

# The Bands Of **ALPHARETTA**

Greetings prospective and returning AHS Band students,

As we begin to build the detailed schedule for our 2023-2024 school year, we wanted to provide you some of the important summer/fall dates already in place. The football schedule has recently been released and all football games (home and away) are now listed on our band calendar which can be found at: [www.alpharettaband.org](http://www.alpharettaband.org)

The dates below are mandatory for participation in the marching band. To be our best, we must have all of our students in attendance for every rehearsal, games, and competitions. Please be aware that Saturday competitions consume the entire day.

## **Spring Training Camps and Meetings:**

April 18th - 6:30 pm - General Parent Registration Meeting - AHS Auditorium

April 29th - 9:00am - 1:00pm - Marching Band Spring Training Camp #1

*\*We invite all wind, percussion, and colorguard students to attend this marching band experience camp at Alpharetta High School.*

May 13th - 9:00am - 1:00pm - Marching Band Spring Training Camp #2

*\*This will be our marching band registration deadline for all winds, percussion, and colorguard members. All informational forms and payment for the marching band must be completed by this date in order for your child to be a member of the 2023 AHS marching band.*

## **Additional Spring rehearsals for Colorguard and Percussion**

*May 3rd- 5:30 - 7:30*

*May 10th- 5:30 - 7:30*

*May 17th - 5:30 - 7:30*

## **Summer Marching Band Camp**

July 17-21 9:00am - 5:00pm

July 24- 28 3:00pm - 10:00pm

July 31 - Aug 5th - Times and Dates TBD

August 19th - Super Saturday Rehearsal 9:00am to 3:00pm - Annual Pot Luck 3:00-5:00pm.

## **Fall Marching Band Contest Dates**

September 23rd - Fulton County Band Exhibition at Cambridge HS

September 30th - Possible Competition TBD

October 21st - Bands of America - Atlanta Regional

October 28th - Possible Competition TBD

November 4th - White Columns Invitational at Milton HS

## **General Regular Season After-School Marching Band Rehearsal Schedule**

Mondays - 3:45pm to 6:00pm

Tuesdays - 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Thursdays - 3:45pm to 6:30pm

On Fridays with games, students will stay after school for a run-through and pre-game meal.

**Alpharetta High School  
2023-2024 Band Fee Structure**

**Activity Fee Structure:**

	<b>Fixed Activity Fees</b>	<b>Additional Activity Fees</b>			<b>Volunteer Expectations</b>	
<b>Participation</b>		Marching Band or Colorguard Shoes	Concert Dress Purchase or Tuxedo Rental	Concert Materials (Book, Tuner, Mic, Locker Rental, Inst Rental, Clinicians, WC)	Ameris Bank Amphitheatre	General Band Volunteer
Band Class Only	\$250	N/A	Included	Included	2	2
Marching Band Wind & Percussion Students and Class Band	\$1,350	\$45	Included	Included	3	3
Colorguard	\$1,150	\$30	N/A	N/A	3	3
Colorguard and Class Band	\$1350	\$30	Included	Included	3	3
New Colorguard Member	\$1350	\$30	N/A	N/A	3	3
Sibling Discount Rate for Marching Band and Band Class Members	\$1,150 per student	\$45	Included	Included	4	4

*Activity Fee (Fixed Cost)*

The activity fee is applicable to all students that participate in band and will be billed to your account based on the student's level of participation. The Alpharetta Band Parents Association (ABBA) provides significant supplemental funding for instruction, training, props, uniforms, instruments, and other costs associated with all Band and Color Guard activities. For all of the programs to be successful, we must have full financial participation.

