

**Welcome to the
Grissom High School Band Family!**



**Freshman Parent Orientation Meeting
April 18, 2024**



Why Are We Here Tonight?

- To provide an overview of the Grissom High School Band Program
- To cover the following key topics:
 - **WHAT IS GRISSOM BAND?**
 - **HOW MUCH TIME DOES BAND TAKE?**
 - **SCHEDULE**
 - **COST**
 - **FUNDRAISING**
 - **COMMUNICATION**
 - **VOLUNTEERING**
 - **UNIFORMS**
- To answer any questions, you may have

Please Ask
Questions
As We Go!

ABOUT GRISSOM BAND

What is Grissom Band?

- A nationally-recognized Band Program, known for high standards of performance and the quality of experience given to its members
- A gold-standard program for other band programs across the county to model themselves after
- A program that prides itself on a tradition of excellence:
 - Numerous awards and national recognitions for marching, concert, and jazz bands
 - Students in band are scholars, athletes, SGA members, and Honor Society members
 - Many graduates receive band and/or academic-related scholarships and continue in band programs at college
- A program where members will:
 - Gain immense self-confidence
 - Develop a sense of pride in their work ethic and achieving high standards set by the Directors
 - Be accepted and be part of something great
 - Learn the importance of teamwork and camaraderie to achieve success
 - Have fun and gain numerous life skills

The Importance of Band

- Band teaches important life skills – Dedication, Generosity, Teamwork, Communication, Trust, Responsibility, Accountability, Time Management, Respect, Discipline
- Academic Excellence
 - Band Students are usually top scholars at their schools
 - They average 62 points higher on SAT tests
- Studies show direct correlation between music and academic and personal achievement
- Requires students to shift from a “Me” focus to an “Us” focus for each rehearsal and performance
- Band builds positive self-worth



ABOUT GRISSOM BAND (continued)

Groups That Make Up The Grissom Band

MARCHING BAND. All students are required to participate in Marching Band their first year. Marching Band is comprised of two sub-groups:

1. **Football Band.** These students attend all football games, perform the pre-game show at football games, play in the stands during football games, and often time assist with or serve as cast members for the Contest Band
2. **Contest Band.** This group does everything that Football Band does, plus performs the full marching show at Half Time for football games and competes at 2 to 3 Marching Contents. Participation in Contest Band is via selection by the Directors. Freshmen can audition and be a part of the Contest Band.

COLOR GUARD is the part or marching band that provides additional visual aspects to the performance of the Marching Band. Members enhance performances through using various equipment such as flags, rifles, sabers, etc. ***Students who play an instrument in band and tryout for Color Guard must remain a playing member of the band in order to participate in Color Guard, otherwise they can not remain in Color Guard***

CONCERT BANDS. There are three bands in this category that increase in the level of difficulty of music as you progress through them.

1. Concert Band
2. Symphonic II Band
3. Symphonic I Band

All 3 bands perform for the MPA Competition and possibly other concert competitions.

They also perform 2-3 concerts every year.

JAZZ BANDS. There are two Jazz Bands at Grissom:

1. A Jazz Band—is for upperclassmen already enrolled at Grissom that have auditioned.
2. B Jazz Band is open to students of all grade levels.
 - Incoming freshmen playing saxophone, trumpet, or trombone may sign up for the B Jazz Band
 - Rhythm section instruments (piano, guitar, bass, and drums) must submit an audition recording

Audition Information for Jazz Band is found on the band website under Future Band Members. Both Jazz Bands perform 2 to 3 concerts per year. They may also have community performances and out-of-town festivals and competitions that they are invited to throughout the year.





HOW MUCH TIME DOES BAND TAKE?

