



DISCOVERY HIGH SCHOOL BAND

Nicholas C. Wiebers, Director
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www.discoveryhighschool.net

Welcome TITANS!!

This is a brief summary of what we aspire our band program to become at Discovery HS. A more detailed handbook can be found on our CHARMS online account:

www.charmsoffice.com

Mr. Nicholas Wiebers is our Director of Bands.

Mr. Wiebers Cell #: 770-530-0890

nicholas_wiebers@gwinnett.k12.ga.us

www.discoveryhighschool.net is the school's website and you can find school information such as: Calendar of Events, Contact Information, Forms, and other valuable information.

The Discovery High School Band program includes:

Marching Band (Titan Regiment)	Symphonic Band	Jazz Ensemble
Pep Band	Colorguard	Winter Guard
Percussion Ensemble	Drumline	Concert Band

For all band programs, participation in after school rehearsals and performances is required.

The Discovery High School Titan Band Boosters

Band Boosters is comprised of active band parents or guardians and other family members and adults interested in supporting the band program at Discovery High School. Band Boosters is a volunteer parent run 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Parent Booster meetings are scheduled monthly on the fourth Thursday of each month during the school year.

The Discovery Band is family oriented in that active participation by band students, their parents, guardians and family members is vital to sustain and improve the program.

All band parents/guardians are expected to pay band dues to support our students with materials and instruction not supplied through local county or state funding. Fund-raisers are always available to assist students in earning money for these dues. Participation by all members in all fund-raising events and band activities is mandatory. **Band Parents are also required to attend at least 3 general booster meetings during the year as a part of their student band letter award each year. Please make sure to attend our scheduled meetings and sign in each time.**

Discovery HS Marching Titan Regiment – is our primary performing organization. All band students who wish to attend band trips and take part in advanced band courses must be members of the marching band. All students are capable and expected to be in the Marching Titan Regiment. The Marching Titan Regiment performs halftime shows at football games during the fall semester, performs 2-3 Saturday marching competitions in the fall, and performs at other occasional parades or exhibitions throughout the school year. Some activities, rehearsals, and performances also continue into the spring semester such as pep band, pep rallies, & our bi-annual band trip like to Orlando, FL in the Spring of 2017.

Discovery Symphonic Band – All students currently enrolled in a middle school program are eligible and will be auditioned for a spot in the Advanced Symphonic Band class during the month of April. This ensemble represents the top performing students at Discovery High School and is to be considered the finest program at Discovery High School. The Symphonic Band is the classical version of a performance band and sits down in a concert atmosphere or theater to perform. The Symphonic Band will perform 5-6 concerts a year including the GMEA annual LGPE evaluation concert held each spring. All students enrolled in a band class are considered members.

Discovery Concert Band – All students currently enrolled in a middle school program are eligible and will be auditioned for a spot in the Intermediate Concert Band class during the month of April. This ensemble represents most of our rising 9th grade students as well as upperclassmen unable to participate in marching band. The Concert Band is the classical version of a performance band and sits down in a concert atmosphere or theater to perform. The Concert Band will perform 3-4 concerts a year including the GMEA annual LGPE evaluation concert held each spring. All students enrolled in a band class are considered members.

Discovery Jazz – This performance ensemble is open to any and all current members from any Discovery Band performing ensemble. Jazz Band generally meets after school on Wednesdays starting in November and running through May each year. Rehearsal times are as needed in preparations for concerts and events. All members must affirm to a commitment performance contract prior to joining.

AUDITIONING FOR BAND - Auditions take place during regular class time and consist of playing scale excerpts from pages found in the blue Foundations for Superior Performance book. Students are also to perform the concert F, Bb, and Ab major scales one octave with arpeggios as written in the book on pages 42-43. Students will then perform the concert Bb chromatic scale exercise on page 43. All percussionists will need to perform these scales on a xylophone and be ready to sight read a few rhythms on snare drum.

THESE DATES MIGHT CHANGE!!!!

Important Dates:

March 24th All band forms and applications due to Mr. Wiebers

April 25th 8th grade Side-by-Side concert with Discovery HS Band in DHS Theater

May 3rd DHS Band Spring Concert

May 10th DHS Band Banquet – by invitation only – GET YOUR DUES PAID!!

