or recorded in a readily accessible location. Students will use this number to assist picking up their uniform from the rack, with the assistance of a uniform crew member.
4. Students not properly hanging the uniform will receive community service.

### **Donning the Uniform**

1. Always wear and treat your uniform with great care and PRIDE. The uniform should be worn as a complete unit at all times when in public. The only exception will be when a director instructs you that you may remove your hat or coat.
2. You must wear approved black MTX marching band shoes and black socks (student purchases).
3. Jewelry, watches, hair ribbons, and bright colored nail polish etc. is unacceptable while in uniform. Saxophone and /or bass clarinet students should wear a black neck strap. These items hinder the uniform appearance of the band.
4. Band students with long hair will need to put it up under their hat during performances.
5. Natural hair colors will be the only style of color accepted.
6. No consumption of food and drinks while in uniform without permission.
7. NEVER run, hop, skip, or jump while in public. The only exception to this rule is if there is an extreme emergency and/or your safety is in jeopardy.

### **Alterations & Care**

1. Never cut any material from the band uniform. Never have your parents alter the uniform unless specifically told to do so by a band director or uniform parent volunteer.
2. Keep the collar hooked while hanging to retain the shape of the coat.
3. Always hang the pants by the crease.
4. Label your uniform garment bag.

### **Uniform Costs**

If a uniform part is damaged beyond repair or lost, the student will be responsible for the replacement costs.

## Concert Band Season

Concert Ensembles Students in the band program will be placed in a concert ensemble by an audition process in May of the previous school year. In trying to avoid instrumentation problems and avoiding having to move students across bands, students should plan to be enrolled in band for the entire school year. The following is a list of the concert ensembles offered for the 2019 - 2020 school year:

- Wind Ensemble
- Symphonic Band
- Concert Band 1
- Concert Band 2

Please note that all four bands will actively participate with the marching band during the marching season. We perform at every football game and at marching contests during the fall. After the end of marching season (November), we immediately transition into concert season with Holiday Music, Region Band Music, Solo & Ensemble, UIL Concert and Sight Reading Music, etc.

### Concert Ensembles Performance / Rehearsal Requirements

Each of the concert ensembles will perform at various times throughout the school year. Students are expected to participate in the performances of their assigned ensemble. Failure to participate in either rehearsals or performances will result in student removal from the organization at the discretion of the band directors. (See general attendance policies)

At the end of Marching Season, Performances / Auditions of the concert ensembles will include but are not limited to the following:

- Winter Holiday Concert – Required for ALL BAND STUDENTS
- Spring Concert – Required for ALL BAND STUDENTS
- Band Festivals / Pre U.I.L. Contest – Required for ALL BAND STUDENTS
- U.I.L. Concert & Sightreading Contest – Required for ALL BAND STUDENTS
- Solo & Ensemble Contest – Required for ALL BAND STUDENTS
- 9th Grade Region Band Auditions (required for Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band and Concert Band)
- High School Region Band Auditions (required for Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band)

Concerts / Performances Concerts and performances are frequent with all bands. Students should consult their calendar handouts and the Dawson Band “Google Calendar” for the most accurate dates and times. Periodically, the schedule will change and updates will be announced in class. Students: Communicate with your parents! It is your responsibility! Concerts are considered to have three parts: warm-up, performance, and listening. The concert begins for the student at the warm-up. Punctuality is essential. A concert concludes when the last group performs and directors have given permission for students to be dismissed. A general report time will be given for all students.

1. All performances and concerts are a group, TEAM effort. Attendance is required.
2. All performances and concerts are an extension of the classroom and will be graded accordingly.
3. Students should be punctual and prepared for each performance/concert.
4. In the event a performance causes a student to miss another class, the student is responsible to make up all missed work. School policy states that each student is to take care of absences prior to absence.

5. The appropriate dress for all concerts will be a specific uniform. (See Uniforms.)
6. Students are expected to stay for the entire concert of each group of the event.

### **General Attendance**

In order to have and maintain high quality concert ensembles, attendance from all members is essential. The following guidelines outline the attendance procedures and policies for concert ensembles as it relates to after school rehearsals and section rehearsals

### **Roll Check**

Roll will be checked promptly at the start of rehearsal.

