

De Soto High School Wildcat Bands



2003 - 2004
Handbook

**De Soto High School
2003 - 2004 Wildcat Band Handbook**

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De Soto High School Wildcat Bands
2003 – 2004 TENTATIVE Performance Schedule
Check the band website www.geocities.com/dhswildcatbands for updated schedules

Date	Day	Time	Performance	Location	Who
August 2003					
Aug. 4-7 / 12-14	M-Th	TBA	Summer Band Camp	DHS	ALL
Aug. 14	Th	6:45 PM	4 th Annual Sneak Peak Concert and Dinner	DHS	ALL
Aug. 30	S	9:00 AM	De Soto Days Parade	De Soto	ALL
September 2003					
Sep. 6	S	9:00 AM	Old Settlers Day Parade	Olathe	ALL
Sep. 12	F	5:30 PM	Football – DHS vs. Piper	DHS Stadium	ALL
Sep. 26	F	Afternoon	DHS Homecoming Parade	De Soto	ALL
Sep. 26	F	5:30 PM	Football – DHS vs. Anderson County *** Homecoming ***	DHS Stadium	ALL
October 2003					
Oct. 3	F	5:30 PM	Football – DHS vs. Perry *** Band Night ***	DHS Stadium	ALL
Oct. 15	W	6:30 PM	Baker University Marching Festival	Baker U., Baldwin, KS	ALL
Oct. 18	S	8:30 AM	American Royal Parade	Kansas City, MO	ALL
Oct. 24	F	5:30 PM	Football – DHS vs. Mill Valley	DHS Stadium	ALL
November 2003					
Nov. 8	S	TBA	KMEA-NE District Honor Band Auditions	Baldwin HS	VOL
Nov. 19 – 22	W-S	TBA	DHS Fall Musical	DHS Theater	VOL
December 2003					
Dec. 6	S	All-Day	KMEA-NE District Honor Band	TBA	SELECT
Dec. 11	Th	7:00 PM	Band & Choir Holiday Concert	DHS Gym	ALL
Dec. 30 – 31	T- W	All-Day	SBC Cotton Bowl Music Festival and Parade	Dallas, TX	ALL
January 2004					
Jan. 1 – 3	Th -S	All-Day	SBC Cotton Bowl Music Festival and Parade	Dallas, TX	ALL
Jan. 3	S	TBA	KMEA State Band Auditions	Salina Central HS	SELECT
Jan. 10	S	All-Day	KMEA-NE District Freshman Honor Band	Shawnee Mission NWHS	SELECT
February 2004					
Feb. 7	S	TBA	KSHSAA Regional Piano Festival	Baker University	VOL
Feb. 19	Th	7:30 PM	DHS Band Mid-Winter Concert	DHS Gym	ALL
Feb. 21	S	TBA	KSHSAA State Piano Festival	Wichita State University	SELECT
Feb. 26-28	Th-S	All-Day	KMEA State Music Convention	Wichita	SELECT
March 2004					
Mar. 6	S	All-Day	Kaw Valley League Solo and Ensemble	Basehor-Linwood HS	VOL
Mar. 9	T	School-day	Kaw Valley League Large Group	De Soto HS	ALL
Mar. TBA	TBA	TBA	DHS Area Band Extravaganza	DHS Gym	ALL
April 2004					
Apr. 3	S	All-Day	KSHSAA Regional Solo & Ensemble	Baker University	VOL
Apr. 14	W	TBA	KSHSAA State Large Group Festival	Gardner-Edgerton HS	ALL
Apr. 24	S	TBA	KSHSAA State Solo & Ensemble	TBA	SELECT
May 2004					
May 11	T	7:30 PM	DHS Spring Band Concert	DHS Gym	ALL
May 22	S	TBA	DHS Graduation	DHS Gym	ALL

ALL = These are full band performances and are **REQUIRED** of all band members.
VOL = These are optional performances or events and students may **VOLUNTEER** to perform.
SELECT = These are optional performances or events and students must be **SELECTED** by audition to perform.

Welcome!

Dear DHS Band Members and Parents,

Welcome to another year with the De Soto High School Wildcat Bands! Throughout the year we will meet many new challenges and opportunities, both musically and personally. I am pleased that you have chosen to be a part of this special musical group, and I hope that you have a very positive experience as a member of the Wildcat Bands.

