



8th Grade Information



Webb Bridge
Middle School



Hopewell
Middle School



Be sure to check out our 8th grade information on our website at:

alpharettaband.org/8th-grade-information

&

alpharettaband.org/ahsband101





WHY ALPHARETTA?

Alpharetta High School is:

Ranked #2 High School in Fulton County

Ranked #12 among Georgia High Schools

2024 Atlanta Business Chronicle #3 Best Public High Schools

2024 Niche.com Ranked Alpharetta:

Ranked #3 “Best Public High Schools” in Georgia

Ranked #4 “Best College Prep Public High Schools” in Georgia

Ranked #2 “Best Public High School Teachers” in Georgia

International Baccalaureate Diploma & Advanced Placement School of Distinction



- **AHS is an International Baccalaureate institution.**
 - The average acceptance rate for IB students into colleges or universities is 22% higher than their peers
 - The acceptance rate for IB students into Ivy League institutions is between 3-13 percentage points higher than their peers
 - **International Baccalaureate is not** offered at Innovation Academy or Cambridge High School
- **AHS is an AP School of Distinction**

AHS offers Advanced Placement opportunities in Humanities AND **all STEM fields**

AHS/Innovation Academy FAQ

- Band classes are NOT offered at Innovation Academy
- Traditional electives are NOT offered as a part of the curriculum at Innovation Academy
- Innovation Academy does NOT offer AP classes in the Humanities - *Innovation Academy is a STEM-only school.*
- Alpharetta offers many of the same pathways and opportunities as Innovation Academy including healthcare, engineering, computer science, and much more!
- Students may NOT participate in band at AHS if they attend Innovation Academy
- *Students must be enrolled in a band class at AHS in order to participate in marching band at Alpharetta.*

AHS Band Academic Factoids

- The Marching Raider Band makes up a large percentage of all AP/IB students at AHS.
- We provide regular time and attention for students to maintain great academic standing, and the advantage of being in AHS band is that you have students that have experience in all parts of the academic and pathway opportunities of our school.
- Many of the previous AHS valedictorians and salutatorians are active AHS marching and concert band members (including the 2024 Valedictorian and 3rd place in the class of 2024!)
- Our passing rate during marching season (busiest time of year) is well over 98%! We have student to student tutorials, and band study days throughout the season.
- It is not uncommon to see students collaborating before Tuesday rehearsals to help each other get their homework completed!





**Why
ALPHARETTA BAND?**



Transition from middle school to AHS

- Over 2300 students served at AHS as compared to ~1200 at WBMS
- Students involved in band, **particularly marching band**, find that having a ready-made peer group prior to the start of their freshman year is immensely helpful in navigating the high school transition
- Having help with scheduling is the #1 parental feedback regarding how band has helped their student.
- FRIENDS!
 - High school band, especially marching band, is filled with positive social opportunities to be a part of the amazing Alpharetta community.
 - Band Lunch
 - Band study groups & peer tutoring

HIGH SCHOOL BAND IS DIFFERENT

High School Band Opportunities

Tri -M Music Honors Society

Solo and Ensemble

Fine Arts Diploma Seal

District Honor Band

Governor's Honors Program

All-State Auditions

IB Music Classes & Pathway

Fulton County Honor Band

AP Music Theory Classes

Collegiate Clinics

Music Technology Pathway

College Scholarship Opportunities

Indoor Percussion

Winter Guard

Travel & Performance Opportunities

Curriculum

-Daily Courses-

(During School)

- Symphonic Band I
- Symphonic Band II
- Wind Ensemble
- Intermediate Percussion
- Mastery Percussion



-Extra/Co-Curricular-

(Outside of School)

- Marching Band/Color Guard
- Indoor Percussion
- Winter Guard
- Jazz Band (5th period)
- Alpharetta Full Symphony Orchestra

Band & College Admissions



- **70%** of admissions officers of leading universities say HS credit & achievement in the arts are significant considerations for admissions decisions
- Students involved in the performing arts throughout high school scored, on average, 107 points higher than their peers on the SAT
- 66% of medical students have a musical background (Thomas)
- Colleges and Universities look for growth and leadership opportunities to differentiate students - many of which can be found in band!

Helpful Watch:

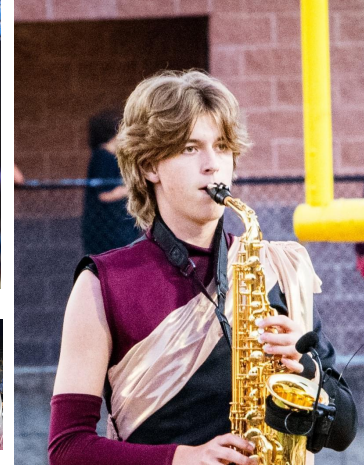
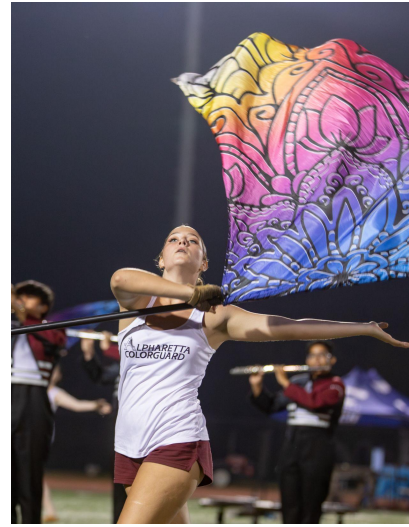
Illuminating the GPA Game

A live Q&A Panel with top university admissions officers from around the U.S. designed to illuminate the false rumor that GPA is all that matters when applying for college or university admissions while in high school.



