

**Parent and Student**  
**Handbook**



**ALPHARETTA BAND PROGRAM**

## **Band Organizations/Course Offerings**

### ***Classes offered during the school day:***

\*\*Not all of these classes make it every school year. The class schedule is determined based on student interest and membership participation in the band program.

### **Wind Ensemble**

The Alpharetta Wind Ensemble is the top performing organization in the band program. This band will study a large repertoire of wind literature and will train students in advanced musical skills. This group will also provide appropriate, quality musical programs for the school and community. The wind ensemble will be carefully balanced as to instrumentation. The wind ensemble members should be our most advanced and most dedicated musicians. We require that students in the wind ensemble participate in district honor band auditions and solo and ensemble performances, take private lessons, and involve themselves completely in our band program. Directors will take musical talent as well as involvement as strict criteria for this class.

\*\*To qualify for this ensemble, each student must audition and be judged proficient on his/her instrument by the directors. Auditions for class band placements take place every February and will consist of selected major scales, the chromatic scale, a prepared piece of music, and sight-reading. Audition scores will determine seating position.

### **Symphonic Band II**

The Alpharetta Symphonic Band II is designed to continue students' training and prepare them for placement in the Wind Ensemble. The Symphonic Band will be carefully balanced as to instrumentation. Audition requirements are the same as those for Wind Ensemble.

### **Symphonic Band I**

The Alpharetta Symphonic Band I is designed to continue student training and prepare them for placement in the Symphonic Band or Wind Ensemble. The Symphonic Band I will be carefully balanced as to instrumentation. Audition requirements are the same as those for the Symphonic Band II and Wind Ensemble.

### **Black and Maroon Band**

The Alpharetta Black and Maroon Band is designed to continue student training and prepare them for auditioning for another performance band class. The Black and Maroon Band is designed to help strengthen the fundamental musical knowledge of the students. This is a non-performance-based ensemble.

### **Percussion Class(es)**

This is an ensemble that will include all members of the instrumental percussion program. This class allows the percussionists an opportunity to prepare both regular class band music as well as percussion ensemble music. This class is designed to facilitate the growth of the percussion program and to enhance technique throughout the percussion studio. All members of the Percussion class will be required to perform juries, as well as perform in multiple ensembles throughout the school year.

***Extra-Curricular Activities Sponsored by the AHS Band Program:***

**Marching Band**

The Alpharetta High School Marching Band is composed of all students who wish to be actively involved in an organization with a tradition of excellence and school pride. Membership in a band class is required if a student wishes to participate in Marching Band at Alpharetta High School. Exceptions to this rule will be made for the front ensemble performers and the Colorguard performers. This organization is the most visible and the most recognized AHS Bands organization in the community and in the state. Performances include half-time shows, concerts, competitions, parades, and marching festivals. Members are expected to make all rehearsals and performances their top priority.

**Color guard**

The Color guard is the auxiliary unit of the Marching Band. It was organized to visually enhance the Marching Band and to give those students who did not start on an instrument during middle school a chance to participate with the band. Colorguard members are selected in the spring by a panel of judges. Students do not have to be band members to be eligible for tryouts. Upon selection, they must agree to abide by all rules of the band and attend all activities of the band. It must be understood that there are additional fees involved with participation in this group, above and beyond those of Marching Band members. This is a very select group, and members must make all practices and performances their top priority.

**Winterguard**

Winterguard is an extension of the Marching Band Colorguard unit. This is an extra-curricular unit that rehearses and performs during the winter months with the hopes of continual growth and exposure for the Colorguard unit. Anyone—including band members—is welcome to try out for this organization. As musicians continue to perform throughout the remainder of the school year on their instruments, Winterguard provides the members of the Colorguard to continue to learn and refine their skills. This is a very select group, and members must make all practices and performances their top priority.