Marching Band Rehearsals

Football Band		Contest Band	
Tuesdays Only from 6:00 – 7:00pm until the last rehearsal is announced. Usually in early September.		Tuesday and Thursday, 6:00-8:30pm – From the start of school to the last marching contest in October When we have a Thursday Game, Contest Band will practice Wednesday from 4:00pm to 5:30pm	
Game Days - Everyone	Marching Band Percussion	Color Guard	
Practice after school 4:00-4:45pm on the band field	An extra rehearsal on Monday evenings from 6:00-9:00pm	An extra rehearsal on Monday evenings from 6:00-9:00pm	

Football Game Information

The marching band attends all home varsity football games and some of the away games. These are most often on Friday nights; sometimes on a Thursday night.

Marching Contest Information

The Contest Band will attend 2 to 3 marching contests. These will occur on Saturdays.

Saturday	Saturday	Saturday
September 14th	September 21st	October 12th

- The Contest Band will perform at all of these competitions.
- Football Band may attend at least one competition.

Symphonic / Concert Band Rehearsals

These rehearsals begin after football season and go through the beginning of May. These times are to be determined and will be announced as soon as possible.

Symphonic Band I

Tuesdays - 3:50-5:30pm

Symphonic Band II

Thursdays - 3:50-5:30pm

Concert Band

Mondays - 3:50-5:30pm

All rehearsals and performances are required attendance. Failure to do so results in a failing grade for the 9 weeks in which the infraction occurs. Band in high school is a performance-based class!





SCHEDULE

Spring / Summer Camp Schedule

Attendance is required!

- New Member Orientation...April 15-18 - 6:00-8:00pm
- Color Guard Camp #1.....June 3-7 - 8am-4pm
- Color Guard Camp #2.....June 24-28 - 8am-4pm
- Percussion Camp #1.....June 3-7 - 8am-4pm
- Percussion Camp #2.....June 24-28 - 8am-4pm
- Uniform Fittings.....August TBD -Times TBA
- Pre-Camp.....July 15-19 - 8am-9pm
- Band Camp.....July 22-25 - 8am-9pm

8am-12pm – Football Band and Contest Band
1:30-4pm and 6-9pm – Contest Band Only
This schedule is subject to change.

Band Family Picnic and Preview Show

Join us at the end of band camp week for the Grissom Band Family Picnic and Marching Program Preview Show.

- Thursday, July 26, 6:00pm at Milton Frank or Grissom
- Catered meal orders may be taken
- More info coming in July

Football Games and Marching Competitions

- 8/15 (Thu) Arab@MF (jamboree)
- 8/23 (Fri) Lee @MF
- 8/30 (Fri) Bye Week
- 9/6 (Fri) Huntsville @MF
- 9/13 (Fri) Bob Jones @JD
- 9/14 (Sat) Marching Contest**
- 9/20 (Fri) James Clemens@AM
- 9/21 (Sat) Marching Contest**
- 9/27 (Fri) Albertville @Albertville
- 10/4 (Fri) Guntersville @Gunters.
- 10/11 (Fri) Florence@JD (senior)
- 10/12 (Sat) Marching Contest**
- 10/18 (Fri) Sparkman @MF (HC)
- 10/25 (Fri) Austin @Austin
- 10/31 (Thu) Buckhorn@ Buckhorn

@JD = Joe Davis Stadium
 @MF = Milton Frank Stadium
 @AM = A&M University

Marching Season Rehearsal Schedule

- School Begins.....Thursday, August 1
- Color GuardMondays, 6-9pm
- PercussionMondays, 5-8pm
- Football Band.....Tuesdays, 6-7pm
- until last rehearsal announced in September*
- Contest BandTuesday and Thursday, 6-8:30pm
- Contest BandWednesdays*, 3:30-5:30pm
 (*only on weeks with a Thursday night game)
- All Marching BandGame Days, 4:00-4:45pm

Symphonic / Concert Band Rehearsals

- After football season through the beginning of May
- Symphonic ITuesdays - 3:50-5:30pm
- Symphonic IIThursdays - 3:50-5:30pm
- Concert Band.....Mondays - 3:50-5:30pm

All rehearsals and performances are required attendance. Failure to do so results in a failing grade for the 9 weeks in which the infraction occurs. Band in high school is a performance-based class!