### **Tardiness**

Students not seated and have instrument ready for rehearsal at the appropriate time will be counted tardy.

### **Excused Tardiness**

Tardiness will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Tutorials, appointments etc. will not be an excuse for tardiness unless prior arrangements are made and approved.

### **Unexcused Tardiness**

To receive full credit, students who have one or more unexcused tardies are required to make up the sectional time during the same week. It will be up to the student to inquire about the make up session.

### **Absence**

Students not seated at the appropriate time may be marked absent.

### **Excused Absence**

Extreme "emergency" absences will be excused at the discretion of the directors. The student will need to speak with a band director in advance to obtain the necessary clearance. Appointments, tutorials, etc. will not be counted as an excused absence. Extreme personal illness requiring professional medical attention, death in the family, and serious problems may be considered as an excused absence so long as there is an open line of communication from the student and/or parent. Students who are continually ill, may need to provide a doctor's note releasing them for participation in order to insure the well-being of the child and to reduce band director concerns of that particular student. Students that suffer mild symptoms of illness should plan to be at practice.

Special note: During the concert season, students will generally be responsible for a "lighter" rehearsal schedule, which includes ONE weekly section rehearsal, and one "full" rehearsal as needed. Thus, students will have ample days for tutorials, doctor's appointments, etc. since the maximum after school commitment drops down to 3 ½ to 4 hours compared to marching band's 16 hours. Depending on the type of rehearsal missed, the student is expected to make up the missed rehearsal time at the discretion of the director.

### **Unexcused Absence**

In addition to a student not notifying and obtaining clearance from the director in advance for an absence, appointments, tutorials, etc. will be counted as unexcused. Depending on the type of rehearsal missed, the student is expected to make up the missed rehearsal time at the discretion of the director. Based on the type of rehearsal missed and the lesson planned by the director, this is not always possible (Example:

A student that misses a full band rehearsal where the band worked on specific ensemble concepts in fundamentals or in the music literature cannot be made up).

Please note that a student may lose his/her position in the band for such absences.

### **Section Rehearsals**

Students will have a weekly section rehearsal for the fundamentals of instrument technique, region music preparation, and solo and ensemble preparation. Section rehearsals will begin in August and will be held the entire school year. These are separate from all other rehearsals.

All students will have a weekly section rehearsal. Section rehearsals for the concert ensembles will begin at the conclusion of the marching band season. Since these sectionals will rely on the attendance of all students in the section, it is imperative to be in attendance. Students are expected to be punctual and prepared on a week-by-week basis. Absence from section rehearsals must be in accordance with the attendance policy. Students must make every effort to attend. Section rehearsals are an extension of the classroom and are graded accordingly.

### **Region Band & Orchestra Guidelines**

1. All Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band and Concert 1 Band students will audition for 9th Grade Region Band & High School Region Band. Students that do not fulfill this requirement will be required to perform the same selection for their respective band class. The required selection will be the same as the actual region audition.
2. Students will be graded during the 1st semester on preparation for this event.
3. Any person who is fortunate to be selected will attend all rehearsals and the performance of the All-Region Band. (Check your calendar for dates.)

### **Solo and Ensemble**

1. All students in the DHS Band will prepare and perform a solo.
2. All Wind Ensemble, Symphonic, and Concert Band 1 & 2 members will participate in an ensemble unless specified otherwise by a band director.
3. Grades will be issued for preparation and participation in the Solo and Ensemble process. Grades will NOT be given for the rating the student receives.
4. Students must use a DHS Band Director approved accompanist. The accompanist fee is set each year and ranges from \$40 to \$50. The higher the difficulty level of the music, the greater the cost will be.

### **Medical and Dental Appointments**

As a member of the Dawson High School Band you have an obligation to your fellow band members to be at ALL rehearsals and ALL performances. Please schedule dentist, doctor, and orthodontist office visits for times other than when you will be involved in rehearsals (including band class and/or section rehearsal) or a performance. We do understand that emergencies occur and that some situations are unavoidable but unless the doctor's appointment is due to a sudden illness or emergency, the absence will be considered unexcused.

Braces/Orthodontia Wind players: If there are plans (even a consideration) for orthodontia (braces), please be mindful of the timing involved in getting them. Braces are necessary for many students, and if you should get braces, you will continue to be successful with them after the first week or so of getting them.