**Indoor Drumline**

Indoor Drumline is an extension of the Marching Band Percussion unit. This is an extra-curricular unit that rehearses and performs during the winter months with the hopes of continual growth and exposure for the Percussion unit. Anyone—including band members—is welcome to try out for this organization. As musicians continue to perform throughout the remainder of the school year on their instruments, Indoor percussion provides the members of the percussion section to continue to learn and refine their skills. This is a very select group, and members must make all practices and performances their top priority.

## **General Attendance Policy**

Attendance is vital to the success of any band. As a member of the band program, each student occupies an important part and space in each band function. Every band member is expected to attend all major functions by his/her organization. These functions include rehearsals, concerts, adjudicated festivals, scheduled football games, and parades.

Please note the following quote from the *Georgia Music News*, SPRING 2017:

“It is permissible under state law to include after-school activities as part of a student’s grade as long as membership is not determined competitively.”

If an absence is absolutely necessary, the student must contact a director ***in advance***. If an absence occurs due to an unexpected circumstance, the student must bring a written excuse to the directors upon returning to the band. In both expected and unexpected absence situations, an email to the directors from the parents is expected.

### **Concert Rehearsals and Performances:**

#### **1. Excused** (advanced notice given)

Excused absences include personal illness (note from doctor required), severe illness (advance notice required), or sudden death in the family. Other situations may come up that could be excused and should be discussed with the directors **in advance**. The directors will then decide whether or not the absence should be excused. Excused absences from a performance will not count for or against students in their grades. In other words, no grade at all will be given. A make-up assignment will be assigned, and the student will have ample time to complete the assignment to earn the points necessary.

#### **2. Unexcused**

If an unexcused absence occurs during a public performance, the student will receive a zero (“0”) for the performance grade. NO exceptions will be allowed. Missing more than one unexcused performance in a semester means that the director can use his/her discretion to remove the student from the band. The directors have the discretion to remove students from future performances if the student misses vital rehearsals or previous performances.

The following absences are unexcused, and students will NOT be excused from rehearsal. 1) Not feeling like coming to rehearsal 2) Sick where the student is still able to complete the school day. (without a doctor’s note) 3) Homework 4) Birthday 5) Work 6) Transportation 7) Going out of town 8) Vacation 9) To attend a sporting event or concert. Except in extremely urgent situations, doctor’s visits and other appointments should be scheduled on days when there are no performances.

## **Marching Band Attendance Policy**

Full attendance at every rehearsal and performance is crucial to having an outstanding, rewarding season. Since this is an extracurricular activity, students and parents/guardians must bear in mind that membership in the ensemble is contingent upon each student's individual effort to maintain a high level of excellence during rehearsals and performances. The attendance policy is as follows:

### **1. Excused Absences**

Absences will be monitored by the section leaders and recorded by the band secretary and director. Excused absences from rehearsals include personal illness (accompanied by a parent/guardian or doctor's note), sudden death in the immediate family, and Alpharetta High School-related events only. Excused absences from performances only include personal illness (doctor's note required) and sudden death in the immediate family. Unexcused absences include every other reason, such as work, transportation problems, stomachache, headache, etc.

If a student is going to miss a rehearsal or performance, and he/she knows ahead of time, it is the student's responsibility to give at least two weeks in advance and turn it in to the band director.

If a student is sick (vomiting or running a high temperature) or has a death in the family, then a parent/guardian MUST attempt to contact the band director on the date of the absence.

#### Contact Information:

Band Director – Todd Manson – [mansont1@fultonschools.org](mailto:mansont1@fultonschools.org)

Band Director – Jared Kaufman - [KaufmanJ@fultonschools.org](mailto:KaufmanJ@fultonschools.org)

\*\*Color guard members can contact Mr. Manson or the color guard director to let one of us know of an absence.

### **2. Unexcused Absences**

If the student has two unexcused absences, then he/she will have to dress out and sit with the Director or parent that the director designates on the bus and in the stands. The student WILL NOT perform for that game.

If the student has three unexcused absences, then the director reserves the right to dismiss the student from the band. A student will not earn the 60 points to either letter or earn a pin if that student has three or more unexcused absences.