To help reach our goals, this handbook has been designed to aid students in understanding what will be expected of them in daily rehearsals and performances. Parents will also gain a better understanding of what is expected of their students through their participation in band.

Best wishes for a great year!

Mr. Love

Program Philosophy

The De Soto High School Band Program strives to develop musical creativity, critical thinking, individual responsibility, and cultural appreciation in its students while providing exciting performances and a source of pride for De Soto High School, USD 232, and the De Soto Community.

<i>2003 - 2004 Student Leaders</i>		
<i>Caterina Lane</i>	<i>Drum Majors</i> <i>Ben Moon</i>	<i>Kody Willnauer</i>
	<i>Student Director</i> <i>Mary Roellchen</i>	
<i>Secretary / Librarian</i> <i>Erin Paulsen</i> <i>Melissa Roberts</i>		<i>Equipment Manager</i> <i>Scott Baldwin</i> <i>Kasey Willnauer</i>
	<i>Section Leaders</i> <i>Emily Abels</i> <i>Callie Blades</i> <i>Denice Friday</i> <i>Brady Groothuis</i> <i>Gary Kearns</i> <i>Blake Lindbloom</i> <i>Matt Lowe</i> <i>Erin Paulsen</i> <i>Mike Prescott</i> <i>Melissa Roberts</i>	

Expectations

Band is a different type of learning environment from other courses in a high school. Students must demonstrate a high level of personal responsibility and a cooperative work ethic. All members of the De Soto High School Bands are expected to:

1. Be **on time** and **prepared** with their instrument, music, and pencil at every rehearsal and performance.
See attendance and tardy policies on page 6.
2. **Listen to** and **follow instructions** of the director, drum majors, student leaders, administrators, and other staff the **first time** they are given.
3. **Make** every **rehearsal** a **positive** and **productive** experience.
Talk only when asked to do so.
Focus on the music, not on distractions.
*Give your best **effort** 100% of the time.*
4. **Respect** the property of others.
Use instruments and music for their correct purpose.
Do not touch what is not yours without permission.
Clean up after yourself.
5. Think **before** you act.
Will your words actions do good or harm?
Will your words or actions reflect positively or negatively on you, the band, or the school?
6. Abide by all special policies and rules of the Wildcat Bands, De Soto High School, and USD 232.

Consequences

Should a band member fail to meet the above expectations, the following actions may be taken:

- Verbal warning or reminder.
- Private conference between the student and director.
- Detention or assigned service time.
- Suspension from a performance or special activity.
- Conference with student, director, and parents to discuss behaviors and expectations.
- Referral to counselor and / or principal for appropriate consequences.



Rewards

Put very simply, those who follow the expectations and give their best effort will help the band reach its potential!

Grading Policy

Daily Participation – 40%

Students may earn 10 daily points for preparation, punctuality, and active participation in class. Points may be deducted for unexcused absences, class disruptions, missing materials, lack of effort, etc.

Assignments – 20%

Assignments will include music playoffs, scale tests, worksheets, and written performance evaluations. Students may earn from 5 to 25 points per assignment.

Performances – 40%

All performances will be graded. Students will earn credit based on attendance, punctuality, proper uniform, and effort. *Performance grades can not be made up.* Performance points are as follows: Marching Band: 100 points, Symphonic Band: 200 points, All other performances: 50 points.

Grading Scale

A +	99 – 100+	C +	78 – 79
A	94 – 98	C	73 – 77
A -	90 – 93	C -	70 – 72
B +	88 – 89	D	64 – 69
B	83 – 87	D -	60 – 63
B -	80 – 82	F	59 and below

Practice

Students who practice regularly become better musicians. While high school band members are not required to turn in practice logs, students will be held accountable for learning music and musical skills. Music memorization in marching band, scale pass-offs, chair tests, and playing tests are some of the methods used to check student progress. If at any time you feel you need help with music, please take advantage of the seminar period. Mr. Love will be available during seminar to help with music, run sectionals, pick out solos, etc. The DHS Fine Arts Hallway also has three practice rooms where students can practice during seminar.