It takes time to get used to them. For this reason, we only ask that you consider NOT getting them put on (or removed) in close proximity to performances/contests.

Please inform us early of your intention to get braces put on (or removed) so that you have adequate time to adjust to your “new” mouth. There is never a “good” time to get braces put on or taken off, but sometimes are better than others.

## **Grade Calculation**

### **Daily Grades (40%)**

Weekly class rehearsal – single daily grade. Students will be graded on having all necessary materials (drill coordinates, organized binder with proper music and pencil(s), instrument and implements, proper clothing and shoes, etc.), and on being prepared for rehearsals and assignments.

Weekly after-school rehearsal(s) – double daily grade. Students will be graded according to the same criteria above for our “laboratory” settings, in which either the entire band(s) or particular sections rehearse in ways that cannot be done in class. These rehearsals are of particular importance with regard to overall ensemble and Dawson Band goals.

Pass-offs (Music and/or body visual) – daily grade, with the possibility of a multiplier (double, triple) at the director’s discretion, based upon assignment & based on the significance of the project (such as region band) or similar event. Students will be graded on individual performance of assigned music throughout the year. This could include techniques, marching band music, Region Band music, concert band music, or other music assigned by directors. Specific cuts will be assigned on a regular basis for students to prepare.

### **Exams (60%)**

Special Rehearsal Events – Students will be graded according to the same criteria listed for weekly daily grades, with added consideration for other details such as call times, proper attire, and any additional supplies or details that have to do with a particular performance special events such as Saturday marching or concert band rehearsals, dress rehearsals, final full rehearsals before a performance, or other major rehearsals as assigned by the director(s).

Ensemble Performance – Students will be graded according to the same criteria listed for weekly daily grades, with added consideration for other performance details such as call times, proper attire, and any additional supplies or details that have to do with a particular performance.

### **Rehearsal Absences**

Since after-school rehearsals are laboratory sessions that are co-curricular, all students are required to attend and participate fully in all after school rehearsals in order to receive full credit. Failure to attend rehearsals will result in a zero grade, or a reduction in the weekly performance grade that includes that particular day. Personal and family emergencies will be considered (such as sudden severe illness, a death in the family, hospitalization, etc.) with an email from the parent or guardian in regards to grading. Please do not schedule normal physician (doctor, dentist, orthodontist, etc.) appointments during after-school rehearsals, as absences for these are not excused except in the case of sudden severe issues. “Time off” is given during the week for such appointments.

### **Performance Absences**

Attendance at and participation in all performances, competitions, and contests is required for all DHS Band and Color Guard members since we are a TEAM activity—we must remember that other students, and therefore the entire ensemble, is affected even when one person is absent. At the discretion of the

band directors, failure to attend a performance, competition, or contest may result in a demotion from a marching position, a student not marching the show at a subsequent performance, a student being removed from the drill for the remainder of the season, or a student being removed from the band program. During concert season, a student not in attendance may be removed from their band (and placed in another band) or be removed from the band program at the discretion of the band directors. The only exceptions to this paragraph are sudden emergencies (such as sudden severe illness, a death in the family, hospitalization, etc).

Please Note: During marching season, students that have one or more unexcused absences during a performance week will not be allowed to march the halftime show at the corresponding football game or marching contest during that week or a subsequent week at the discretion of the director(s).

### **Academic Absences (School Make-Up Work)**

During the marching band season, all band and color guard students will have time built into their after school schedule to complete any quizzes, tests, or make up work they need to finish. Please use this time wisely to stay on top of your school work and pass every nine weeks! During the concert season, students should plan make up work around their bi-weekly sectional schedule. All students should have a finalized sectional schedule during the fall semester so they can plan well in advance for the spring. Missing part or all of a sectional due to make up work or completion of an assignment will not be excused and the student will not receive full credit.

### **Tutoring/Homework Time**

While on campus, waiting for a rehearsal to begin or waiting for a ride home, students should be practicing. If students are not practicing, they should attend after school tutorials, complete homework, or sit quietly as to not disturb people nearby. Parents, since we cannot police every child at every moment during after school hours (before marching band rehearsal), please discuss your expectations to your child as it relates to tutorials or doing homework on their own. Playing sports outside and risking bodily injury (which happened last year) is not acceptable. In addition, please communicate that horse playing will not be tolerated for any reason.