### **Tardies**

Attendance will be taken by the section leaders and recorded by the band secretary. Anyone not present at the conclusion of attendance taking will be counted tardy. Any student who accumulates **four** tardies could potentially begin to face disciplinary action at the band director's discretion.

### **Withdrawal/Dismissal from Marching Band**

Withdrawal from the marching band creates a hardship for the entire band. Students who withdraw in mid-season will forfeit all rights and privileges as band members and may be prohibited from signing up for band or band events in the future. After all other courses of action have been pursued, the directors reserve the right to dismiss any person from the band who constantly fails to meet the expectations of the Alpharetta High School Band program.

## **Grading Policy**

See individual course syllabus for format and information.

## **Rehearsal Procedures**

Rehearsal time is short, and every moment is used for actual rehearsal purposes. If a student delays the rehearsal for as little as one minute, that student has wasted a great deal of time because every other member of the band has also been forced to waste one minute.

The following guidelines are used in all fine performing arts organizations and are the foundation of our rehearsal procedure:

1. Band members should bring the following items to all rehearsals:
  - instrument
  - all music and/or charts
  - reeds, mutes, oils, cork grease, etc.
  - Pencil!
2. Upon arrival to the rehearsal room or practice field, all non-productive attitudes and behavior will cease. Once in rehearsal, students' main focus needs to be on having a productive rehearsal. This means that loud talking will end after admittance.
3. All personal belongings are to be left at the front of the room upon entering the band room.
4. Band members should spend the pre-rehearsal time assembling their equipment (instrument, music, stand, etc.) necessary for rehearsal.
5. For class rehearsals, band members will have three minutes or less immediately following the tardy bell to complete their preparation for rehearsal. When the director steps on the podium, a student is considered tardy if he/she is not seated in his/her chair with the instrument, music, and stand in place.
6. When someone is on the podium, students' full attention must be given to that person; nothing should be allowed to distract. Students must be quiet, listen, and watch.
7. Chewing gum prevents a student from playing correctly and poses a safety risk. Chewing gum, candy, or the presence of any other food item will not be allowed in any part of the rehearsal room. Being caught with food or drink items indicates that a student does not care about the facility or for other band members. The resulting disciplinary action will be at the discretion of the band directors.
8. The rehearsal room must be kept clean and orderly. It should emit a sense of pride. Students should store their instruments and music in assigned places. The rehearsal room is not a locker room. Books and other personal belongings are not to be left in the rehearsal room or the instrument storage room.

**SUPERIOR BANDS ARE THE RESULT OF SUPERIOR REHEARSALS!**

## **Extra Rehearsals and Public Performances**

Due to the complex nature of a quality band program, rehearsals outside of class time are necessary. Generally, such rehearsals will be scheduled well in advance so that all conflicts can be avoided. All rehearsals are required.

Most of the performances of the band are scheduled outside of school hours and are required. At times, last-minute rehearsals or performances may arise. The director will announce any changes in the calendar as soon as possible. If there is a conflict on a sudden event, then an arrangement will be worked out by the student and the director.

## **Code of Behavior**

Conduct of the band members reflects directly on the individual, the band, and the school. The conduct of each band member should be exemplary as the band, and its members are on constant display. Each student should help reflect the keen sense of PRIDE that is to be the cornerstone of this band program.

Our marching band code of conduct believes in this philosophy: Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege in schools and not a property right. It is understood by all students, parents, coaches, and sponsors that the top priority is academic progress. Everyone involved in these activities will make every effort not to interfere with that ultimate goal. The purpose of the code of conduct is to establish a minimum standard of behavior. Therefore, coaches or sponsors may enforce consequences for inappropriate behavior or conduct.

Consequences for any of the items below can/will result in disciplinary action from the school level, as well as discipline from the marching band directors.