Join the Raider Marching Band & Color Guard

- *The largest organization at Alpharetta
- *130+ friends on the first day of school
- *Our students make great grades
- *Raider Band is a nationally-ranked program
- *Out of state and international trips
- *Arts matter more than ever on college apps
- *Get your PE Credit
- *Marching band is FUN!



If you play a winter or spring sport,
YOU CAN DO MARCHING BAND!

Soccer

Swimming

Fencing

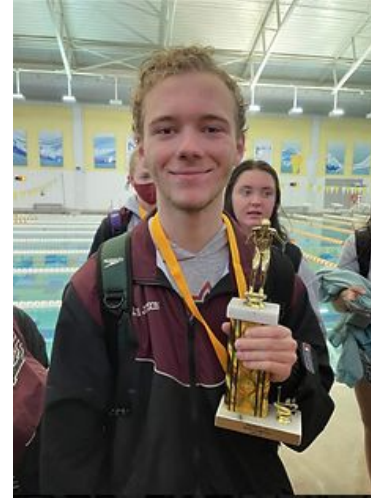
Track & Field

Tennis

Basketball

Wrestling

& More!



Marching Band Class Credit

Members of the marching band for one (1) year **in good standing** earn their physical education class credit; opening space in their schedule!

➤ How much does Marching Band practice?

The Raider Band follows the same standards and guidelines as all activities on campus, including all sports. We average 8 hours a week with our practice schedule. A full calendar of events can be found on our website.

➤ But what does Marching Band Cost?

There are fees associated to band, which covers the cost of travel, food, extra staff members and clinicians, band camp expenses, props, as well as your uniform parts and enhancements. The marching band has monthly payment plans, and we can offer parents the opportunity to reduce your student dues if need be.

No child should choose to not be a part of Raider Band because of finances; we ALWAYS find a way to help families and make it work!

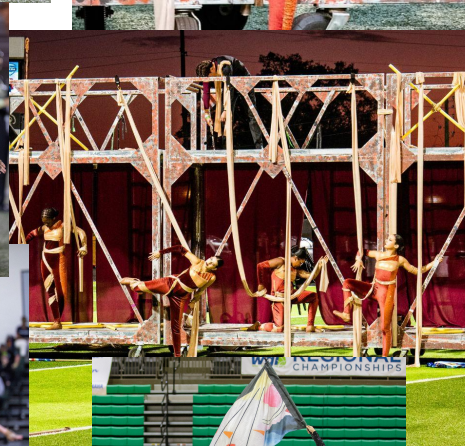


COLOR GUARD

- No prerequisite; anyone is welcome to join!
- Dance and movement experience is a plus.
- Can be one season, or year-long (referred to as Winter Guard in the spring semester)

Email Ms. Nguyen & Mrs. Schlosser with any questions

Alpharettahscolorguard@gmail.com



Important Spring & Summer Dates

Spring Camp #1: Saturday, May 3rd 9:00am-1:00pm @ AHS
Parent Meeting 9:00am - 10:00am - (AHS Auditorium)

Spring Camp #2: Saturday, May 17th 9:00am-1:00pm @ AHS

Band Camp: July 14th - 30th @AHS

*Percussion and Colorguard students will have a few additional rehearsals in the spring. Please see the full calendar at:

Alpharettaband.org/calendar



Alpharetta Band Booster Organization

Helps support our band program in conjunction with the directors and staff!

Who is a band booster?

YOU!

How to get involved:

Fundraising

*Ameris Amphitheatre
Home Football Game Parking*

Volunteering

*Meals
Chaperoning
Uniforms
Raider Roadies
Medical/Nurse Supervision
Transportation*



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



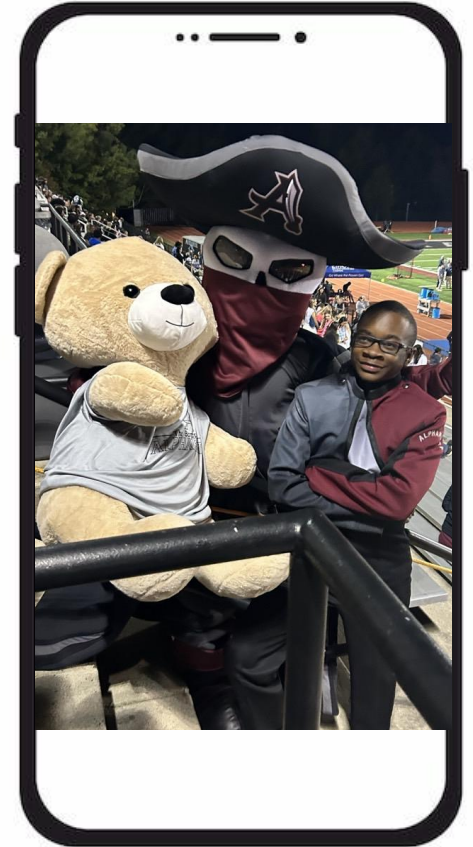
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alpharettaband.org



THANK YOU!