COST

BAND FEES - \$700 total; details below

Base	.....	\$550
\$75	.....Due during New Member Orientation	
\$225	.....Due at Uniform Fitting	
\$140	.....Due October 1 st	
\$110	.....Due February 1 st	
Transportation & Away Game Meals	.....	\$150
\$25	.....Due at Uniform Fitting	
\$75	.....Due October 1 st	
\$50	.....Due February 1 st	

Instrument Rental Fees.....\$75 per semester (Summer, Fall, Spring)

Applies to all percussionists and to anyone else who rents an instrument from the band. Marching Band percussionists rent all 3 semesters; others may only rent one or two semesters

\$75, Summer Instr. Rental Fee.....	Due at Uniform Fitting
\$75, Fall Instr. Rental Fee.....	Due October 1 st
\$75, Spring Instr. Rental Fee.....	Due February 1 st

Miscellaneous Information

- You may mail send payments to our PO Box. **GBPA. PO Box 4335, Huntsville, AL 35815**
- During the school year, there are 2 other payment options:
 - Pay using Paypal through your MyMusicOffice Account
 - Treasurer's Box in the band room. Envelope with name and payment explanation written.

COLOR GUARD ONLY FEES - \$490 total; details below

Base	.....	\$390
\$290	.....Due during Summer Camp #1	
\$100	.....Due October 1 st	
Transportation & Away Game Meals		\$100
\$25	.....Due at Uniform Fitting	
\$75	.....Due October 1 st	
Other Costs	.....	TBD
Marching shoes, practice flags, gloves, sweats, spirit uniform		

Other Costs for Band Members

In addition to the fees listed below, other minor expenses will occur throughout the school year for things such as gloves or fees for special events and performances. These are usually minor in value (\$20-\$40) and occur infrequently.

\$32, Marching Shoes.....Due at Uniform Fitting

20% late payment fee will be applied for payments received after the deadline unless prior arrangements made





Fundraising

Fundraising That Benefits Everyone!

Here is some information on our most common fundraising activities. All result in money for the band, and some result in credits applied to your student's band account. Credits can be applied towards band fees, trips, spirit wear, etc.

Car Washes

- Participants earn band credits to their band fees through ticket sales and participation
- Dates: TBD at Bryant Bank on Bailey Cove

Grissom Fruit Sale

- Pre-Order Sale
- Contact for more info: fruitsales@grissomband.org

Mattress Sale

- A great fundraiser for the band. Please help us get the word out!
- Sunday, October 22nd from 11am to 5pm in the band room

Publix Partners

- Create an account on Publix.com and select Grissom Band from the choice of available charities
- When you check out at Publix, just enter the phone number that you listed in the account, and Grissom Band will receive a portion of your money spent

Spirit Wear

- Grissom Band Gear – t-shirts, sweatshirts, magnets, etc.

Scrip

- Buy gift cards at face value from restaurants or merchants you love
- A portion is returned to the band and a portion is credited to your student's band account.
- See "Scrip Merchants" on the GBPA website Contact: scrip@grissomband.org for more info

Von Braun Center (VBC) Concessions

- Parents and students age 16 and up can work concessions for events at the VBC.
- \$8 per hour credited student's band account.
- Contact: vbc@grissomband.org for more info

Misc Fundraisers Throughout the Year

- Will do several more fundraisers throughout the year, both big and small
- These help to offset expenses that band fees alone do not cover.