### **General**

- No smoking, alcohol, or use of drugs will be permitted.
- Members should follow the instructions of the staff and chaperones.
- Members should be courteous toward each other, as well as toward other people (i.e., spectators, members of other bands, etc.)
- Profanity, vulgarity, and obscenity will not be tolerated.
- Members must keep a professional and positive online presence. Inappropriate online behavior or behavior that goes against the Alpharetta High School code of ethics will not be tolerated
- Members should not participate in public displays of affection at any time that they are with the band
- Members should treat all adults and students with respect at all times. Alpharetta High School Band believes that all students learn better in a safe learning environment. Behavior that infringes on the safety of students, staff, or volunteers will not be tolerated.

### **Bus**

- Members must remain seated when the bus is in motion.
- Silence must be maintained at all railroad crossings or when requested by the bus driver or band staff.
- Members must keep appendages inside the bus at all times.
- Audio/video equipment is prohibited on the bus unless it is used with a personal listening device (i.e., headphones). Anyone not following this rule will have his or her equipment confiscated. A parent/guardian may retrieve these items from the main office according to school policy.
- No disorderly conduct will be tolerated.
- Members must remain on the bus until instructed to exit by the staff.
- Members should remove all personal items and trash from the bus when exiting.

## **Stands**

- Band members, staff, and chaperones must sit as a group in the stands. All other persons are prohibited from sitting in the band set.
- Band members are placed in the band block for specific reasons. Students are prohibited from changing seating assignments.
- Members may not remove any portion of their uniform unless given permission to do so by the staff.
- Members may not play their instruments except when instructed to do so by a staff member or a drum major. **Individual playing is prohibited!**
- Breaks are given at the discretion of the directors; these breaks are privileges, not rights!
- Non-band members and parents may not bring food or drinks to band members who are seated in the band block.
- Members should not have food or drinks within the band seating area
- After the game, each section leader should see that his/her squad has cleaned up their seating area; this includes music, folders, gloves, hats, etc.

## **Travel/Trips**

Students are expected to conduct themselves properly at all times while traveling with the band. Students must remember that they are representing not only themselves but also their community and family. Students must conduct themselves as young ladies and gentlemen so that they can be treated as such. While traveling with the band, students must remain with the group. All students must ride the bus to and from all band functions. The time of departure and the estimated time of return will be announced no later than the day before a trip.

## **Marching Band Uniforms**

The AHS band uniform should provide each member with a spirit of unity and a sense of purpose and pride. Students should therefore give the utmost care to the uniform and in no way become careless with it.

Each band member will be issued an official AHS Band uniform. A parent volunteer will make every effort to properly size and fit each member. Should a student encounter problems with his/her uniform, he/she should report it immediately to the uniform chairperson. The time for repairs is not an hour before a performance. The loss or destruction of the uniform, or any part thereof, will be financially assessed and charged to the student.

1. Uniforms are to be properly hung after each use.
2. Uniforms may only be worn to official band performances.
3. Members should wear the uniform with PRIDE. When wearing the uniform, students should
  1. Always have it buttoned up and zipped up.
  2. Wear a band shirt underneath the uniform jacket.
4. No items will be attached to the uniform when worn.
5. Hair should be neat, well groomed, and kept out of the face. Hair must be able to be completely inside the shako during performances.
6. Jewelry is limited to a watch, a ring, and simple stud earrings. No other visible jewelry is allowed.
7. In situations where the band is traveling and the uniform is not being worn on the bus, students are to properly hang and cover the uniform in their garment bag.
8. If a student is not in full uniform, he/she will not be allowed to perform.



## **Equipment/Instrument**

Each member is responsible for the maintenance and care of his/her instrument.

All school-owned band equipment must be checked out through the band directors. Once issued, school-owned instruments become the responsibility of the student for proper care, maintenance, and protection from damage. Students using school-owned instruments will be responsible for and charged for any damages beyond normal wear and tear.

## **Auditions for Band Classes**

Auditions will be held for the next school year in February/March. Students will be placed according to these auditions; however, changes may be made at any time after the original assignments are made.