How comfortable would you feel in a plane where the pilot safely landed only 60% of the time?

The same holds true in music - how good would a concert sound if each musician only played 60% of the notes correctly? ALWAYS give your best effort and aim for perfection - you'll have a "safe" landing every time!

Special Policies

Attendance Policy

Band is a **co-curricular** academic class. This means that some class activities occur **during** the **school** day (rehearsals) and some activities are **outside** the **school** day (performances), BUT **all class activities** count toward credit in that class.

- *Rehearsals.* Band meets during **Green Days in Block 1**. Band is a regular class and attendance is required.
- *Performances.* In order for our performances to be successful, ALL band members need to be present at ALL performances. Failure to attend a scheduled performance will result in an unexcused absence and a serious grade reduction for a student.
In special circumstances a band member may receive an excused absence from a performance.

Those circumstances are:

1. The student is ill. A phone call from the parent to the director prior to the start of the performance is necessary.
2. The student is attending another school-sponsored activity AND the student has made prior arrangements with **BOTH** sponsors.
3. There is an **immediate** emergency or illness with the student or student's family and the director receives a phone call prior to the start of the performance. (Note: work, vacation, no ride, and shopping, **NEVER** constitute an emergency.)
4. Other circumstances approved by the director. A written request from a parent is required and must be received at least 48 hours prior to a performance. Such circumstances have usually included attending weddings, funerals, and graduations of relatives or family friends out of town. A written request does not guarantee an absence will be excused.

Special Rehearsals

Occasionally there will be a need for special rehearsals in addition to the regular class time. Special rehearsals will be announced at least one week in advance and will count as part of your daily grade.

Before school rehearsals will begin at 7:00 AM. **Seminar** rehearsals will begin 5 minutes after the passing bell.

Tardies

Regular band class begins at **7:52 AM**. Students are to be in the band room with all necessary supplies before the tardy bell rings. Students who arrive late to class will need to get an admit from the office or pass from a teacher. For outdoor marching rehearsals, students are to be in the warm-up circle no later than **7:57 AM**. Students tardy to this activity will receive a grade deduction and possible detention. For indoor concert band rehearsals students are to be ready to play no later than 5 minutes after the tardy bell..

Eligibility

Band students must have a commitment to their grades just as all athletes and other activity participants do. Band members may participate at home performances (concerts and athletic support performances) regardless of KSHSAA semester eligibility. Students who do not pass 5 classes during a semester will not be allowed to participate in KSHSAA events. Students who have difficulty maintaining passing grades in other classes may be prohibited from performing at events away from DHS. In order to help students actively participate in all of their activities, their coaches and sponsors will monitor their grades, however it is the student's responsibility to stay current with all assignments and exams.

Make-up Work

Some band performances occur during the school day. Students are responsible for completing any coursework missed during that time. As band students know their schedule in advance, they should check with their teachers at least 1 week prior to the performance.

Seminar

Seminar is on White days during the 2nd block. The seminar period at DHS is an opportunity for students to get assistance from teachers and for clubs and other organizations to hold meetings. The DHS Seminar guidelines also allow for band and choral groups to practice when needed. To practice or get help with music during the seminar period, band members must sign-up with Mr. Love during band class or before school. Student leaders and section leaders may hold small sectionals and meetings during this period. Please check with Mr. Love first.

Instruments

Students need furnish an instrument in good playing condition. This also includes maintaining an adequate supply of reeds, oil, etc. Certain large instruments may be checked out from the school. All instruments must be stored in a locked locker when not in use. If a school owned instrument is in need of repair, please inform the director as soon as possible.

Percussionists

DHS owns most percussion instruments. Percussion students are required to provide their own stick bag, concert snare sticks, marching snare sticks, marching quad mallets, yarn mallets, rubber mallets, plastic mallets, brushes, and drum key. Students may order these supplies from the school or through local music dealers. A locker will be provided to each percussionist. Students wishing to bring larger instruments and equipment (personal snare drum, drum set, etc.) need to make storage arrangements with Mr. Love.

Equipment

In addition to various instruments, there is a large amount of school owned equipment in the band room. Electronic equipment, microphones, school instruments, etc. are to be used only with the director's permission.