**May 19th Titan Band Open House:
Held at Discovery High School in the Band Room 7 PM to 8:30PM
Mandatory Band Meeting for ALL RMS and DHS Band and Guard Parents**

June 2nd and 3rd ROOKIE CAMP

All MARCHING Band Members MUST attend 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM each day.

Rookie Camp is a mandatory instructional day camp for all Marching Band and Colorguard members including rising 9th graders. It will be held at Discovery High School. The emphasis will be on basic marching and playing skills. 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM - cost is \$5 per day for lunch or students may bring their own lunch from home.

July 25th - 29th BAND CAMP

This our mandatory week-long camp for all Marching Band and Colorguard members held at DHS much like our Rookie Camp. It is held from 8:00 AM-8:45PM each day in order to learn marching drill and music for the show. TWO weeks of camp cost only **\$150** to cover camp expenses, staff instruction, lunch/dinner during week 1 only, snacks for both weeks, music, marching drill, and private instruction. All students must pay these fees in full by July 25th in order to participate in the Titan Regiment for the 2016-2017 school year or they will not be allowed to march. Any student missing band camp will not be allowed to be an on field marching band member for 2016.

August 1st - 4th BAND NIGHT CAMP

This is a 4 day continuation from band camp held from 4:00 PM-8:45PM each day in order to continue to learning the marching drill and music for the show. No meals provided this week. Snacks only along with staff instructors, and other budgeted camp items.

Prior to each date there will be reminders and itineraries detailing each event and times. All current updates can always be found on the schools website and on CHARMS.

If you should have any questions, please email or call Mr. Wiebers.

nicholas_wiebers@gwinnett.k12.ga.us

678-226-4250 DHS front office phone

770-530-0890 Cell phone for Mr. Wiebers

www.charmsoffice.com - use log-in: DiscoveryHSBand plus student ID for password

Band Events and Finances

BAND CAMP 2015

Band Camp Fees: \$150.00 *

This fee covers all meals during camp, show T-shirt uniform, instructor/staff costs, music and drill for our show, plus other costs for Band Camp as outlined in our band camp budget presented each year in May. These fees are based on prior year costs. The final budget for the 2016-17 school year will be finalized in May 2016. Finalized dues and fees will be provided at the Band Open House on May 19th at 7 PM in the DHS Band Room.

THE MORE STUDENTS IN BAND, THE LESS THE COST!!

*Full payment of Band Camp fees will be required *prior* to the start of Band Camp in July.

Payments can be made by Credit and Debit Card through Square in the band office.

Please DO NOT use my payments plus accounts online to pay band fees.

BAND/COLORGUARD DUES

2016-17 All Member Dues: \$280.00 *

Dues Include: Marching Band, Concert and Symphonic Band, Colorguard, and Drumline.

Compared to other bands in the county and state, we're one of the lowest!!

- What if I don't want to march??

Whether students choose to march and be in one the most unique band experiences ever or choose not to march and just participate with the class concert band, the costs for dues will be the same either way. It is a better deal for students who will get more leadership, application, knowledge, and fun out of music by participating in marching band together with class enrollment, rather than just playing in class each day like in middle school.

We need ALL our band students to be supportive of ALL band programs within the Discovery HS Band. Also, realize that only members of the marching band will be allowed to travel on band trips and apply for honors like UGA Jan Fest.

If you have any questions, please ask Mr. Wiebers.

*A payment schedule for Band/Colorguard Member Dues with installment payment deadlines will be provided in May. We anticipate the final installment deadline for Dues will be in December of 2016. Plenty of fund-raisers are made available throughout the year so that *all students may not have to pay any out-of-pocket expense as long as they fully participate in meeting our find-raising goals.*

Credit and Debit Cards are accepted through Square at any time in the band office.

Please DO NOT use my payments plus accounts online to pay band any fees.

