

The Bands of Decatur

2026-2027

Marching Band Summer Information



Welcome to the Decatur Marching Band!

If you have any questions at any time, please contact Mr. LaBreck via email: ian.labreck@csdecatur.net.

Communication

The primary methods for communication are via email and the Band App. Use [this link](#) to sign up/on to our Band App group. It's essential that students and parents check their email daily to receive essential communication about our activity. Please have notifications on for our Band App group. All students in the band program will receive a weekly email with the week's events, and urgent communication (updated ETAs, emergency weather plans, etc...) will be sent via the Band App.

Please subscribe to the web calendar to receive auto-updates to your personal Google or iCal calendar. (On our website, click "Full Calendar" and select "Sign up for updates.")

<https://decaturband.membershiptoolkit.com/calendar>

Dues and Payments

Dues for the 2026 Marching Band are \$875. A portion of each student's non-refundable deposit will be retained to cover certain costs that are incurred prior to the beginning of the season.

Any past due balances should be paid prior to registration for the next marching band season. Log in to your student's account on the band website (www.decaturband.org) to see if you have a balance. If you have a balance due for your student and need to make arrangements for a payment schedule, contact the DHS BPA (Band Parents Association) Treasurer at decaturbandtreasurer@gmail.com. Financial assistance is available during the registration process. To inquire about financial aid, please email Mr. LaBreck ian.labreck@csdecatur.net **AND** Dr. Sprull at dsprull@csdecatur.net. Please include the amount you are requesting.

Dues are identical for all students in marching band and color guard. They can be paid at once upfront, or divided throughout the summer.

	Due Date	Amount:
Payment 1	May 19	\$375
Payment 2	July 1	\$250
Payment 3	August 1	\$250

What do band dues pay for?

1. Semi-private instruction for percussion, guard, visual and music from July - November.
2. Band camp staff for over 100 hours of instruction
3. Music arrangements
4. Music licensing
5. Website for communication
6. Uniform rental
7. Show props
8. Instrument repairs and replacement.
9. Marching band season tee shirt as part of band uniform (students keeps)

10. Marching shoes for all band members in 2024. Students keep/own the shoes. After 2024, new shoes are only included for new members. Returning members should wear their shoes from 2024 or purchase a new pair if they lose them or grow out of them.
11. Drill writing for the show
12. Competition registrations
13. Transportation
14. Miscellaneous equipment needs and other expenses

Band dues do not include lost or damaged items due to neglect including instrument, shoes, jacket or color guard accessories.

Fall 2026 Calendar

All rehearsals and performances are required. Please visit our band website calendar for all dates. Most dates and times are on the website calendar. Rehearsals in the fall are regularly from 6:00-9:00 on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for the full band until our final contest date on November 7th. Wind sectional time is on Mondays from 3:30-5:30 **when requested** through competition season, and additional color guard and percussion rehearsals occur on Mondays from 6:30-9:00 as well.

Important! Times listed on this calendar are **active rehearsal times**. Students should plan to arrive **at least fifteen minutes** prior to the posted rehearsal start time. Similarly, when rehearsals end, students still need to put away all equipment. It's likely they will be walking out of the band room 15-20 minutes after the posted ending time. Student leaders will have additional meetings and responsibilities not listed on our rehearsal calendar that will require their attendance (either before or after scheduled rehearsals.)

Required Marching Band Rehearsal Items

- Rehearsal Uniform – Mostly white t-shirt and dark shorts.
- Water jug for water!
- Long, unmarked Black Socks – Students need long, unmarked black socks while in uniform. These should be solid black and not “crew” or ankle length.
- Sunscreen (Bring plenty and plan to use it!)
- Students should be wearing tennis shoes/athletic sneakers to practice. Flip-flops/open-toed shoes/boat shoes or any other shoe that doesn’t support the arch of your foot are not acceptable.
- Students must maintain the school’s dress code and follow all school rules while participating in any aspect of the band program.
- Hat to shade the head/face from sun
- Sunglasses
- Instrument in good, working order with necessary accessories
- Pencil and a 1-inch black hardback binder with at least 50 clear page protectors
- Bug spray



Why a rehearsal uniform?

Student Safety – Georgia is HOT in the summer and fall!

In an activity about making everything uniform, wearing the same thing makes it easier to spot the differences.

