

2026 Widefield High School Gladiator Marching Band



Excellence, In Everything. Always.

The Widefield High School Gladiator Marching Band is a group unlike any other at WHS! Last year we achieved a new highest score in school history (which we have done 3 out of the last 5 years) and qualified for State Semi-Finals. If you decide to become a member of the 2026 Gladiator Marching Band, it is something you will not regret. You will make memories and learn skills that will last for the rest of your life! Many students consider Marching Band to be their highlight of High School. If you're on the fence, give us a shot and see what you think about one of the most tight-knit and consistently successful groups at WHS!

WHAT TO EXPECT

(all dates below are mandatory, yet subject to change)

This Spring:

Leadership only- Interviews on April 27th and 28th, after school

Guard only- Try-outs: April 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd 5:30-7:00pm

Percussion only: Clinics April 14th & 21st 4-6pm; Tryouts April 30th and May 1st, 4-6pm

May Jump Start Days- All these days are mandatory unless you've communicated with the directors in advance.

We will work on some music and visual basics, and start learning our show. This is a great opportunity to see how marching band works and how much fun it is! Students should be in the WHS band room by the start of rehearsal time. Wear comfortable workout clothing with tennis shoes. NO prior experience needed!

Wednesday, April 29: 3:15-5:15PM

Thursday, May 7: 3:15-5:15PM

Tuesday, May 19th: 1:00-4:00PM (early release from school that day)

Wednesday, May 20th: 1:00-4:00PM (early release from school that day)

Thursday, May 21st: 1:00-4:00PM (NO school that day)

Summer Band Camp

Guard and Percussion will have some meetings in June, but otherwise we take the month completely off. In mid-July, **band camp** will start. During band camp, we learn most of our show, a key to a successful season. We also play lots of games, get to know each other, and have fun. **All these days are mandatory unless you've communicated with the directors in advance.**

Band Camp Schedule:

- July 13th and 14th: Student Leadership Meetings 9AM - Noon (leaders only)
- July 20th and 21st: **Leaders/New Members** 9AM-Noon **ALL MEMBERS** 1-4PM (one hour lunch break)
- July 22nd - 24th **AND** July 27th - 31st: **ALL MEMBERS** 9AM-4PM (with one hour lunch break)
- July 31st evening: End of camp pool party - SAA Pool (not required but lots of fun!)
- August 3rd: start of our normal 3:15-5:15 daily rehearsals, Monday-Friday. These continue through the end of October. This is our "class time" when the school year begins.

Summer Workouts

Members need to exercise regularly throughout the summer in order to be ready for band camp and the season. This could include running, cycling, and/or weightlifting at least three times a week for 30 minutes. The WHS weight room is available to us Mon, Wed, and Fri from 8:30-10:00AM every week. This includes free instruction from our fantastic strength & conditioning coaches. This will help build the strength, endurance, core stability, and strong joints that we need for marching band. **Members are expected to attend summer workouts unless they are out of town. Members who achieve 90% attendance will receive a T-shirt and special recognition.**

Parent Meetings

Parents need to attend one of our parent meetings. We will go over what to expect for the season and you can ask all questions. You can also connect with other band parents and find out ways that you can help our band be successful.

Parent meetings are in the WHS band room. They are Saturday, April 25th at 10AM and Wednesday, April 29th at 5:30pm. The meetings are less than an hour. Our band depends on its amazing parent volunteers, and there are lots of ways in which you can help the band. Please attend one of our parent meetings to find out more.

The Fall Season / Attendance:

We rehearse Monday - Friday after school from 3:15pm-5:15pm. This schedule starts up immediately after band camp ends. Marching Band is a class that students receive credit for, so attendance is taken at every rehearsal. Students earn grade points for being present at rehearsal. Students who miss too many rehearsals, even when excused, will need to work with a leader or staff member to earn the grade points back. Any absences the week of a performance *may* result in a student being unable to participate in said performance - this is at the staff's discretion. We need every member to fully function as a group, since there are no "starters" or "bench players" in the band - *every single member is as important as the rest!* In addition, we will have several football games, Saturday events and various competitions throughout the season. Dates may change but as of now, here are the planned events:

August 21: Home Football Game

September 4: Home Football Game

September 12: Harrison Clinic and Show, Harrison HS

September 26: Community Day Parade & Game, WHS (daytime)

October 2 - 4: Road Trip to Laramie, WY (tentative)

October 8 - Home Football Game

October 10: Harrison Marching Festival, Harrison HS**

**** This is over a 4 day weekend from school. Members must attend this competition****

October 14: CBA Regional, Fountain Ft Carson HS (Evening)

October 17: State Preview Show, WHS (daytime)

October 23 / 24: CBA State Championship, Air Force Academy

October 30: Home Football Game

November 7: Veterans' Day Parade (Morning)

November 13: Marching Band Banquet (Evening)

TBD: Festival of Lights Parade

Fees

**Please note - Our show is custom-created specifically for our band every year. Every member's spot on the field is written individually for that person. If students commit to the band and then drop out, we must pay our designers extra to rewrite the show. Due to this cost, a charge of \$100 will be assessed for any members who drop the ensemble after the first payment is due on May 21. This is in addition to any fees that have already been collected for items we order (shoes, shirts, etc). There are unfortunately no refunds. We have this in place to protect the entire organization from bearing the additional costs of rewrites due to drops.*

2026 Fall Marching Band Fees - Winds & Percussion



Uniform Rental	\$25 - Covers cleaning, replacement items, gloves for winds and wristbands for percussion
Meal Fee	\$75 - Meals & snacks at all events. End of year banquet tickets for members.
Black band T-Shirt (part of uniform)	\$15* - you own and keep the shirt
DSI Viper Marching Shoes	\$45* - you own and keep the shoes

\$160 Total Cost (new members)

*If you own functional viper shoes or black band shirt, you don't need to purchase again
You are welcome to purchase more than one pair of shoes or shirts

Costs are kept at an absolute minimum. Some bands in Colorado Springs charge \$1,000 for marching band! If you need a payment plan, please talk with us. Due dates are as follows but you are welcome to pay in full at any time.

May 21 (Last May Day): \$50 due

July 24 (1st week of Band Camp): \$50 due

August 15 (4 weeks into season): any remainder due (\$80 for new members)

Not paying or discussing payment plan may jeopardize ability to participate.
Fees can be paid with cash, check (made out to Widefield HS) or [click here to pay online.](#)

Instrument Rental Fees:

Yearly Woodwind or Brass Instrument: \$70

Second Woodwind or Brass Instrument: \$40

Percussion Equipment Fee: \$70 (includes both marching AND yearly concert percussion)

These are paid separately from other band fees once the school year starts.

**WHS Gladiator Marching Band
2026 Commitment Form - online**

Visit this link to sign up:

<https://forms.gle/YDHP54uboGstMwaS9>

**2026 Marching Band
Parent Square Group**

Visit this link to sign up:

<https://www.parentsquare.com/groups/join/d7mna0merk>



Other sources of information:

<http://widefieldband.com>

Facebook: "Widefield High School Bands"

Instagram: @widefieldbands

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