## Variable Costs/ Accessories - Additional

- (1) All band and colorguard participants must have a pair of marching band shoes. Purchases not necessary if a student has a pair from the prior year that still fit. Amount will be billed to those who purchase shoes. This purchase will occur in late July.
- (2) All band participants must wear a tuxedo or dress for band concerts. The cost of this is included in your fixed activity fee
  - a. **Tuxedos** will be loaned to students for the school year and will include (Jacket, and Pants). At the end of the school year each tuxedo will need to be dry cleaned and returned with the students name on it. However, each student will need to purchase a shirt, bowtie and cummerbund which **ARE YOURS TO KEEP AT HOME**. This way the student may reuse these for the following year(s) if they still fit.
  - b. **Dresses** will be purchased for every freshman girl or new member girl who is new to the band. That dress will be theirs to keep for their four years in the band.
- (3) **Color Guard (CG)** - travel uniform accessories - all members of the CG will be required to have various travel uniform accessories including a jacket, pants, tanks, guard bag, etc. New members will need to purchase all items. If returning guard members need replacement items, they will be billed separately for those items.
- (4) **Other TBD** - Throughout the year various fees may flow through ABBA and be billed to the students based on individual participation. For example, Honor Band Fee, Fulton County Honor Band Fee, All-State Band, Solo and Ensemble, etc. (~\$15 - \$35 each depending on participation)

## Payment Terms and Withdrawal Policy

A \$350 commitment fee is due no later than May 13 for each MB/Color Guard student. All remaining balances must be paid on a regular monthly payment plan such that the balance be paid in full by October 1st.

May 13th - Commitment Fee -	\$350
June 1st - Payment #1	\$200
July 1st - Payment #2	\$200
August 1st - Payment #3	\$200
September 1st - Payment #4	\$200
October 1st - Payment #5	\$200

- Payment (\$250) is due from Band Class Only Students no later than September 1st. This payment will be made to the AHS OSP fund.

- Periodic Statements will be e-mailed to parents with outstanding balances with the expectations that fees will be paid on time.
- Participation in the marching band or colorguard is at the discretion of the directors, and students may not be selected to participate if their balance due to ABBA exceeds \$200. No student/parent carrying a balance from Marching Band dues will be allowed to participate in any of the winter guards, or indoor drumline.

### **Payment Terms and Withdrawal Policy**

Although every possible situation cannot be addressed, the following are the general rules regarding payment and refunds:

1. If a student moves out of the school district or becomes medically unable to participate in the band program or band camp, A FULL REFUND will be made.
2. If a student withdraws from the program before July 1st, all funds paid IN EXCESS of \$200 will be refunded
3. If a student withdraws from the program after July 1st, NO REFUND will be made.

Special circumstances should be brought to the attention of the band directors.

### **Band Buddy Donation**

The Band Buddy program provides a way for individuals to make a tax deductible donation to the Alpharetta Band Program that goes to help students who are in financial need of assistance. These additional funds help bring amazing music experiences and opportunities to our students. Often employers will match donations, so please check with your employers for the matching policy. Please let us know if you would like to contribute to our Band Buddy fund.

### **Payment Options**

It is preferred that all membership fees be paid through our membership toolkit online payment platform. You may also pay through check or money order (made payable to ABBA). Please submit any checks or money orders to the payment box in the band room.

# The Fair Share Program

Alpharetta Bands Volunteer Revamp and Expectations for 2023-2024



In order to purchase and repair our inventory of instruments and equipment, hire staff and professionals to work with our students, or continue the general upkeep of the program, we have to fundraise and rely on parental volunteers to accomplish all that is needed to make AHS Bands as fantastic an experience as possible for our students.

To that end, we have been hard at work assessing the needs of the program and receiving feedback from current and former band parents to find the best, most equitable solution possible. Using these observations and feedback, we are launching the “Fair Share” program.

In our work to understand the needs of the program, we have found that parents are needed to lend their support to the program in two (2) key areas to help us ensure the best possible experience for our students:

1. Fundraising
2. Volunteering

## **Fundraising:**

We are blessed at Alpharetta to have an amazing setup for fundraising that negates the need to sell items (cookie dough, wreaths, popcorn, mattresses, fruit, nuts, cups, et all – which we all know you as parents and family members end up buying the bulk of it!).