TRIPS

SPRING TRIP 2017 –We are waiting on final approval in May, but we anticipate the band’s first trip will be in the Spring of 2017 to Orlando, Fl. Students may save money in their band student account in order to attend, but band dues and fees must be paid off first each year. The expected cost for this trip will be around \$550-600 for 3-days/4 nights stay including all meals, lodging, entrances fees, and transportation expenses.
HELP FUND-RAISE TO MAKE SURE WE CAN GO!!!

Deposits for the annual band trips are due in SEPTEMBER of the school year we will be attending the trip at \$150 with no exceptions. All fees are non-refundable. Credit Cards and Debit Cards are accepted through Square at any time in the band office.

Please DO NOT use my payments plus accounts online to pay band fees.

Each payment for band dues and trip fees MUST be paid in full and on time in order to attend the trip. Band dues and fees must always be taken care of first so we can run our programs that allow us to perform and attend such wonderful trips. Band fund-raisers are always made to help offset the cost of the fees/dues. There are plenty of opportunities available so a student and parent NEVER have to pay for anything out of pocket as long as students fully participate. It is the Band Booster Association and the Band Director’s personal goal to make sure every student regardless of income, gender, religion, or race has the privilege and ability to attend any band function so long as the student and parent participates and successfully demonstrates a willingness to take care of their obligations to the band program.

OTHER COSTS

Student Personal Costs:

These items are the student’s property to keep and maintain throughout their high school career for 4 years and can be renewed independently if the items are worn out.

Marching Band personal uniform accessories:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|---|
| Gloves | \$5 | Can be purchased at the uniform closet before any game |
| Marching Shoes | \$28 | Must be ordered at band camp and paid for in August. |
| Band Shirt | \$15 | (one t-shirt per student will be included in band camp fees) |
| Ball Cap | \$20 | This <i>might</i> be an option for 2016-2017 |

All Colorguard members are required to purchase their uniform *each year* for a total cost of around \$140 including shoes and uniform depending on show theme.

OTHER COSTS

(continued)

Concert Uniforms:

Guys: need to purchase a solid white button down collared dress shirt for all concerts.

Girls: need to purchase solid black dress shoes to be worn with our black band concert gowns.

Student Instruments:

Items for a student's instrument such as valve oil, reeds, mouthpieces, neck straps, drum sticks, etc. are considered a student's responsibility and personal cost for use in class.

A student's instrument should be in good playing condition at all times with proper accessories. If you need help getting instruments repaired, please ask Mr. Wiebers for repair technician recommendations.

Please have your student's instrument serviced EVERY summer for a tune-up 😊

HOW TO DO BAND FOR FREE!!

Fund-raisers:

The most important function of the Discovery Band Boosters Association is to provide supplemental funding for the purchase and maintenance of instruments, purchase of colorguard equipment and instruction, band travel expenses, rental of moving equipment, competition registration fees, music purchases, private/group instruction, uniform cleanings/alterations and purchases, instrument maintenance and purchases along with many other services necessary to operate our band program not covered by state, county, or local supplements.

Fund-raisers for band included: *Discount Card Sales, Enjoy the City Coupon Booklets, Band Concession Stand Sales, Band Corporate Sponsorships, Candy Sales, the Annual Fruit Sale in October, iGive.com on-line retail purchases, Walk-a-thon, Garage Sales, Car Washes, The Taste of Lawrenceville, and many more.*

IT'S EASY TO MAKE ENOUGH MONEY TO PAY FOR BAND THIS YEAR AND NEXT!

Profit from home football game concessions will be applied to the Band's general account. Parents are expected to work or chaperone at least one of the scheduled games in 2016 as we have an awesome new football schedule and need the help! A \$20 credit will be applied to a student's account for each concession day or pit crew helper worked *-Limit one credit per 1 adult, per day, per family.*

Please Note:

If a student participates in a fund-raiser which includes selling items by word of mouth such as discount cards - these items are given to the student and/or parents, the parents and student are responsible for selling all the items and returning any funds received for these items directly to the band boosters. If the items are not sold, they must be returned to the band boosters when requested at the fund-raiser deadline. If items are not returned, the student and parents will be charged the full amount of the items selling price and the student might not be allowed to participate in the next fund-raiser.

All Fund-raisers are designed so that a percentage of the profits earned through an individual student's total sales will apply as credit towards that participating individual band member's student account balance of dues and fees.