Music

Each student will be issued a marching folder and a concert folder. Throughout the course of the school year students will receive music. Students are responsible for the condition of the music and will be required to pay for any missing or damaged music at the conclusion of the school year. Students are to store music folders in the storage cabinet or in their music locker.

Lockers

Every band member will be issued a locker and a school owned-lock. These are located in the Fine Arts Hallway. These lockers are to be used only for the storage of instruments and music during the school day. During rehearsals, students may store backpacks, gym clothes, etc. in the lockers. Lockers are to remain locked at all times.

Food and Drink

The band room is one of the few carpeted areas in the school and it is important that the band room be kept clean at all times. Therefore, **absolutely NO** food or drink (except water) is to be brought into the band room. The director may make exceptions during special events (meetings, certain social functions, etc.) Also, the band room is a NO GUM ZONE!

Fundraising and Trips

By participating in band and other music activities, students have the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of performances. The costs associated with the majority of these performances are considered part of the band's instructional budget. However, the band program also seeks out unique performance opportunities for students during their four-year career. These performances often involve travel and expense beyond the normal scope of the school budget. In order to participate in these events, students may be asked to help raise funds for their portion of the costs. **At no time** will a student be required to participate in a fundraiser, however, a student would need to find alternative means for contributing toward the trip cost. It is also the DHS Band Program's policy that no trip or event will be taken unless it is financially possible for **all** band members to participate.



Miscellaneous stuff:

Contact Information:

Director of Bands: Justin W. Love
Mailing Address: 35000 W. 91st St., De Soto, KS 66018
DHS Phone: (913) 583-8370, voicemail 3039.
LTMS Phone: (913) 583-8360
Plan period: 9:25 to 10:15 AM Green Days; 7:52 to 9:30 AM White Days
Email: jlove@usd232.org

Schedule changes and other information:

Changes or additions to the performance schedule will be made via these sources:

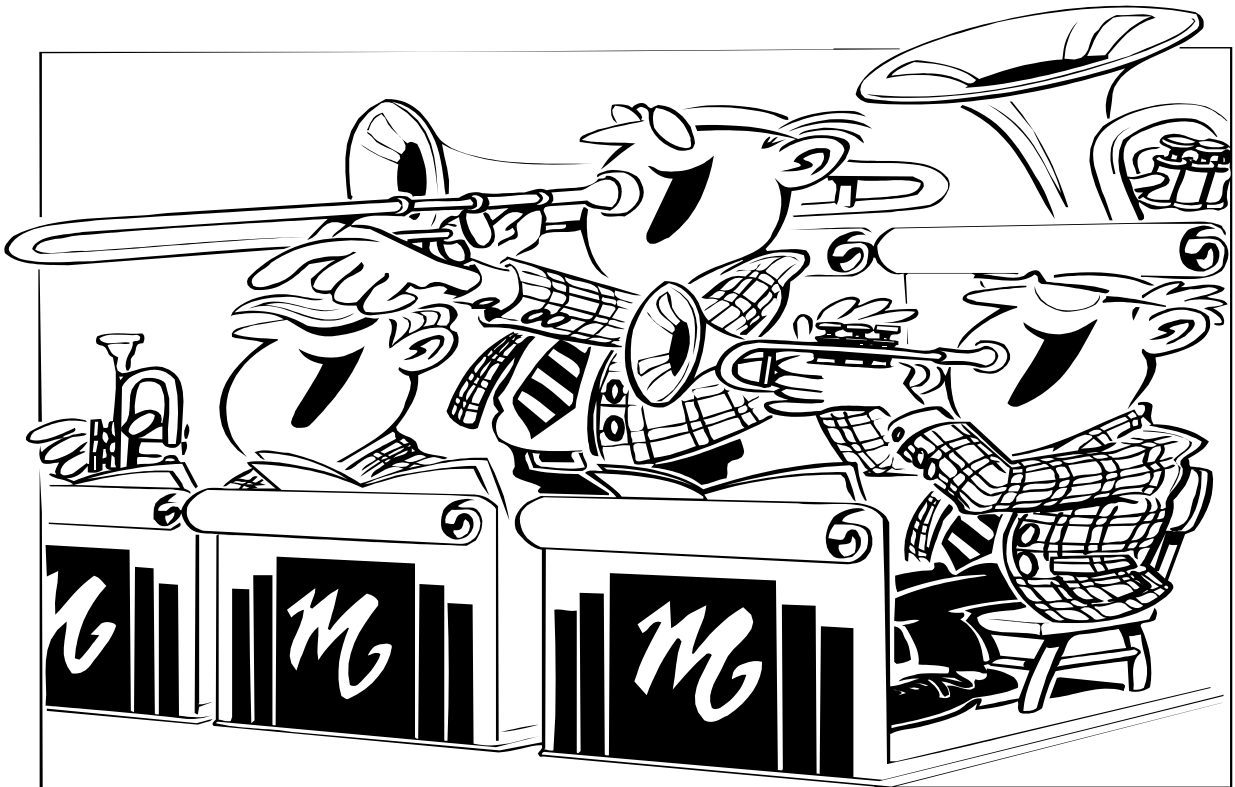
1. Announcements sent with students.
2. Email alerts sent to parents.
3. The DHS Band website at www.geocities.com/dhswildcatbands.

