



Developing Lifelong Excellence in Young People Through a Variety of Music Education Experiences.

New Member Information Packet

East Paulding High School

2021-2022 Season

Director: Michael Thomas

Assistant Director: Josh Robichaux



Developing Lifelong Excellence in Young People Through a Variety of Music Education Experiences.

Welcome to the East Bands Family!

We are very excited that you will be joining the East Bands Family in the fall. Our band program has had some incredible accomplishments over the past few years and now you can be a part of that. The Raider Brigade was named Grand Champions at the Old South Marching Contest in 2019, the EPHS Wind Ensemble was selected to perform at the New York Invitational Music Festival in Carnegie Hall, both concert bands have repeatedly received superior ratings at the GMEA Large Group Performance Evaluations, the percussion ensemble is playing at the Lassiter Percussion Symposium in March of 2020, and the band was scheduled to go to Washington D.C. in April of 2020. We are constantly pushing the envelope with innovation and exposure to all things music and would love for you to be a part of that experience.

You are about to embark on a journey that is sure to be one of the best experiences of your entire life. You will make new friends and lots of memories, while becoming a part of one of the greatest families in the entire Paulding County community. This packet provides some vital information you will need that will allow you to become part of the band program. Feel free to ask any questions you may have.

Prior to beginning the 2021-2022 school year, all students entering the East Paulding High School Band Program will perform a class placement assessment. This will determine which ensemble you will be placed in for the upcoming school year. Students playing a wind instrument that do not perform their placement assessment will be automatically placed in the 2nd period Symphonic Band. All 8th grade students wanting to be in band in 9th grade must sign up for 2nd period band (wind instruments only), 4th period percussion class, or 4th period color guard class. Upon the spring assessment, schedule adjustments may be made at that time. Clarification on scheduling is found in this packet.

Sincerely,

Michael Thomas
Director of Bands
East Paulding High School



Developing Lifelong Excellence in Young People Through a Variety of Music Education Experiences.

About the East Bands Program

The co-curricular band program at East Paulding High School consists of two concert bands, one percussion ensemble, two visual ensembles (Color Guard & Winterguard), marching band, jazz band, and various small ensembles.

- **Symphonic Band** (2nd period band): this ensemble is a performance-based ensemble that will perform level 3-5 literature. Students may consist of grades 9-12.
- **Wind Ensemble** (3rd period band): Acceptance into this ensemble is by audition only. This ensemble is a performance-based ensemble with a set instrumentation that will perform level 5/6 literature. Students may consist of grades 9-12. The wind ensemble is considered to be the premier instrumental ensemble at East Paulding High School, with the ensemble's approach to music making modeled after a collegiate level program.
- **Percussion Ensemble** (4th period - fall semester): all percussionists accepted into the percussion ensemble are automatically registered for this class. Percussionists are required to be in the marching band in order to perform with the percussion ensemble. A post-audition roster will be given to the counselor to ensure students are placed in the correct class.
- **Color Guard (Marching Band & Winter Guard)** (4th period - fall semester): all guard members accepted into the ensemble are automatically registered for this class. Color guard members are required to be in marching band to perform with the winter guard. A post-audition roster will be given to the counselor to ensure students are placed in the correct class.
- **Marching Band**: all students in grades 9-12 are eligible to perform in the 2019 Grand Champion, Raider Brigade Marching Band regardless of which ensemble you are in.
- **Jazz Band**: all students in grades 9-12 are eligible to perform in the EPHS Jazz Band. This extracurricular ensemble meets outside of school hours.
- **Small Ensembles**: all students in grades 9-12 are eligible to perform in our small ensemble program. These extracurricular ensembles meet outside of school hours.



Developing Lifelong Excellence in Young People Through a Variety of Music Education Experiences.

IMPORTANT BAND DATES!

2021-2022 SEASON

New Member Student/Parent Informational Meeting

April 12 @ 6:00 pm - EPHS Theater

*For all incoming freshmen and new **students and parents** to the EPHS band.*

Class Placement Performance Assessment

April 21 - Video Submission Due (8th Grade In-Person Option in Class)

For all incoming freshmen and current band students.

Percussion - Audition Camp

May 17-21 @ 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm - EPHS Band Room

ALL percussion students must attend the entire camp.

Color Guard - Audition Camp

May 5-6 & 11-13 @ 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm - EPMS Gym

ALL color guard students must attend the entire camp.

Marching Band Rookie Camp (Winds Only)

May 17-20 @ 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm - EPHS Band Room

ALL rising freshman and the new 2021-2022 high school band student leadership team.

Band Sign-Up Night - All Students

Thursday, May 20 @ 7:00 pm - EPHS Theater

ALL band students and parents must attend (not just marching band students)

Paperwork is due for ALL Students

Deposit is due to secure your spot for marching band only ONLY!