***Fund-raisers and Band/Colorguard Dues will be set at the mandatory band booster meeting in May each year to determine the band budget for the 2016-2017 school year. This meeting is to set the actual cost of band dues and appropriate percentages of fund-raiser disbursements. This meeting will also address all band rules and procedures as outlined in the band handbook.**

Example Summer and Fall Fund-raiser Earnings:

(Items below are based on minimum selling amounts, however all fund-raisers are unlimited in quantities available for sale.)

Sell	5 Coupon Booklets	Earn \$50
Sell	10 Discount Cards	Earn \$50
Sell	2 boxes of Candy	Earn \$50
Sell	10 boxes of fruit	Earn \$130 to \$200 <i>(depends on size of fruit boxes sold)</i>

Total Estimated Earnings \$280+

This is more than enough to pay for band dues and save money for the following school year band camp and trips!

STUDENT ACCOUNTS:

A Student Account is used to keep track of an individual student's credits and charges within the band. Once a student is enrolled in any of the Discovery Band Programs, that student will have a student account opened for them by the Booster Treasurer in the bands bank records located on CHARMS – www.charmsoffice.com.

This student account will be open their entire high school career and is accessibly 24/7 online. The account is created so students may apply credits from fund-raisers to items such as band camp, trips, and dues while maintaining an accurate record of each transaction. This is NOT a working bank account for a student to use, but does allow them opportunities to make and apply transactions towards any debt owed to the band. For any questions regarding student accounts, please read the Discovery Band Handbook, ask a Booster Treasurer, or ask Mr. Wiebers.



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Discovery Band Commitment Form 2016 - 2017

The following provides information about membership in the Discovery Band. One copy of this form must be signed by both student and parent, and then returned to Mr. Wiebers by the March 24, 2016.

Please keep a copy for your records.

Band Dues:

Band/Colorguard Dues may be paid over a 6/7 month period from May to December, according to the Dues Payment Schedule. The extension of payments over seven months makes participation as affordable as possible for all interested students. Fund-raisers will be scheduled to coincide with scheduled dues payment dates to assist students with making those scheduled payments.

Payment of Dues also includes the student's participation in Colorguard, Concert & Symphonic, Jazz Band, Drumline, and Pep Band *for the entire year!*

Band dues are to supply funds for our programs that are **not** supplied by the state and county governments or local school supplements.

Dues for students in Band/Colorguard for the 2016-2017 year are \$280 per student. Again, payments are extended from May to December. *That's only \$40 a month!*

Each year the Band Booster Executive Board sets a budget, which is presented for approval at the May Band Booster meeting. The following Dues Payment Schedule will be presented at that time. Major changes to the Dues Payment Schedule are not anticipated. Band Camp and Trips, as always, are a separate budget from band dues.

Dues Payment Schedule for Band/Colorguard – 2016-2017

- August 18th - **\$100 Dues Payment**

- October 20th - **\$100 Dues Payment**

- December 15th - **\$80 Final Dues Payment**

Other Expenses:

- Depending on budgetary needs, supplemental dues may be charged to students who also choose to participate in additional ensembles such as Winter Colorguard or Indoor Percussion. These groups typically perform after marching season and in the spring semester. Costs have averaged around \$40 extra per year.
- Students who use school supplied instruments will be assessed a \$40 maintenance/rental fee per year. This fee is mandated by GCPS. A limited number of instruments are available.
- Individual expenses for meals and personal items such as T-shirts, Polo Shirts, gloves and shoes will be charged as necessary.
- Individual participation in select events such as District Honor Band, All-State Honor Band, UGA Jan Fest, GSU Band Day, GT Band Day, etc. may result in additional expense per year.
- The Titan Band will attend an out of state competition every other year beginning in Spring of 2017. Participation in the spring 2017 trip is **strongly suggested** that all marching band/colorguard students attend. The costs associated with these trips vary and are in addition to normal Band Dues. Our first out of state competition is for Spring 2017 and is estimated at ~\$550.00-600.00. ***98-100% of the Marching Titan Regiment MUST attend and participate in the trips. Otherwise, due to instrumentation and costs we cannot attend and will forfeit all deposits. PLEASE PAY ON TIME AND IN FULL BY DOING OUR FUND-RAISERS.***