## **Band and Sports/Extra-Curriculars**

Students should be able to participate in band and sports, but students are responsible for assessing and handling any conflicts ahead of time. The policy we follow is that if there is a conflict of practice for one and a performance for the other, the performance takes precedence. If there is a conflict of practice times, the student should attend half of each practice, or a comparable schedule agreed on by all concerned. If there is a conflict between band performance and a game, students will need to weigh the importance and make their choice. The directors must be notified in advance. Problems can be solved if students talk to the director and the coach early.

## **Individual Practice**

It is the responsibility of each band member to practice his/her individual music outside of band rehearsal time. Individual practice time should be spent on music, scales, and etudes assigned by the directors or private instructor. Practicing assures that the student is strengthening fundamental skills and learning assigned music. Furthermore, individual improvement will directly affect the overall improvement, abilities, and success of the entire band.

Students are strongly encouraged to take lessons with a qualified private instructor. Students will increase their rate of improvement and success on their instrument by a notable margin. To obtain a private instructor, see the directors

## **Marching Band Student Leaders**

Alpharetta High School Band members have an excellent opportunity to develop and expand their leadership abilities. Band officers have many important responsibilities ranging from welcoming visiting bands to aiding in maintaining order and discipline. Marching band student leaders will apply and audition for positions in the spring of every school year.

**Section Leaders** - These positions will be filled based on playing and leadership abilities. The duties and responsibilities are:

- Maintaining uniformity in each section.
- Requesting and conducting section rehearsals when appropriate.
- Assisting in maintaining order.
- Participating in the Officer's Council.
- Inspect all section members before each performance.
- Making sure his/her section area of the rehearsal is kept clean and orderly.

### **Drum Major**

The Drum Major will be chosen through an audition procedure in the spring of every year. Students who audition must have completed at least one year in marching band and have an exemplary academic record, band enthusiasm, and leadership abilities.

## Financial Information

The Fulton County Board of Education provides basic support for their band programs. However, since the financial investment to maintain the level of excellence in our program is great, we must annually supplement the system's support. Fundraising opportunities will be scheduled each year through our Booster Organization to help the Alpharetta Band Program maintain the high level of success we expect and to help individual students offset some of the costs related to the program.

# Band Registration Fees for 2023-2024

## Fees per Student

Program	Items Covered	Fees
<b>Concert Band Only Students Due September 1st · \$250 in OSP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Winter clinic with special instruction and some meals</li><li>· Concert band music</li><li>· Master classes and guest clinicians throughout the year</li><li>· Concert equipment</li><li>· Instrument maintenance</li><li>· Locker rentals</li><li>· Transportation for performance evaluation</li><li>· Special Awards</li><li>· Administrative expenses</li></ul>	<b>\$250</b>
<b>Marching Band and Concert Band Students \$350 due May 15 \$200 due June 1st \$200 due July 1st \$200 due Aug 1st \$200 due Sept 1st \$200 due Oct 1st</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Two week band day camp including lunch or dinner</li><li>· Local marching competitions including transportation</li><li>· Overnight competition trip including transportation and accommodation</li><li>· Dinner prior to each football game</li><li>· Uniform maintenance (dry cleaning, gloves, repairs)</li><li>· Marching music and show design</li><li>· Marching band t-shirt and show shirt</li><li>· Water and snacks throughout season</li><li>· Special instructors</li><li>· Special Awards</li><li>· Administrative expenses</li></ul>	<b>\$1,100 + 250</b>

<p><b>Color Guard</b>  <b>\$350 due May 15</b>  <b>\$200 due June 1st</b>  <b>\$200 due July 1st</b>  <b>\$200 due Aug 1st</b>  <b>\$200 due Sept 1st</b>  <b>\$200 due Oct 1st</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Two week band day camp including lunch or dinner</li> <li>· Local marching competitions including transportation</li> <li>· Overnight competition trip including transportation and accommodation</li> <li>· Dinner prior to each football game</li> <li>· Marching band t-shirt</li> <li>· Flags, props, and supplies</li> <li>· Marching music and show design</li> <li>· Waters and snacks throughout season</li> <li>· Special instructors</li> <li>· Special Awards</li> <li>· Administrative expenses</li> </ul>	<p><b>\$1,150 for Returning Members</b></p> <p><b>\$1350 for New Colorguard Members</b></p>
---	---	---