### **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. If a band 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 during the entire school year. Students must be passing all classes at the end of the next three weeks to regain full eligibility status.
2. Activities not affected by eligibility rule include sectionals, rehearsals, and public performances not related to competitive events. Although students might not be allowed to perform (at the discretion of the band director as it relates to UIL policy) ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT THESE ACTIVITIES.
3. A band member desiring to audition for a band officer position must have and maintain at least an “S” in conduct in all classes. Failure to do so may result in loss of leadership position.
4. A band member desiring to audition for a band officer position must have been eligible each six weeks for the entire school year prior to their audition.

### **Band Policy for Ineligible Students**

If a student becomes in-eligible during the year, they may be removed from the current show performances, or might be moved down a band, but will still be required to participate in all rehearsals, classes, at the director's discretion.

### **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 Band receive a P.E. waiver 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 the equivalent of two credits of P.E. and two credits of fine arts. Students enrolled in electives other than band have to find room in their schedule for P.E. and fine arts courses. On the other hand, students in the band 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. For high school band students may also choose to use a GPA waiver for band, as long as they receive a 90 or higher. To complete this process, students must complete the proper paperwork on time with school counselors and receive a band grade of 90 or higher.

### **Private Lesson Program**

This is a district wide program that provides a high quality enhancement to classroom instruction. Teachers are all specialists on their instrument. Most of our teachers are professional musicians in the Houston area and have advanced degrees in the performance of their instruments. Lessons are extremely valuable to the individual student and are highly encouraged.

1. Students playing a school owned instrument are required to take private lessons.
2. Students in the Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band are required to take private lessons (unless there is a particular situation that will not allow the student to take lessons – please communicate with the directors).
3. Students in Concert 1 and Concert 2 Bands are strongly ENCOURAGED to take individualized private instruction but are not required.
4. Teachers are provided by the district. The Dawson Band has specific lesson teachers that will further your child's learning. Please let us assist you as your child advances to a higher level of musicianship.
5. Lessons will be given weekly at Dawson High School.
6. Summer Lessons will be held at Pearland Junior High South.
7. More detailed information will be available on the private lesson program when school begins.

## TRAVEL GUIDELINES

Bus Rules For 2019 - 2020, we anticipate having over 300 Eagle Band & Color Guard students, adult chaperones, and directors traveling to and from various events! 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 all PISD bus rules posted at the front of each bus and use common sense (pick up all 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 chaperone has given instructions.
3. Directors, drivers, and chaperones have the authority to assign seating to any of the students 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 any 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 bus captain. The captain will check to see if the bus has been cleared of all trash. If not, the bus captain will select students to help clean the bus. If selected to assist in bus cleaning, students should work quickly and efficiently to maximize their time to complete the task successfully.
5. All music must be played with headphones on. If one person is allowed to play their music loudly, so is everyone else which becomes distracting to the rest of the bus. If needed, please plan ahead and 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 Band Director (not chaperone) will approve movies brought by students.
6. Use common sense! Do not sit in the aisles, sit more than two to a seat, stand while the bus is in motion etc. In addition, do not use flash photography during night time hours. This is a safety issue 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 Band 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.
9. TRIPS The Band 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 these trips as they will be for competition. Any student will forfeit payments if not eligible. 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 on girls' floors/rooms or girls on boys' floors/rooms for any reason. Any student violating this rule for any reason will be sent home at the parent's expense.

2. Students are not to be outside of their rooms after curfew for any reason. 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 at the parent's expense.
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 parent, and the student will be sent home and referred to his/her campus administrator. The student will be removed from the band program or color guard program immediately.
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 at the discretion of the band directors.
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 at the discretion of the band directors.
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.

#### **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 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.

#### **Expenses to Expect/Items Required**

As with all extra-curricular activities, there will be expenses incurred with the Eagle Band. Pearland ISD provides much of the funding for the Eagle Band and Catalyst Color Guard, as does the Band Booster Organization. Unfortunately, there is a limit to these funds. Thus, there are a number of items that students/parents will kindly be expected to provide for full, successful participation in the Eagle Band. Most

of the items to be purchased will be ordered before the start of June Camp. New members are required to purchase all personal items the first year. There is no need to re-purchase 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. The following are some of the expenses are for the 2019 - 2020 school year.