Band Camp Fees: \$150.00 *

This fee covers all meals during camp, show T-shirt uniform, instructor/staff costs, music and drill for our show, plus other costs for Band Camp as outlined in our band camp budget presented each year in May. These fees are based on prior year costs. The final budget for the 2016-17 school year will be finalized in May 2016. Finalized dues and fees will be provided at the Band Open House on May 19th at 7 PM in the DHS Band Room.
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- * Full payment of Band Camp fees is required ***prior*** to the start of Band Camp in July. Payments can be made by Credit and Debit Card through Square in the band office.
Please DO NOT use my payments plus accounts online to pay band fees.

Family / Parent Commitment:

The success of any band program is largely dependent on the level of *parental* participation. Our band program and band budget are based on the premise that *every* band family will participate to the extent it can and will pay Band Dues according to the Dues Payment Schedule. Many volunteer opportunities are available to parents including working as chaperones, pit and equipment crew, concession workers, Executive Board and Committee memberships, etc. Please support your student by participating as an active band booster. Your student needs and deserves your support and you will have a fun time working with some wonderful people. These positions are open to ALL band parents. Band Parents are also required to attend at least 3 general booster meetings during the year as a part of their student band letter award each year. Please make sure to attend our scheduled meetings and sign in each time.

Consequences for Non-Payment of Dues or for Not Participating in Fund-raisers:

The consequences for not participating in fund-raisers or not paying Band Dues by the scheduled deadlines include, but are not limited to the following:

- Student loss of eligibility to earn an award Band Letter.
- Student and Parent ineligibility for Band Booster funded trophies and awards.
- Student and Parent suspension from Band Booster funded events, including the Band Banquet and trips.
- Student and Parent loss of eligibility to participate in future Band Booster funded or facilitated trips and events.
- Student suspension or dismissal from the Marching Band or Symphonic Band program.
- Student loss of eligibility to attend school functions such as Prom, Homecoming, Dances, Field Trips, Senior Graduation Practice and Ceremony, etc.
- A student's final grades may be withheld in the event a non-payment status is prolonged.
- Senior students may be held from the Graduation Ceremony.
- If a student should withdrawal from the band program at any point, all band dues and fees currently owed by the student are due immediately at a prorated rate or grades and graduation may be withheld.

There is no intent to exclude any student based on a legitimate financial need. The payment of Band Dues has been extended from May to December to make participation as affordable as possible and to assist those who may need additional time to pay Band Dues. Any Band student who makes a commitment to the Discovery High School Band program and later finds that he or she cannot honor their financial commitment because of a family financial crisis or other exceptional circumstance *must immediately bring their situation to the attention of the Band Director and Band Booster Treasurer.* In those circumstances, special arrangements will be offered including extended payment plans, additional fund-raising opportunities, and work-equity opportunities. *Non-payment of Band Dues is not an option.* Your communication with the band director and band booster board is required in order for us to maintain a well-run superior program.

Discovery High School Band Booster Parent Information Sheet

Student Name: _____

Mother's Info:

Name: _____ Home # _____

Email: _____ Cell # _____

Home Address: _____

Place of Employment: _____ Work # _____

Work Address: _____

Father's Info:

Name: _____ Home # _____

Email: _____ Cell # _____

Home Address: _____

Place of Employment: _____ Work # _____

Work Address: _____

I am currently interested in helping out the Discovery High School Band program by participating in: *(PLEASE CIRCLE ALL WAYS YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP)*

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| CHAPERONE | PHONE COMMITTEE | TRIPS | FUND-RAISING REPRESENTATIVE |
| EXECUTIVE BOARD BOOSTER POSITION | | CONCESSIONS | COMMUNICATIONS |
| TREASURER | BAND CAMP | EQUIPMENT/PROPS CREW | COLORGUARD |
| UNIFORM COMMITTEE | HOSPITALITY | WEBSITE | OTHER: _____ |

Band Booster Mother's Signature: _____

Band Booster Father's Signature: _____