We have one major fundraiser that accounts for nearly a quarter of our total budget each year and negates the need to add additional large-scale, work-intensive fundraising events:

- Ameris Bank Ampitheatre

AHS Band works a beer stand throughout the Ameris season which runs from March until early November. In order to keep our stand, we are required to staff it throughout the season at all events hosted by the venue. This is a lot of work, but we believe with many hands this load will be very manageable and allow for additional opportunities for parents seeking to reduce fees (more on that later).

**Volunteering:**

It takes a plethora of hands to ensure Alpharetta Band gets down the road. Any event needs a variety of supporting cast members such as:

- Chaperones/supervision
- Medical Assistance (boo-boos, bruises, and bug bites)
- Meal prep and service
- Raider Roadies
- Spring Competition hosted @ AHS

To tackle both of these main parent support needs, it is important that we ensure we pull from all parents in the program to avoid the work being piled upon the same small, select group of parents each year. To that end, we have devised a system that we believe will be fair to ensure all the program needs are met and provide incentives for those who go above and beyond.

**Volunteer Expectations for 2023/2024**

All parents of AHS Band students will be asked to serve a minimum of events/posts throughout the year from 2 columns. These expectations will be included in next years concert band and marching band contracts.

<b>Concert Band Only Parents</b>	
2 Volunteer Events	2 Ameris Bank Ampitheatre Events
<b>Marching Band Parents</b>	
3 Volunteer Events	3 Ameris Bank Ampitheatre Events

**Financial Penalties for Late Cancellation**

Due to the complex nature of Ameris security and policy, it is imperative that if you sign up for a shift, that you follow through with that commitment. If you must cancel a shift, it is your responsibility to find a replacement. Understaffed or cancelled shows incur a risk to the program of loosing our kiosk and our single largest fundraiser. As such, our Ameris coordinators will assess any parent(s) who cancel their registered event(s) within a 48 hour window without a replacement, a \$125 fee **per event cancelled in this manner.**

# The Bands Of **ALPHARETTA**

## **22-23 BAND DUES PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

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### **MARCHING STUDENTS**

May 13th - \$350 Reserve Your Spot!

June 1st - \$200 Payment #2

July 1st - \$200 Payment #3

August 1st - \$200 Payment #4

September 1st - \$200 Payment #5

October 1st - \$200 Payment #6 \*\*

*\*\*not applicable to returning Color Guard  
Performers*

### **CONCERT-ONLY STUDENTS**

September 1st - \$250 to OSP (School Payment)

### **WINTER GUARD & INDOOR PERCUSSION**

November 15th - \$250 Reserve Your Spot!

December 15th - 2nd Payment

January 15th - 3rd Payment

February 15th - 4th Payment

March 15th - 5th Payment (TBD)

**THANK YOU FOR BEING ON TIME WITH PAYMENTS!**

Dues can be paid online via [alpharettaband.membershiptoolkit.com](http://alpharettaband.membershiptoolkit.com)  
or by check payable to ABBA and dropped in the wooden box on  
the wall outside the uniform closet.

# **AHS Band Due Dates**

## **2023-24**

### **Marching Students**

- Attend April 29<sup>th</sup> Marching Band Kickoff Rehearsal
- Attend May 13<sup>th</sup> Marching Band Spring Training
- \$350 Deposit (Due May 13<sup>th</sup>)
- All Membership Toolkit Forms completed (Due May 13<sup>th</sup>)
- 3 Ameris Bank Amphitheater shows signed up for (Volunteerism requirement) (Due May 13<sup>th</sup>)
- Dragonfly paperwork completed (Due July 17<sup>th</sup>)
- See you at band camp!

### **Concert-Only Students**

- \$250 Class Fee paid to OSP (Due Sept 1<sup>st</sup>)
- Register for Membership Toolkit
- 2 Ameris Bank Amphitheater shows signed up for (Volunteerism requirement) (Due May 13<sup>th</sup>)
- Have a great summer break!