### Payment Policies

- Payments can be made via PayPal/debit/credit card in Charms (preferred) or check/money order made out to "ABBA". For more details on how to pay, please see the band website or this link: <https://www.alpharettaband.org/charms.html>
- All fees should be paid in full before a student can participate in any elective trips

## Alpharetta High School Band Awards Program

The Alpharetta High School Band presents the following singular awards annually:

**THE JOHN PHILLIP SOUSA AWARD** – is presented to a student selected by the director of bands on the basis of the student’s contributions to the band over the course of that student’s participation in the program in terms of musicianship, leadership, loyalty, and dedication. This award is typically dedicated to a senior at the end of their high school career but can be awarded to underclassmen if warranted.

**SPIRIT OF ALPHARETTA HIGH SCHOOL BAND AWARD** – is presented to the band student who best represents the character and pride of the band organization. This award still focuses on strong musicianship, intelligence, and dedication. This is primarily an underclassman award but can be awarded to a senior if applicable

**OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL MARCHING BAND PERFORMER** – is awarded to the most outstanding marching band member during the marching season. This award is based on dedication, attendance, musicianship, leadership, and integrity.

**OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARDS** – are presented to all grade levels. The recipients of these awards are selected by the band directors and are not based on points alone. These awards will be for the class band, marching band, color guard, and winter guard

-----

The following class awards are presented on the basis of points earned by participation in band-related activities:

**FIRST YEAR AWARD – (A BAND LETTER)** – A first-year band student may earn this award based on earning 110 points from the list below.

**SECOND YEAR AWARD – (A LETTER BAR/PIN)** – A second-year band student may earn this award based on having earned 220 points during his/her first two years in the band or having earned 115 points during the second year alone.

**THIRD YEAR AWARD – (A LETTER BAR/PIN)** – A third-year band student may earn this award based on having earned 330 points during his/her first three years in the band or having earned 120 points during the third year alone.

**SENIOR PLAQUE** – A fourth-year band student may earn this award based on having earned 440 points during his/her four years in a band or having earned 125 points during the senior year alone.

## **Basis for band Points Earned**

### **Alpharetta High School Band Program**

Participation in Marching band; A student may earn **60 points** for participation in each marching band season. Students must complete the entire season, including all competitions, football games, and playoff games.

*This total will be reduced by ten points for each performance missed, or if the student has three or more unexcused absences. This will be left to the director's discretion.*

Participation in Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band I, Symphonic Band II, or Percussion Class: A student may earn **50 points** for participation in Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band I, Symphonic Band II, or Percussion Class.

*This total will be reduced by ten points for each performance missed. Students are welcome to take more than one band class per school year, but will only be eligible for 50 points per year regardless of how many classes they take.*

Participation in Fulton County Honor Band: A student may earn **10 points** for simply auditioning for the FCHB, and a student will earn an additional **10 points** for acceptance and participation in the Fulton County Honor Band.

Students must actively participate in the entire rehearsals and concert in order to earn all **20 points**.

Participation in District Honor Band: A student may earn **10 points** for simply auditioning for the 1st Round

All-State/DHB auditions, and a student will earn an additional **10 points** for acceptance and participation in the GMEA DHB. Students must actively participate in the entire rehearsals and concert in order to earn all **20 points**.

All State audition and participation: A student may earn **20 points** for simply auditioning for the 2nd round all-state audition, and a student will earn an additional **20 points** for acceptance and participation in the All-State Band or Orchestras (All State Jazz Ensemble qualifies the student for these points). Students must actively participate in the entire all-state event in order to earn all **40 points**. (Multiple instruments will not be awarded additional points)

Participation in Solo and Ensemble Festival: A student may earn **20 points** for participation in GMEA Solo and ensemble Festival and earn a rating of superior or excellent. Multiple credits are not given for multiple entries.