Marching Band Show Announcement

Summer Band Camp

*All woodwind, brass, percussion & color guard. **ALL MUST ATTEND!***

*Percussion & Color Guard Camp: **July 12-14** from 9:00 am - 4:00pm*

***July 15-16** from 8:00 am - 8:00 pm*

***July 19-23** from 8:00 am - 8:00 pm*

***July 26-28** from 8:00 am - 8:00 pm**

There will be a preview performance on Wednesday, **July 28 @ 7:00 pm at EPHS Main Gym**



Developing Lifelong Excellence in Young People Through a Variety of Music Education Experiences.

Class Placement Performance Assessment Information

2021-2022 SEASON

Brass & Woodwind Class Placement Performance Assessment

- This assessment is NOT for acceptance into the program. This is simply just to identify which band class to put you in for the next school year.
- Your assessment will only take a few minutes.
- Assessments will take place via Google Classroom. Mr. Thomas will listen to 8th graders in class as an option.
- Requirements:
 - Prepared Etude (etude will be provided)
 - 1 octave major scales with arpeggio
 - You will be given **2 minutes** to play as many as possible.
 - Chromatic Scale
 - Click the QR code to go to the Google Classroom.



Code: **jouprjd**

Percussion Audition Camp

- Your audition will take place over the course of 5 days.
- You must be present the entire time.
- The audition material will come from the technique book that will be provided to you well before the audition camp.
- Your progress over the 5-day audition camp will determine the best instrument for you to play during the fall marching band season.
- All students play all instruments for the concert band.
- Upon acceptance into the percussion section, all marching band percussionists must be signed up for the percussion class (fourth period) in the fall.

Color Guard Audition Camp

- Your audition will take place over the course of 5 days.
- You must be present the entire time.
- There is no prepared audition material.
- Flag, movement, rifle, and saber will be taught.
- Specific equipment assignments will be determined depending on the staging of the show. For example: you do not “make” the rifle line. You make the color guard.
- Your progress over the 6-day audition process will determine your acceptance into the ensemble.
- Upon acceptance into the color guard, all color guard members must be signed up for the color guard class (fourth period) in the fall.



Developing Lifelong Excellence in Young People Through a Variety of Music Education Experiences.

How To Register For Band in Infinite Campus

2021-2022 SEASON

There are two concert bands during the school day, Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble. Wind players do not have to audition to be in the East Paulding High School Symphonic Band or Marching Band. To be considered in the wind ensemble you must play or submit your performance assessment by April 21st. We also have an auditioned color guard and percussion class. To be considered in the color guard or percussion ensemble you must attend the audition camp in May. Please go ahead and register for the class that you prefer. Schedules will then be adjusted upon auditions. Please make sure you are registered for the correct class in Infinite Campus listed below.

Fall Symphonic Band - 2nd Period

Open to any student wanting to be in our band program.

To sign up you must register in Infinite Campus for:

- 9th Grade - BEGINNING INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE I (53.0741)**
- 10th Grade - BEGINNING INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE II (53.0742)**
- 11th Grade - BEGINNING INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE III (53.0743)**
- 12th Grade - BEGINNING INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE IV (53.0744)**

Fall Wind Ensemble - 3rd Period

Participation in this ensemble is by audition only.

If accepted into this ensemble you will need to register Infinite Campus for:

- 9th Grade - ADVANCED BAND I (53.0381)**
- 10th Grade - ADVANCED BAND II (53.0382)**
- 11th Grade - ADVANCED BAND III (53.0383)**
- 12th Grade - ADVANCED BAND IV (53.0384)**

Fall Color Guard - 4th Period

Participation in this ensemble is by audition only.

If accepted into this ensemble you will need to register Infinite Campus for:

- 9th Grade - INTERMEDIATE INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE I (53.0751)**
- 10th Grade - INTERMEDIATE INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE II (53.0752)**
- 11th Grade - INTERMEDIATE INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE III (53.0753)**
- 12th Grade - INTERMEDIATE INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE IV (53.0754)**

Fall Percussion - 4th Period

Participation in this ensemble is by audition only.

If accepted into this ensemble you will need to register Infinite Campus for:

- 9th Grade - ADVANCED INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE I (53.0761)**
- 10th Grade - ADVANCED INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE II (53.0762)**
- 11th Grade - ADVANCED INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE III (53.0763)**
- 12th Grade - ADVANCED INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE IV (53.0764)**



Developing Lifelong Excellence in Young People Through a Variety of Music Education Experiences.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is high school band hard?

Band requires hard work and commitment. It is also probably the most rewarding thing you will do in your entire high school career. Every student in our program comes away saying that it was worth it.

Does band cost money?

Yes. The EPHS band boosters provide numerous fundraising opportunities each school year to help you pay for band. Some students are so good at fundraising that they never have to pay anything. This information will be given out at the 8th grade parent meeting.

Who teaches the band?

