



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

# WELCOME TO THE EAST BAND FAMILY!

We are extremely excited to welcome all of you to the 2024-2025 edition of the East Paulding High School Band! Please read all of the information in order for you to make informed and appropriate decisions in regards to auditions for next year and important upcoming dates for your rising 9th grade student.

## **Class Placement for Rising Freshmen:**

Prior to beginning the 2024-2025 school year, **all students entering the East Paulding High School Band Program will be required to perform a placement audition** that will determine which ensemble they will be assigned to for the following year. All students will perform set criteria and then will be placed based on the results of their performance. Please understand that we must do everything we can during course registration to ensure that students are placed in the correct ensemble.

The fall band program at East Paulding consist of two wind band ensembles, one percussion ensemble, and one visual ensemble (Color Guard/Winterguard):

## **Symphonic Band** (indicated in Infinite Campus as, “**Beginning Band**”)

This ensemble is a performance-based ensemble that will perform level 3-5 literature. This class is designed to be the next step for rising 9th graders and developing underclassmen. Students may consist of grades 9-12.

## **Wind Ensemble** (indicated in Infinite Campus as, “**Advanced Band**”)

This ensemble is a performance-based ensemble with a set instrumentation that will perform level 5-6 and university-level materials. 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** (indicated in Infinite Campus as, “**Advanced Instrumental Ensemble**”)

All percussionists are automatically assigned to the same class. **Percussionist are required to be in marching band to perform in Advanced Instrumental Ensemble.** A post-audition roster will be given to the counselor to ensure students are placed in this class.

## **Color Guard** (indicated in Infinite Campus as, “**Intermediate Instrumental Ensemble**”)

All Guard members who successfully pass the audition are placed in this ensemble. **Color Guard members are required to be in marching band to perform in Intermediate Instrumental Ensemble.** Color Guard member that are previously instrumentalist will perform on their instrument in the 2nd semester band classes.



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

---

### **Marching Band**

All students in grades 9-12 are eligible to perform in the Grand Championship Winning Raider Brigade Marching Band regardless of which ensemble that he/she has been placed in. The Raider Brigade is the most visual performance ensemble at EPHS and we welcome all band members regardless of audition results. Marching Band provides students with the opportunity to become friends with members from all grade and ability levels, get more instructional time on their instrument, participate in an activity in which they learn teamwork, and contribute as a part of the band community to East Paulding High School Spirit! Marching band is not required of all members but it is **HIGHLY ENCOURAGED!** All marching band members must be enrolled in a band class. Information related to the Raider Brigade is available on our website and will be a part of our Rising 9th grade member meeting on **April 23** at our New Member Night!

**THE BAND KICK-OFF MEETING FOR THE EAST PAULDING RAIDER BRIGADE IS MAY 17 AT 6PM IN THE EPHS AUDITORIUM!**

### **Woodwinds and Brass**

- No required audition for marching band, must be in a band class year-round. Your class placement audition will suffice for marching band.

### **Percussion**

- Marching Band Auditions will take place May 13-17 (4-6:30pm)

### **Color Guard**

- Color Guard Auditions will take place May 13-17 (4-6:30pm)

**THE MARCHING BAND SCHEDULE FOR 2024 IS ALREADY AVAILABLE ON THE BAND CALENDAR ON OUR WEBSITE.**

### **Block Schedule**

All High Schools are on 4x4 block schedule

- Band is offered as a year long elective. Students are **required** to be in band **BOTH** semesters.
- Students who leave an ensemble will not be allowed to return to that ensemble.
- You must be enrolled in an ensemble in order to participate.
- You **will be able to take all of your required classes**, including AP courses and stay in band for all 4 years of high school. Most of our members are AP students and many of the school Valedictorians or Salutatorians have been band members!
- It is very possible to remain in other year-long electives. We work very hard to schedule all band members first to ensure they are able to take all the courses they need. We also work very closely with other electives to ensure the students have the opportunities they deserve.