Attendance Policy

There is no way to make up rehearsal time. The point of the rehearsal is to do things together with the group. Extra practice at home or “learning from another student what was missed” do not make up for being in rehearsal. Students cannot make up rehearsing the marching drill and working on spacing as compared to their marching neighbors. We must do that in our stadium with everyone. Therefore, all rehearsals and performances for the Decatur Marching Band are mandatory. All absences must be documented in the form of an email to the director in a timely manner as soon as possible prior to rehearsal. This does not mean to wait and email Mr. LaBreck the day of a potential rehearsal absence. Student absence from marching band rehearsal can result in removal from the ensemble. In the case of an emergency, notification is expected as soon as possible. You may email Mr. LaBreck at ian.labreck@csdecatur.net.

The following are not acceptable reasons:

- Dentist/Orthodontist/Routine appointment
- Driving test
- Other extra curricular activities
- Homework/study sessions/extra help (all students have homework; time management is an essential high school skill)
- Attending a rock concert or sporting event (or similar event)
- Birthday
- Work
- Trips (vacations)
- No transportation (Plan ahead and ask for help if this is a problem.)

Consequences for an absence are taken case by case and are at the discretion of the directors.

DHS Band Parents Association (BPA) and Volunteer Opportunities

The DHS BPA is a non-profit parent volunteer organization. The mission of the DHS BPA is to support the Decatur High School band program, including financial support to supplement funds from the City Schools of Decatur and parental involvement in band activities. The overall goal is to provide an enriching band experience for all students who participate in the band. Band parents are expected to contribute to the band through volunteering. There are many different ways to help out, including concessions, chaperoning, donating materials/supplies, and serving on board/committees. Visit www.decaturband.org to see upcoming volunteer opportunities. The BPA is not only for marching band parents. The BPA is all parents who have students in band class, marching band, winter guard, and any other ensemble associated with our band program.

Marching Band is not possible without hundreds of hours of parent volunteer contributions. If you have questions, please contact decaturband@gmail.com for more information.

Band Camp Information (July 13th-17th, 20th-24th, 25th)

2026 Band Camp Schedule and map

[Click here for the detailed daily schedule](#) and click here for the [map of campus](#).

Monday, July 13th	12:00-9:00	Full Band
Tuesday, July 14th	12:00-9:00	Full Band
Wednesday, July 15th	12:00-9:00	Full Band
Thursday, July 16th	12:00-9:00	Full Band
Friday, July 17th	12:00-9:00	Full Band
Monday, July 20th	12:00-9:00	Full Band
Tuesday, July 21st	12:00-9:00	Full Band
Wednesday, July 22nd	12:00-9:00	Full Band
Thursday, July 23rd	6:00-9:00	Full Band
Friday, July 24th	6:00-9:00	Full Band
Saturday, July 25th	9:00AM-12:00PM	Full Band
Sunday, July 26th	6:30-8:30	Pool Party!

Band Camp Activity Time/Skits

There is built in activity time during every day of band camp, and activities will vary by day and may include games like ships and sailors, dodge ball, etc... During the last full day of band camp (Wednesday, July 23rd) students will perform section skits to end the two weeks!

Band Big/Littles

Each incoming band member is assigned a veteran band member to be their mentor for the season. Incoming students will be paired up and given the opportunity to know their “bigs” during the weeks of band camp to set them up for success over the season.

What to bring to band camp

Please check the “Required Marching Band Rehearsal Items” heading above, and make sure students have all of those items at band camp. Additionally, dinner will only be provided on certain nights, so students must bring a dinner with them most nights for dinner time.

Decatur Marching Band Fall Dates

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
7/13-7/17	Band Camp Week 1
7/20-7/24	Band Camp Week 2
7/25	Preview Show and Mattress Sale Fundraiser
7/26	Post Camp Pool Party
TBD	Marching Band Picture Day
8/14	Football Vs. Miller Grove
8/15	Super Saturday Rehearsal
8/20	Football @ Blessed Trinity (Thursday)
8/28	Football @ Stephenson
9/4	Football Vs. Shiloh
9/11	Football @ Lakeside
9/17	Fall Concert: Marching Band Appearance
9/18	Football Vs. Meadowcreek
10/2	Football Vs. Alcovy (Senior Night)
10/3	Contest: GMBC at Mill Creek
10/9	Football @ Midtown
10/16	Football @ Heritage
10/17	Contest: Southern Invitational at Kell High School
10/23	Football Vs. Dunwoody (Homecoming)
10/29	Football @ Chamblee (Thursday)
11/7	Contest: White Columns Invitational at Milton High School
11/14*	Football Playoffs Round 1
11/20*	Football Playoffs Round 2
11/27*	Football Playoffs Round 3
12/4*	Football Playoffs Round 4
TBD*	Football State Championships

*Dates are contingent on football team