



# **Dr. Phillips High School Panther Band**

**DrPhillipsBand.com**

Charles Watford  
Band Director

[Charles.Watford@ocps.net](mailto:Charles.Watford@ocps.net)

Matthew Malhiot  
Band Director

[Matthew.Malhiot@ocps.net](mailto:Matthew.Malhiot@ocps.net)

Dear Future Band Member,

We would like to invite you to be a part of the Dr. Phillips High School Band Program. The transition to high school can be intimidating for an incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grader. There are a lot of choices to be made and we hope that continuing in band is one that you will make. Being in the Dr. Phillips High School Band Program makes you a member of a very elite group. We are one of the largest groups on campus and one of the more well known. Being in band gives you an extreme advantage over most of the incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders. On the first day of school you will already know the campus layout thanks to Band Camp and you will already have a friend base of 200+ fellow band students can show you the “ins and outs” from the very first day.

In our program, you will participate in several ensembles. The school year begins with the marching band, which performs at all varsity football games and the FBA District Marching Festival. Not only does the band perform their show at halftime, band students perform a variety of stand tunes throughout the game, in addition to cheers and dances.

Our Bands have performed around the state of Florida at District and State level adjudication events, nationally in various parades in New York and Chicago, and internationally at the London New Year’s Day Parade. Members of the Dr. Phillips Band have opportunities to participate in the Jazz Big band, Percussion Ensembles, Woodwind Ensembles, and Brass Ensembles. Members also have plenty of opportunities to showcase their individual talent with solos at Solo & Ensemble and the District and State level and even perform in the spring musical!

Being a part of band is a very rewarding experience, and probably the most enjoyable and rewarding activity you will be a part of while in high school. We have included a list of upcoming dates for you to know about and frequently asked questions and answers. Keep working hard and we hope to see you soon.

Musically Yours,

Mr. Watford and Mr. Malhiot

## ***2023-2024 Band Camp Information***

April 13 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> , 27 <sup>th</sup> May 11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup>	Percussion Workshops <b><u>(Required for all returning and incoming percussionists)</u></b>	5:30 – 8:00 PM
May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Band Orientation Night <b><u>(Required for all returning and incoming Band Members)</u></b>	7:00 PM, DPHS PAC
July 17 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>	Band Camp Week 1	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
July 24 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup>	Band Camp Week 2	8:00 AM -5:00 PM
July 28 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Meeting	6:00 PM, DPHS PAC
July 28 <sup>th</sup>	Band Premiere Show	7:00 PM , Stadium

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

➤ *“Do I need to sign up anywhere to be in band?”*

Yes. Please visit [www.tinyurl.com/dpbandreg](http://www.tinyurl.com/dpbandreg) and fill out the registration form ASAP.

➤ *“Is participation in marching band required?”*

Yes. In order to facilitate a comprehensive band program aligned with guidelines set forth by the Florida Bandmasters Association, students must participate in Marching band.

➤ *“I don’t have a ride home, so I can’t come to practice.”*

No ride... no worries! You should definitely come. Not having a ride is never an excuse. We can always find a way for you to get home if you cannot be picked up.

➤ *“What about Summer Band Camp? Do I have to be at Summer Band Camp?”*

Yes, Band camp is Mandatory! In the case of there being any prescheduled commitments please be sure to run them by the directors for further accommodations.

➤ *“What band class should I sign up for?”*

All incoming freshmen will be placed in the Symphonic Band Class, and are presented the option of auditioning for our Jazz Bands! Please visit our website at [drphillipsband.com](http://drphillipsband.com) for more information (all sign ups/registration documents are under the forms page).

➤ *“I don’t think I can play the music, or memorize it, or learn where I am going in Marching Band!”*

Don’t worry, you’re not alone in your concerns! Our incredible staff is more than equipped to teach all kinds of learners; when it comes to music, marching, and movement.

➤ *“What will my student gain from being a part of the program?”*

Students in the band program have some of the highest GPA’s in the school. A very large portion of our students are enrolled in AP and Honors Classes. Band students are regarded throughout our school by the teachers as some of the best students in their classes! One of the greatest lessons learned in band is **Time management**. Any alumni can attest to how invaluable the life skills and lessons gained throughout their course in the program and how it has prepared them for the real world.

Not to mention, the outstanding friendships and support systems you build prior to officially starting high school.