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

## **Class Placement Instructions**

**Auditions will take place during your class at your school at a time that works best for your band directors daily schedule.**

### **Audition Requirements:**

#### **Scales:**

- You will be given 2 minutes to play as many scales as you can
- You do not have to play all of the scales or all of the octave, just play as many as you are comfortable playing.
- The more scales and octaves you play the more points you can earn!

#### **Etude:**

- Play as much of the etude as you can
- You do not have to play the entire etude, just play as much as you can successfully
- The more of the etude you play the more points you can earn!

#### **Sight Reading:**

- You will be given a short 8 measure piece of music to sight read
  - You will be given 30 seconds to silently study the piece
  - You will then play it to the best of your ability!

Please do not be scared of the audition process, it is not a grade! It only allows us to get to know each of you better and assess your abilities in order to place you in the correct ensemble to start the fall semester at the high school.



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

## IMPORTANT DATES

All events below are located at East Paulding High School and are required.

<b><u>8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENT MEETING:</u></b>	April 23 – 6:00pm-7:00pm (Current 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade students/parents only)
<b>DRUM MAJOR AUDITIONS:</b>	April 30 – 3:30pm-6:00pm (Current 9 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> Graders Only)
<b>LEADERSHIP TEAM INTERVIEWS:</b>	May 2 – 3:30pm-6:00pm (Current 9 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> Graders Only)
<b>BRASS/WOODWIND AUDITIONS:</b>	TBA At Your School! (ALL brass/woodwind students audition)
<b>PERCUSSION CLINICS:</b>	May 13-17 – 4:00pm - 6:30pm (ALL percussion students must stay the entire time, for all 5 days)
<b>COLOR GUARD AUDITIONS:</b>	May 13-17 – 4:00pm - 6:30pm (ALL students interested in joining color guard will stay the entire time for all days)
<b>ROOKIE CAMP:</b>	May 13-16 – 4:00pm - 6:30pm (ALL Students will stay the entire time for all days)
<b>BAND BBQ PERFORMANCE:</b>	May 16 – 5:00pm-6:00pm (ALL Rising freshmen and high school members)
<b>BAND SIGN-UP NIGHT:</b>	May 17 – 6:00pm-7:30pm (ALL students and parents)
<b>BAND CAMP:</b>	July 10-12, 15-19, 29-30 – 9:00am-8:00pm (ALL Students)



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

## AUDITION MATERIAL

### **BRASS/WOODWIND AUDITIONS:**

- Your audition will only take a few minutes.
- Your audition will take place at your middle school
- Prepared etude
- Major Scales w/ Arpeggios  
(You will be given 2 minutes to play as many as possible)
- Chromatic Scale (Full range of the instrument)
- Sight Reading

### **PERCUSSION AUDITIONS:**

- Your audition will take place over the course of 3 days.
- You must be present the entire time.
- There is no prepared audition material.
- Your progress over the 5-day audition process will determine the best instrument for you to play during the marching band season.
- All students play all perc. instruments for concert band.

### **COLOR GUARD AUDITIONS:**

- Your audition will take place over the course of 5 days.
- Your audition will be during Rookie Camp week..
- 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 staging of the show. For example: you do not “make” the rifle line. You make the color guard.
- Your progress over the 3-day audition process will determine your acceptance into the ensemble.



*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 to create something so incredibly life changing with their family and friends.

### **Does band cost money?**

Yes. The EPHS band boosters provide numerous fundraising opportunities each school year to help pay for the costs of running the band program. There are however individual students fees to participate which are covered at the new member meeting and band sign-up night.

### **Who teaches the band?**

The EPHS Band program has 2 full-time directors, 2 full-time caption heads, and 10-15 part-time staff members over the course of the school year. We are lucky to say that our band staff is one of the best in the entire activity. We also provide access to private instructors for every instrument.