Parents: Interested in serving as a volunteer or chaperone to help the band?

Contact either Mr. Love or become a member of the Cat Boosters Club.

Recordings of Concerts and other performances:

All of our performances are recorded for evaluation and posterity. If you would like a copy of any recording, please send a blank VHS tape and a note stating which performance(s) you would like recorded to school with your student.



Uniforms

Marching Band

Every band member will be issued a marching band uniform in late August. It is your responsibility to ensure that the uniform is kept clean for each performance, and that the uniform is returned in good condition! All band members will pay a \$10.00 uniform cleaning fee at enrollment. **Note: Items marked with * are to be provided by the student.** The proper uniform is:

Hat (called a shako)

Coat

Pants

Green DHS Wildcat Band Shirt

***White socks**

***Dinkles Marching Shoes** (these will be ordered in August – cost is \$30 – \$35)

In the event of rain, the band will furnish you with a raincoat.

Cold games can sneak up on us! If it is cold / snowing, etc. make sure to dress in layers and wear appropriate protective headgear and gloves! **Note:** Hats, ball caps, etc. are not part of the uniform nor are they a part of the DHS dress code. Hats and sunglasses may be worn during outdoor rehearsals but removed before returning to the building.

Uniform Care

There are several tips to keep your uniform looking (and smelling) great!

1. **DO NOT** wash the uniform or hand clean it. Uniforms **MUST** be dry-cleaned.
2. **DO NOT** use any type of spot cleaner, spot remover, deodorant, etc.
3. **DO NOT** iron, blow dry, or tumble dry any part of the uniform.
4. **ALWAYS AIR-dry** the uniform **EVERY** time you wear it.
5. **ALWAYS HANG-UP** your uniform after **EVERY** performance.
6. If you stain the uniform and it needs cleaning take it to a professional dry cleaner. Olathe Cleaners handles our uniforms every year.
7. Every student will be assigned a specific shirt and uniform. If changes need to be made, please see Mr. Love.

Warm-Weather Uniform

For certain parades and performances during warm-weather, we will wear a different uniform. The warm-weather uniform will include:

Green DHS Wildcat Band Shirt

***Tan or Khaki shorts**

***Tennis shoes or band shoes**

Symphonic Band

Girls: Black skirt

Green Vest

*Long sleeve, buttoned white blouse

*Black or very dark shoes.

Boys: Green DHS Blazer

*Black slacks

* White dress shirt

* Black tie

* Black shoes and socks



Fees

There are certain costs associated with participation in band.

Band Uniform Cleaning Fee - \$10.00 (paid at enrollment)
Dinkles Marching Shoes - \$30.00 - \$35.00 (depends upon size)
Sticks, reeds, etc. – depends upon usage and student need
Flip folder - \$5.00 - \$7.00 (available at any music store)
Lyre - \$5.00 - \$10.00 (depends upon instrument)

Note: Some flip folders and lyres are available from the school on a first come, first served basis.