The EPHS band program has 2 full-time band directors, 1 full-time color guard caption head, and 10-15 part-time staff members over the course of the school year. We are very fortunate to be able to say that our band staff is one of the best in the entire activity.

How big is the band?

The EPHS Band program has 7 different major ensembles and serves approximately 120 students. In 2017-2018, the largest ensemble was the marching band with 110 members.

Is the EPHS Band good?

Yes. The Marching Band has recently named the 2019 Old South Marching Contest Grand Champion. The Wind Ensemble plays a variety of music including collegiate-level music. The Wind Ensemble was selected and performed a concert at Carnegie Hall, NY. The Winter Guard was named SAPA AA-Champions for the entire Southeast United States! Our Percussion Ensemble was selected to perform at the Lassiter High School Percussion Symposium in April of 2020. The Jazz Band is fantastic (Jazz bands don't really compete). Each year we have students get accepted into honor bands and events throughout the state of Georgia. Many of our students go to college on music scholarships.

Does the EPHS Band provide instruments?

The EPHS Band provides most percussion and some of the larger brass and woodwind instruments. In most cases, if an instrument was provided in middle school, it will also be provided in high school.

Do I have to memorize my music?

Only for marching band... However, you rehearse the music so frequently that this happens without you even realizing it.



Developing Lifelong Excellence in Young People Through a Variety of Music Education Experiences.

Frequently Asked Questions Continued...

Does the EPHS Band travel?

Yes! The EPHS band has been to places such as Walt Disney World, New Orleans, Washington D.C. and even New York City.

Does the EPHS Band use trombones?

We use trombones for Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Jazz Band (all of the inside, "sit-down" bands) and use marching baritones for marching band (outside band). A marching baritone will be provided for you, and is very easy to learn as a trombone player (IE: It only takes a couple of days.) Almost all of our trombone players prefer baritone once they know how to play both.

Will I be able to keep my grades up and do band?

The EPHS Band provides scheduled homework time as a requirement to be in our program. EPHS Band members are academically some of the highest achieving students in the entire school! It is not a coincidence that the EPHS band students have some of the highest GPAs and are the most college-bound students of any program. Being a part of the EPHS band program ensures that students learn time-management skills and work ethic, and also surrounds them with other high-achieving students.

Can I play a high school sport or JROTC and still do band?

Typically, playing a fall sport, and doing band is simply not possible. The EPHS Band program is however full of students who participate in spring sports. The EPHS Band and JROTC programs work/schedule very well together.

Do I have to come to band camp to be in band?

Yes. Attending Band camp and ALL rehearsals is absolutely required to be in band. Every student must attend everything (even if it conflicts with a vacation or other various event). This is non-negotiable.

How often do you rehearse?

The bands rehearse every day during school. The frequency of rehearsal depends on the ensemble you are participating in. You will be provided a full calendar.

Does band count as a career pathway toward graduation?

Yes! Every student must have a career pathway in order to graduate. As long as you stay in band, you will complete this graduation requirement.

How do I fix my schedule to get in the correct band class?

Mr. Thomas will sit down and place every band student in the correct class once auditions are completed.



Developing Lifelong Excellence in Young People Through a Variety of Music Education Experiences.

BRASS & WOODWIND CLASS PLACEMENT PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT!

*All students are required to play.

*Students who do not play will automatically be placed in the 2nd period, Symphonic Band.

Wednesday, April 15, 2020
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
EPHS Band Room



Developing Lifelong Excellence in Young People Through a Variety of Music Education Experiences.

NEW MEMBER STUDENT/PARENT INFORMATION MEETING

*This meeting is for ALL students/parents that
want to be a part of our program.

Monday, April 27, 2020
6:30 pm
EPHS Band Room



Developing Lifelong Excellence in Young People Through a Variety of Music Education Experiences.

BAND ROOKIE CAMP!

*All incoming Freshmen and the 2020-2021 Leadership Students must attend all days for the entire time!

Monday - Thursday
May 11-14, 2020
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
EPHS Band Room



Developing Lifelong Excellence in Young People Through a Variety of Music Education Experiences.

PERCUSSION AUDITIONS!

*Must attend all days for the entire time!

Monday - Friday
May 11-15, 2020
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
EPHS Band Room



Developing Lifelong Excellence in Young People Through a Variety of Music Education Experiences.

COLOR GUARD AUDITIONS!

*Must attend all days for the entire time!

Note: Auditions are 2 weeks this year

Monday - Friday
May 4-8 & 11-15, 2020
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
EPHS Band Room



Developing Lifelong Excellence in Young People Through a Variety of Music Education Experiences.

OFFICIAL BAND SIGN-UP NIGHT!

*ALL Students wishing to be a part of our program must turn in the signed paperwork. (Not just marching band)

*A deposit must be paid in order to secure your spot in the marching band only.

Thursday, May 14, 2020
7:00 pm
EPHS Theater