### **How big is the band?**

The EPHS Band program has 8 different major ensembles and serves approximately 150 students. In 2023-2024, the largest ensemble was the marching band with 125 members. We anticipate that this upcoming year will be the largest the East bands program has been in over 10 years.

### **Is the EPHS Band good?**

Yes. The Marching Band has been named the GMBS State Champions. The Wind Ensemble plays only collegiate-level music. The Wind Ensemble was selected to and performed a concert in Carnegie Hall, NY. The Winter Guard was named SAPA AA-Champions for the entire Southeast United States! Our Percussion Ensembles perform at numerous events and have been the GIPA State Champions. The concert bands are fantastic and have received Superior Rating at LGPE Evaluations. Each year we have students accepted into multiple honor bands, the GMEA All-State Band, 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?**



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

---

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

### **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. We travel every 2 years with a BIG Trip every 4. We just performed in New York City at the Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade!

### **Does the EPHS Band use trombones?**

We use trombones for Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Concert Band and Jazz Band (all of the inside, "sit-down" bands) and 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 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 marching band?**

Typically, playing a fall sport, and doing marching band is simply not possible. However, we will always do our best to work with athletics to give the students the opportunity to do both if it is feasible. 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 the marching band?**

Yes. Attending Band camp and ALL rehearsals is absolutely required to be in marching band. Every student must attend everything.. We always schedule big events between 6 months and a year ahead of time.

### **How often do you rehearse?**

The bands rehearse every day **during** school. The frequency of rehearsal depends on the ensemble you are participating in. Marching band rehearses Mon, Tue, and Thurs from 4-7 pm. A full calendar is provided at [eastbands.com/calendar](http://eastbands.com/calendar).

### **Can I be in multiple bands?**





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

---

Yes. Upper level students are often enrolled in multiple band classes.

**Can I play more than 1 instrument?**

Yes. We encourage our students to learn and perform on multiple instruments. Approximately 30% of our band plays multiple instruments.

**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 the band, you will complete this graduation requirement.

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

Mr. Robichaux will sit down with the school schedulers and place every band student in the correct class once auditions are completed.

**8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
PARENT  
INFORMATIONAL  
MEETING**

**TUESDAY - APRIL 23**

**6:00PM**





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

---

# **BRASS & WOODWIND AUDITIONS!!!**

**DATE TBA  
AT YOUR MIDDLE  
SCHOOL**

***ALSO... DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE  
8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENT MEETING  
ON Tuesday – APRIL 23***



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

---

# **PERCUSSION/ GUARD CLINICS AND AUDITIONS!!!**

**MONDAY-FRIDAY**

**MAY 13 - 17**

**4:00PM-6:30PM**

**MUST ATTEND ALL DAYS FOR THE ENTIRE  
TIME!**

***ALSO... DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE  
8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENT MEETING  
ON TUESDAY – APRIL 23***



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

---

# **NEW MEMBER ROOKIE CAMP!**

**MONDAY-THURSDAY**

**MAY 13-16**

**4:00PM-6:30PM**

**MUST ATTEND ALL DAYS FOR THE ENTIRE  
TIME!**

***ALSO... DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE  
8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENT MEETING  
ON TUESDAY – APRIL 23***



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

---

# ANNUAL BAND BBQ PERFORMANCE!

THURSDAY

MAY 16

5:00PM-6:00PM

EPHS GYM

***ALSO... DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE  
8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENT MEETING  
ON TUESDAY – APRIL 23***



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

---

# **OFFICIAL SIGN-UP NIGHT!!!**

**FRIDAY - MAY 17**

**6:00PM**

**EPHS AUDITORIUM**



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

---

**WANT TO RECEIVE THE LATEST  
UPDATES FOR THE  
EAST PAULDING  
BAND!?!**

**VISIT US AT  
[WWW.EASTBANDS.COM](http://WWW.EASTBANDS.COM)**