Students also need to provide the following uniform parts;

Tan or Khaki shorts
Black dress shoes and socks
Black pants
White dress shirt or long-sleeved blouse
Black tie

Note: The above uniform items can be purchased at any clothing or discount store such as Wal-Mart or Target. There is no need to spend a large amount of money, as long as the uniform parts are suitable for public performance (i.e. no holes in the knees!)

Course Descriptions

Symphonic Band (9-12) (Year)

The Symphonic Band serves as the primary instrumental music performing ensemble and instructional course for De Soto High School. During the first quarter, the Symphonic Band serves as the marching band and performs at all home football games, several parades, and in an adjudicated marching festival. Students perform music in a variety of styles and learn marching fundamentals. Many student leadership opportunities exist that allow for further individual development. For the remainder of the year, the Symphonic Band provides students with further instruction in the fundamentals of instrumental music performance, music theory, and music history. Students are exposed to and perform a wide variety of musical literature. The Symphonic Band performs in 3 concerts, the Kaw Valley League Music Festival, and the KSHSAA State Large Group Music Festival. Students also have the opportunity to participate in individual festivals and competitions at the league, regional, and state level that will allow them to expand their musical horizons. This is a year long (1 credit) course that will satisfy the requirements of the Fine Arts Department.

AM Jazz Band (9-12) (special)

The AM Jazz Band meets Monday through Friday mornings from 7:00 AM – 7:45 AM. Students in the Jazz Band will learn to play music in a variety of styles including Swing, Bebop, Latin, Funk, and Rock. Students will also learn jazz theory, jazz history, and improvisational techniques. The Jazz Band will also present at least one concert, perform at a regional adjudicated jazz festival, and perform for various community functions as requested. Enrollment in the Jazz Band is by audition and / or by permission of the instructor. Jazz Band members must also be enrolled in the Concert Band. Exceptions may be made for players of certain instruments and students with scheduling conflicts. Auditions will be held near the conclusion of the marching band season. The schedule of rehearsals and performances will also be made available to students at that time. The AM Jazz Band counts as a one-semester course (1/2 credit) that will meet the requirements in the Fine Arts Department.

Performance Schedules and Procedures

Football Game Performances

Sample Schedule

5:45 PM	Drumline and equipment crew take equipment to stadium.
6:00 PM	Arrive at the DHS Band Room in uniform. Check-in with your section leader.
6:14 PM	Check-in ends. Be in your place in the warm-up circle outside the band room.
6:15 PM	Warm-ups and music rehearsal.
6:30 PM	Assemble in parade formation.
6:35 PM	March to stadium
6:45 PM	Perform <i>Wildcat Victory</i> on the track. Move to stands.
6:55 PM	Perform the <i>Star Spangled Banner</i> .
7:00 PM	Kick-off
7:40 PM	Approximate time of our half-time performance.
9:30 PM	Approximate ending time of the game and dismissal.

1. After the game begins, remain in your assigned seat unless given permission to move. **You MUST** sit with your section.
2. Watch the drum majors and be ready to play.
3. Uniforms are to be worn at all times in the proper manner. This includes breaks. Hats may be left off until half time.
4. The band seating area is for band members ONLY! Significant others, friends, and siblings need to sit outside of the band area.
5. At the start of the third quarter you will be given a break. You need to return to your seat before the start of the first quarter. **If you are tardy from break, you will lose your 3rd quarter privileges for the next game.**
6. Play your instruments only when the full band is playing. *This is a KSHSAA state rule.* Percussionists may play with the cheerleaders on cheers.
7. In order to earn credit for the game you must stay until dismissed by the director after the game. If you need to leave early you need to bring a signed note from your parents the day before the game.
8. **The band has a large responsibility in promoting school spirit at football games! We can accomplish this by cheering with the cheerleaders, playing exciting music, and by showing PRIDE in ourselves!**
9. Before leaving you need to be sure that all instruments and equipment have been returned to the band room.

Symphonic Band

For Symphonic Band performances, students should follow this schedule:

- 45 minutes before the concert – Arrive at the performance IN UNIFORM.
- 30 minutes before the concert – Be seated in the performance area ready to warm-up.
- 15 minutes before the concert – Water / Restroom break. Jazz band members should be seated and ready to tune.
- 5 minutes before the concert – ALL band members should be seated and ready to perform.