COMMUNICATION

Stay Connected to the Band

MyMusicOffice -- **This is your lifeline to the band.** <https://mymusicoffice.com>

- Access to student's financial info with payment options
- Access to the band calendar with all rehearsals, major events, and meetings for the entire year. ***You can sync this calendar to your smartphone!***
- Emails sent from the band regarding trips, events, payments reminders, volunteer opportunities, etc.
- Contact any of the board members for assistance logging in or using MyMusicOffice.
- ***It is VERY IMPORTANT that we have correct contact information in MyMusicOffice for every student and parent.***
- Incoming 9th graders will be added to MyMusicOffice in June.

FACEBOOK -- www.facebook.com/GrissomHighSchoolBand or search for "Grissom High School Band"

BAND WEBPAGE -- www.GrissomBand.com

GRISSOM BAND GROUP TEXT SERVICE

- This is a primary method for the directors to communicate with students and parents
- **To sign up, text @ghsb2425 to this number 81010 from each phone that should receive band announcements.**
- In addition, each instrument section will have their own group text service for section-specific announcements.

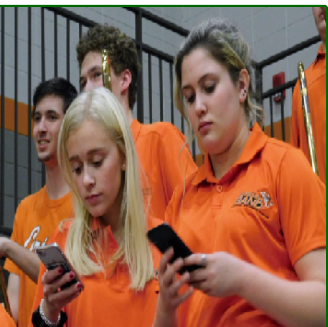
GBPA MONTHLY PARENTS MEETINGS

- Held the 4th Monday of most months at **7pm** in the Band Room or Auditorium. Not held in DEC, MAY, JUN, or JUL
- The first regular meeting of the 2023-2024 school year will be on August 28th. Mark your calendar!

REMIND101

Send Text to: 81010

Message: @ghsb2425



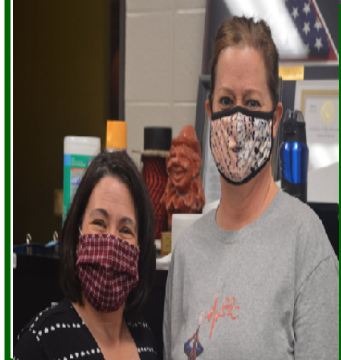


COMMUNICATION (continued)

Grissom Band Parents Association (GBPA) – Board Members

Here is the contact information for members of the GBPA Board. Don't hesitate to contact us if you need anything!

POSITION	NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS
Band Director	Theo Vernon	john.vernon@hsv-.k12.org
Band Director	Brent Harris	brent.harris@hsv-k12.org
GBPA President	Amanda Blount	president@grissomband.org
GBPA 1st Vice President	Tara Polsgrove	VP1@grissomband.org
GBPA 2nd Vice President	David Lawrence	VP2@grissomband.org
GBPA Treasurer 1	Nicole Nix	treasurers@grissomband.org
GBPA Treasurer 2	Gina Gann	treasurers@grissomband.org
GBPA Secretary	Jenny McNees	secretary@grissomband.org



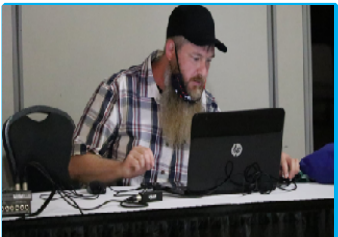


VOLUNTEERING

Join a Committee

- Contact any of the committee chairs shown below for information on how you can help.
- It takes a lot of work to keep the band running. Please help and be part of this family!

Committee	Chairperson	Email
Band Banquet	Carrie Howard	banquet@grissomband.org
Chaperones	Carrie Howard/Jennifer Ashburn	chaperones@grissomband.org
Color Guard	Chrissy Thrasher/Tina Rainwater	colorguard@grissomband.org
Concerts	Nicole Nix	concerts@grissomband.org
Fruit Sales	David Lawrence/Amanda Blount	fruitsales@grissomband.org
Historian	Kathleen Moore	historian@grissomband.org
Hospitality	Gina Gann/Michelle Boyd	hospitality@grissomband.org
Scrip	Brandi Burnham	scrip@grissomband.org
Spirit Wear	David Lawrence	spirit@grissomband.org
Stadium Setup	Holly Vesterfelt	stadium@grissomband.org
Transportation	Theo Vernon	transportation@grissomband.org
Trucks	Todd Styles	trucks@grissomband.org
Uniforms	Jenny McNeas/Ashley Dyer/Jen Forsythe	uniforms@grissomband.org
VBC Coordinator	Holly Vesterfelt	vbc@grissomband.org
Ways and Means	Brandi Burnham	waysmeans@grissomband.org
Webmaster	Theo Vernon	webmaster@grissomband.org