### **Letter Jackets**

The guidelines and criteria for earning a letter jacket are set by Pearland ISD. You can access the information on the Pearland ISD 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 directors of Dawson High School understand the importance of these tests and encourage band 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 band 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. EAGLE BAND AND CATALYST COLOR GUARD BOOSTER ORGANIZATION

### **Dawson Band Boosters**

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 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

**BOOSTER JOB DESCRIPTIONS - (See Bylaws for complete duties of Board Members)**

Executive Board Members President – Shall preside at all meetings of the Club, the Board of Directors and of the Executive Committee and shall be an ex-officio of all committees and shall perform other duties usually pertaining to the office. A husband and wife team may hold the office as co-Presidents. Duties also include the appointing of committees as required and with the concurrence of the Board of Directors, shall have the power to decide cases of emergency when an immediate decision is necessary.

Vice President – Shall act as an aid to the President and shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of that officer. A husband and wife team may hold the office as co-Vice Presidents.

Secretary – Shall keep an accurate record of all meetings of the Club, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, conduct all correspondence of the Club and shall perform such other duties as delegated by the Board. Duties also include sending out notices of all meetings.

Treasurer – Have custody of funds of the Corporation, keep the books, make disbursements in accordance with the budget adopted by the membership and approved by the Board of Directors (which includes obtaining two signatures on checks), present financial statements at Board and Booster meetings, make a full report at the end of the fiscal year, submit books to the Audit Committee, file sales and IRS tax forms timely, and coordinate updates to the budget.

Committee Chair Members Audit – Examine the financial records and minutes of meetings held through the year for infractions. Ensure signatures were obtained, required documents are filed with transactions and the approved budget was followed. (To be approved by by-laws committee)

Banquet – Shall have the responsibility to coordinate the fall and Spring Banquets. Oversee decorations and assist student band officers with food and program needs.

Budget / Finance – Works with the Treasurer in the collecting and counting of money received. Help the Treasurer by writing receipts and separating funds into budget categories. (To be approved by by-laws committee)

Fundraising – Organize, promote and/or work at fundraising events including the Gold Tournament, Showcase/Auction, TCGC competitions, etc., as needed for the program and band staff.

Directory – Shall be responsible for collecting the parent/student profiles and compiling them into the electronic and printed versions of the Band Directory.

Email – Shall be responsible for the distribution of email correspondence that has to go out to the general membership. Responsible for keeping the email system clean and safe of false email addresses.

Marching Band – Assist with obtaining parent volunteers for tailgate, water crew, plumes, etc., as needed by the band staff.

Meals / Tailgating – Assist tailgate coordinator with the following: Plan the feeding (including beverages) for the band during all performances, including football games and competitions. Shall be responsible for

choosing nutritious meals and coordinating the proper staff needed to accommodate the band. Duties include ordering, delivery and clean-up which occur mostly during marching season.

Membership – Shall be responsible for the Membership Drive and the maintenance of the membership master list. Shall collect all membership dues, properly document them and turn the funds over to the Treasurer.

Pit Crew – Provide manpower to load and unload pit, percussion and color guard equipment for all football games, contests, concert venues, etc. Assist with moving pit equipment onto and off of the field at halftime.

Publicity – Shall be responsible for compiling information and coordinating news releases to local media about upcoming band events.

Spirit Items - Shall be responsible for organizing the various spirit items to be offered to the band and parents for purchase and also coordinate the distribution of all items. Funds collected have to be turned into the Treasurer.

Sponsors – Shall coordinate the effort to solicit sponsors for the band program. Shall work with the Publicity Chairperson to coordinate efforts to tell the band story and raise funds to support the band.

Water – Coordinate the purchase and distribution of water to band members at events.

Website – Shall be responsible for updating information, pictures, memos, etc. on the website as directed by the Board of Directors and directors of the band.

#### **EAGLE BAND WEBSITE**

[www.DawsonEagleBand.com](http://www.DawsonEagleBand.com)

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.