Pep Band

During the Winter and Spring sports seasons, the DHS Band will divide into 2 pep bands: **Green** and **White** pep band. Each student will be assigned to one of the pep bands, and performance duties for each basketball game will be equally distributed between the bands. The required number of performances for each pep band and the schedule of games will be given to students in October. Students are welcome to perform in as many pep band performances as they wish, however, they must perform in their pep band's assigned games.

Leadership Positions

One of the goals of the DHS Band Program is to help students develop leadership skills that will benefit them throughout their lifetime. Each position has unique responsibilities and aids the overall success of the band. Some positions are elected and some are selected through an interview process. Each spring, students may take on one of the following leadership positions.

<p>Drum Major(s): Drum Majors are the field conductors of the marching band and also serve as conductors of the two pep bands. The drum majors are responsible for directing performances of the Marching Wildcats, assisting in the teaching of marching fundamentals, and assisting the director in maintaining a positive rehearsal environment. Drum majors are selected each spring through an interview and audition process.</p>	<p>Student Director: The student director is a position held by an upperclassman. The duties of the student leader are the same as a section leader. The student director will also be asked to occasionally direct the band during rehearsals and performances (pep bands and halftime shows.) The student director, if any, will be chosen in the spring through the drum major auditions.</p>
<p>Librarian: The Librarian is responsible for the organization and distribution of music for the band. The librarian will also take attendance at all rehearsals and performances. The librarian may appoint assistant librarians as needed. The Librarian is selected through</p>	<p>Uniform Manager: The uniform manager is responsible for checking out uniforms to all band members. They will also assist the director with maintaining the uniform inventory. Selected by interview each spring.</p>
<p>Equipment Manager: The equipment manager assists the band director in checking out instruments. The equipment manager will also be responsible for checking out lockers, keeping the band room organized, transporting equipment to the stadium, rehearsal room set-up, and organizing crews to set-up for concerts. This is a position selected by interview.</p>	<p>Section leaders: The position of section leader is very critical to the success of the marching band. Section leaders are responsible for helping freshmen adjust to high school, teaching marching fundamentals, listening to music playoffs, and ensuring that their section is prepared for every rehearsal and performance. Section leaders are chosen through an interview process each spring.</p>

Special Opportunities

As a musician, there are a number of special opportunities available to you. If you would like more information on these, please see your director. Information will also be posted on the bulletin board on the east wall of the band room.

KMEA-All District and All-State Band, Jazz Band, and Orchestra

Every fall, students in grades 10 – 12 may audition for the Kansas Music Educator's Association Northeast honor ensembles and for the All-State Ensembles. Students must prepare audition material that includes selections from a solo and scales. Directors receive this music in late May, so ask before the end of the school year to get a jump on the music! The All-District honor groups perform at a concert in December. The top young musicians in the state of Kansas form the Kansas All-State Band, which performs at the KMEA Convention in Wichita every February.

KMEA-Northeast District Freshman Honor Band

Freshman band members are nominated by their director for this ensemble, which performs a concert in January.

Kansas Sousa Junior Honors Band – *NEW!*

Students in grades 7 through 12 across Kansas audition for this group. They spend a weekend rehearsing music and then performing a concert with a nationally known conductor.

Kaw Valley League Music Festival and the KSHSAA Regional and State Solo and Ensemble Festivals

These are held in March and April of each school year. Students prepare solos and ensembles and then perform them for judges who give critiques and ratings.

Kansas City Youth Symphony and Youth Wind Ensemble

These special ensembles are open to any Kansas City Metro high school music students interested in expanding their musical experiences. Membership in these ensembles is by audition, and information is mailed to band directors before the start of the school year.

Kansas Lions Band and the Kansas Masonic All-State Marching Band

Students are nominated for these bands, which rehearse and perform in the summer.

University Concert Band Festivals

Several universities in Kansas sponsor concert band festivals where students meet for a weekend and rehearse music under well-known conductors and composers.

Crown Center Festival of Creativity

A two-day event in May that features art and music of high school students from the Kansas City Metro Area.

Band and Flag Camps

There are many summer camps sponsored by universities around the country. These offer students the opportunity to learn new music and skills as well as meet new friends!