UNIFORMS

Marching Band Summer Uniform

All students must provide the following:

- **White** Tennis Shoes – for ALL marching band rehearsals and Summer Uniform. **Must have by Pre-Camp.**
- Khaki Shorts. Not short shorts. *(For first few football games)*
- Band Polo Shirt. The first polo shirt is provided by the band. *(For first few football games)* Additional or replacement shirts can be purchased.

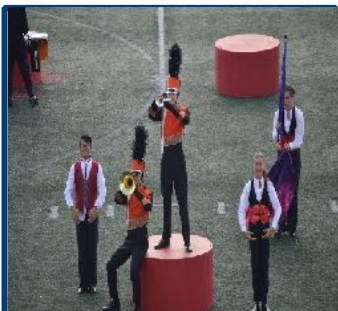
Uniform Fitting – August 10 times TBA

- Students get fitted for their marching uniform
- Buy your marching shoes, socks, gloves, etc.
- Add or update contact information in MyMusicOffice if needed
- Pay fees if you haven't already
- Detailed schedule for Uniform Fitting will be sent via MyMusicOffice
- Color Guard are usually fitted (measured) during summer camp #1

We ask each family to donate two cases of bottled water by the Uniform Fitting. Please bring your water at this time if you have not already done so prior to Uniform Fitting.

Symphonic / Concert Band Uniform

- Ladies wear dresses and men wear tuxedos. These are provided by the band.
- Men provide their own white tuxedo shirt (We may place orders for the students)
- Shoes:
 - Men wear black marching shoes.
 - Ladies wear black closed-toe closed-heel flat shoes.
- Fittings for Symphonic / Concert Band uniforms will be announced later via MyMusicOffice.

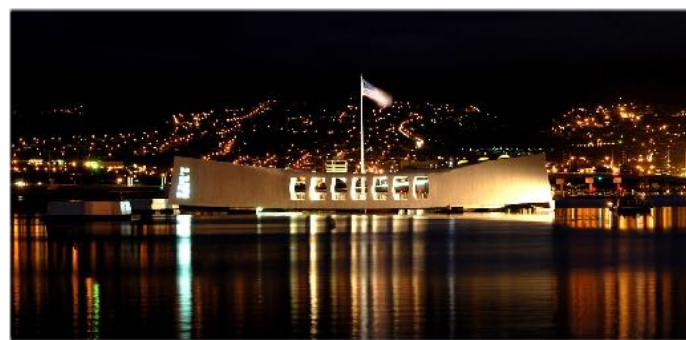


Oh the Places You Will Go!

Places the Grissom Band Has Gone In Recent Years:



Chicago



Pearl Harbor



New Orleans



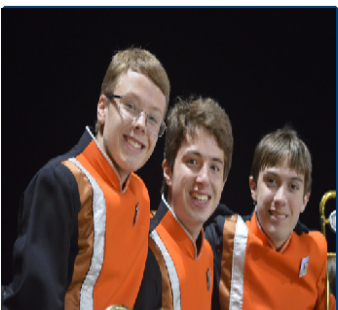
Hollywood



Washington, DC



New York City



Thank you for coming out tonight!

- ❖ We hope we have answered some of your questions about the Grissom Band!
- ❖ Please don't hesitate to contact the band directors or any board member if you have questions.
- ❖ www.grissomband.com