Participation in Indoor Drumline: A student may earn **30 points** for participation in Indoor Drumline for the entire season. *This total will be reduced by ten points for each performance missed, or if the student has three or more unexcused absences.*

Participation in Winterguard: A student may earn **30 points** for participation in JV/VARSITY Winterguard for the entire season. *This total will be reduced by ten points for each performance missed, or if the student has three or more unexcused absences.*

Participation in AYSO, AYWS, MYSO, Alpharetta Youth Orchestra, GHP (Music), etc. A student may earn **40 points** for participation in performing groups for the entire season. Such groups must be approved by the director. *Church Orchestras, University Band Clinics such as (UGA Janfest, South Carolina Band Clinic, Columbus State Band Clinic) while encouraged will not be awarded points.*

*Fine Arts Department Seal recipients, Tri-M members, Full Orchestra Musicians,, and Spring Musical Pit Musicians will be recognized during our end of the year banquet, however, there are no points associated with those groups.*

**\*\*No student who misses a performance without an excuse approved by the director, or who has a grade in band lower than a B is eligible to earn any award during that year.**

**\*\*\* Colorguard students that are not enrolled in a band class must fulfill marching band obligations in order to be considered for the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade awards. CG students must earn 60 points per year for consideration.**

## **Alpharetta Band Booster's Association (ABBA)**

This organization consists of all parents/guardians of current members of any performing group in the band program at Ola High School. Parents are urged to become active members in order to aid as a chaperone or help plan fundraisers. Regardless of the position you would like, your help and ideas are needed to help out all facets of the band program.

If students choose to participate in an extra-curricular performing group (ex. Marching band, Winterguard, Winter drum line), then their parents/guardians, as Band Booster members, are expected to meet all financial obligations. It is also expected that all parents/guardians, as Band Boosters, contribute to the required fair share of hours of service for each extra-curricular performing group. These fair share service hours shall be set forth by the director of each performing group.

The meeting schedule is published in the band calendar provided at the beginning of each semester. See Booster Constitution for further descriptions.

### **Fair Share Program**

The Fair Share Program was instituted by the booster club to help maintain the culture of excellence that is associated with the Marching Mustangs Program. Throughout the school year, there are many times we need parental assistance to make our events run seamlessly. The Fair Share Program calls on every parent to provide support and put forth their fair share of work. We feel that making the commitment for your students to be involved in the Alpharetta Bands is two-fold. Not only is student commitment essential to our success, but parental support is equally important.

In the spring and early summer, we will ask that each family sign up for a few working days on our calendar for the fall football season. The number of days and times will be contingent every year based on the membership of the group and the number of activities that the band has listed on the calendar. We ask that each family chooses the event(s) that best suit their schedule throughout the academic year. We then ask that every family follow through with their commitment after signing up for an assignment. Reminders from committee chairs will be sent out in advance of a scheduled working day.

We would like to thank you in advance for your time and effort in making the Fair Share Program a success. If every person involved with the Marching Raiders puts forth their fair share, then the entire program will benefit!

## **Parent Volunteer and Fundraising Opportunities**

With a program as large and vibrant as ours, there are many volunteer and fundraising opportunities for all parents, regardless of their specific talents. All parents are expected to contribute so that the program runs smoothly.

### **Volunteer Opportunities:**

- Chaperoning, including those who administer first aid
- Equipment Crew – from building props to moving equipment
- Feeding the students on Friday nights and before competitions
- Band Banquet in May – organize and decorate
- Hospitality – providing refreshments and serving after concerts and other special events
- Photographers at events
- Sewing – alterations to uniforms and sewing flags
- Uniforms – both marching and concert – fit students, distribute and maintain

### **Fundraising:**

- Working concessions at the Ameris Bank Amphitheater – our largest fundraiser
- Alpharetta's winter guard or indoor drumline competition (February or March)
- Organizing and running the Taste of Alpharetta
- Spiritwear sales- Friday lunches, football games, registration, and other events
- Football parking