Drum and Bugle Corps

Many cities around the United States and Canada sponsor these competitive marching groups every summer. A somewhat costly activity, but it provides a lifetime of memories and experiences!

Band Awards

At the conclusion of each school year, the band recognizes students for their effort and talent. Below is a list of annual awards given by the DHS Bands. Additional awards may be presented as merited.

Senior Award

All students who complete four years of service in the DHS Bands will receive a special award of recognition at the Spring Concert.

United States Marine Corps Semper Fi Award

This award is presented to a senior who has demonstrated a high standard of musicianship, leadership, and character during their high school music career.

John Phillip Sousa Award

The John Phillip Sousa Awards is named for the most famous bandleader in American History. It is presented each spring to the most outstanding musician (usually a senior) in the band. This is a nationally recognized award and the recipient's name is placed on a permanent plaque next to the band office.

Varsity Letter

Every DHS Band Member is eligible to receive a varsity letter. Students who letter more than one year will earn a service bar. Varsity letters are earned for participation and effort in the band program. In order to earn a letter, students must meet the following criteria:

1. Have no **unexcused** absences from any performance.
2. Have had no major discipline problems in band.
3. Have a **B** average or higher in band.
4. Earn 10 points in each category below, or earn over 75 points total.

Commitment

Years in HS Band: 5 points
Summer Band Rehearsals: 3 points / day
Extra Pep Bands: 5 points
Optional Band Performance: 3 points Freshman only

Leadership

Student Leader Position: 15 points
Interview / Audition for leadership: 5 points
Leadership workshop: 5 points
Service Project: 1 point / hour (not counted in service section)

Service

Fundraiser: 2 points per hour
Volunteer Project: 2 points per hour
Tutor Elementary or MS band student: 3 points / hour
Optional Performance: 2 points / event (not counted in performance)

Achievement:

II Rating at KVL S&E: 2 points
I Rating at KVL S&E: 3 points
II Rating at KSHSAA Regional: 3 points
I Rating at KSHSAA Regional: 5 points
III Rating at KSHSAA State: 2 points
II Rating at KSHSAA State: 3 points
I Rating at KSHSAA State: 5 points
Private Lessons: 5 points / semester
Help session with director: 2 / hour
A or better on playing assignments: 2 / assignment
Freshman Honor Band: 7 points
All-District Band Member: 15 points
1st Chair All-District: 20 points
All-State Band: 50 points

Performance

Audition for District Band: 10 points
Participate in S&E Festival 5 points / festival
Optional Band Performance: 7 points
Church or community Performance: 5 points
Pit Band: 10 points
Attend & Critique Band Performance: 3 points
Extra Pep Bands: 5 points (not counted in Commitment)

Parent / Student Signature Letter

Dear Students and Parents,

Please take a few minutes to read through the information in this handbook and then sign the form at the bottom of this page. Once the form is signed, please return it to school no later than **Thursday, August 21**. This will count as the first assignment grade.

Please refer to this handbook whenever there are questions about policies, schedules, and expectations. The handbook can be accessed online at www.geocities.com/dhswildcatbands. If any parent or student would like a printed copy of the handbook, you may request one from Mr. Love at school.

Thank-you for your continued support of the De Soto Band Program! If you need to contact me I may be reached at school at (913) 583-8370, extension 3030, voice mail 3039, or on email at jlove@usd232.org. This promises to be an exciting and successful year!

Mr. Love

I have read and understand the procedures, policies, and expectations of the De Soto High School Band. As a student, I understand what is expected of me and I promise to give my best effort at all times.

Student signature _____ Date _____

I have read and understand the procedures, policies, and expectations of the De Soto High School Band. As a parent I understand what is expected of my student as a band member.

Parent signature _____ Date _____

Permission to Travel

My student has permission to participate in all activities that involve travel as shown in the 2002-2003 schedule of performances. I understand that USD 232 and the Director of Bands at De Soto High School will make all necessary transportation arrangements to those events. I understand that other events may be added to this schedule and unless I otherwise inform the Director of Bands by phone or in writing, this permission form will cover those events.

Student's name _____

Parent signature _____ Date _____