



***DOHERTY***  
***BANDS***

***BAND HANDBOOK***  
***2023-2024***

Dear students and families,

Congratulations on taking the first step in what promises to be a lifelong appreciation for music and the performing arts! I am incredibly honored to be a part of your journey in music making. You are joining a group committed to excellence and defined by respect for ourselves and others. Through the journey of music making we become a part of something bigger than ourselves.

The Doherty High School Band program celebrates and teaches intentionality, resourcefulness, accountability, and perseverance. We strive to cultivate profound musical experiences, positive meaningful relationships, and constant growth and learning. The Doherty Band Program is an organization of class, professionalism, and respect. We leave places better than we find them, be it through our performances or in the way we interact with our surroundings and communities.

Our vision for instrumental music is driven by three simple tenets: **Do your best, stay curious, and be kind.** In this handbook, you will find rules and policies of the Band Program, as well as information on how to make the most of your time and experience here. Whether this is your first year or your final year, I am excited to have you in our band community.

Welcome and Go Spartans!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angelo Sapienza". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Angelo" and last name "Sapienza" clearly distinguishable.

Angelo Sapienza  
Instrumental Music Teacher  
Director of Bands  
Thomas B. Doherty High School

## ***Table of Contents***

All new changes from last year's handbook are highlighted in yellow.

Program Overview.....	4
Communication and Outreach .....	5
General Program Rules and Information.....	6
Grading Policy.....	7
Class Required Materials.....	8
Concert Performance Attire.....	9
Concert & Jazz Ensembles Performance Schedule.....	9
DIME (Doherty Instrumental Music Enthusiasts) 501(c)3 booster club.....	9
Student Accounts.....	10
Fundraising Opportunities.....	10
Handbook Acknowledgement .....	11

## ***Staff Profile***

### **Doherty Performing Arts Team**

Band – Angelo Sapienza  
Choir/Department Chair – Todd DiCamillo  
Orchestra – Sabrina Baugh  
Theatre – Ryan Reed  
Dance – Emma Lepore

### **Doherty High School Administration**

Principal – Lana Flenniken  
Assistant Principal, Perf. Arts – Hillary Hienton  
Assistant Principal – Dr. Lauren Murphy  
Assistant Principal – Elaine Charney  
Athletic Director – Jon Schub  
Dean of Students – Diane Schinkel and Julie Attitas

### **Marching Band Staff**

Program Coordinator – Robbie Billings  
Drill Writer – Taylor Townsend  
Winds Arranger – Jair Klarfeld  
Percussion – Dan Parmentier and Kamilah Gobran  
Color Guard – Alyssa Ramirez and Robby Stroup  
Visual – Joe Gibson and Jackson Hosey  
At large staff – Audrey Parmentier

### **Vertical Alignment Performing Arts Teams**

Jenkins Middle School – Melissa Shank  
Russell Middle School – Chris Welch  
Sabin Middle School – Paul DeNardo

## Program Overview

**Concert Ensembles** – Music is for everyone, and beginners are absolutely encouraged to learn more about joining! Our three concert ensembles—Concert Band (entry), Symphonic Band (intermediate), and Wind Symphony (advanced)—are year-long classes and represent the cornerstone of the Doherty Bands Program. All incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders are automatically enrolled in Concert Band but may be placed in a different ensemble with their middle school director's recommendation. Symphonic Band and Wind Symphony Musicians may be required to audition for a spot in their ensemble for the following school year. In addition to an audition, current high school students are consistently evaluated on their work effort, musicianship, scholarship, and coachability in consideration for the following year's ensemble placement. The concert ensembles perform multiple times on campus and at least once a year off campus at various regional and/or state-wide festivals.

**Jazz Band** – Jazz band focuses on developing improvisation skills and various styles including, but not limited to, swing, latin, funk, straight-eighth ballad, contemporary, and rock. All band instruments are welcome in Jazz Band. Jazz Band performs multiple times on campus and at least once a year off campus.

**The Spartan Legion Marching Band and Color Guard** – **For a deeper dive, please see the Marching Band Handbook.** The Spartan Legion includes members from every ensemble, and anyone is invited to participate. We perform at marching band festivals and competitions, school events, home football games, and parades.

**Basketball Band** – The Basketball Band is one of the most fun parts of the entire school year and brings a fiery and infectious spirit to a limited number of home basketball games in the early part of Spring semester. We may participate in playoff games as well. Members include students from all concert ensembles. Performance calendars will be made available as the athletic schedule is developed. Every band member will participate in Basketball Band at some point in the school year.

**Musical Pit Orchestra** – The pit orchestra represents some of the most challenging music performed by any student group in the school year. Students will audition to participate in the pit orchestra (winds, strings, and percussion), and are required to attend all rehearsals and performances. This is a very fun and collaborative project with the entire Performing Arts wing at Doherty High School! For 2023, ensemble members are chosen in August and are assigned music at that time to learn outside of class. Rehearsals begin in November and we will perform February 22-24, 2024.

**Winter Percussion and Winter Guard** – These ensembles are both extracurricular and compete in the Rocky Mountain Percussion Association (RMPA) and the Rocky Mountain Color Guard Association (RMCGA), respectively. These ensembles will have additional handbooks and information provided around winter break. Students of Winter Percussion must be in a concert ensemble to participate. Both winter performing ensembles are physically demanding activities.

**Graduation Band** – This ensemble performs at Commencement for graduating seniors and may feature any combination of concert ensembles at the director's discretion. This ensemble and performance are a requirement and the final performance grade for all concert ensembles for the spring semester. Graduation music and rehearsals are provided during concert ensemble classes.

Performance schedules for all groups can be found at [www.dohertybands.com/calendar](http://www.dohertybands.com/calendar).

## ***Communication and Outreach***

### **Communication**

A substantial amount of information is communicated from the Band Program over the course of a calendar year. To stay up to date with the latest information and updates, we ask all families (adults and students) to fill out a Google Form. Please scan the QR Code to access the form and provide the best ways to communicate with your household.



### **BAND App**

For quick updates we utilize *BAND*, a text messaging and smartphone application service for community and education platforms. Scan the QR Code below to get started.



### **Our Band Website and Social Media Platforms**

Please visit our band website for all things Doherty High School Band, including rehearsal and performance schedules, a digital copy of this handbook, other essential resources and paperwork, photos of our groups, and to find out more about how you can help serve our students in band.

[www.dohertybands.com](http://www.dohertybands.com)

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: [@dohertybands](https://www.instagram.com/dohertybands)

Adults who support Doherty band students are invited to join our band families Facebook page. Scan this QR code or search Doherty Band Families on Facebook!



## ***General Program Rules and Information***

### **General Rehearsal Rules**

Students and parents are required to adhere to all rules and policies set forth by Doherty High School and Colorado Springs School District 11.

There is no consuming food, chewing gum, or drinking liquids other than water during in-class rehearsal. Put your Dutch Bros and other colored and flavored beverages on the shelf next to the Instrumental Rehearsal Hall (IRH) entrance. There is no lunch allowed in the IRH.

Electronic devices are allowed for rehearsal purposes only (metronome or other apps etc.) and should only be on the music stand at the teacher's discretion and when being used for these purposes. At all other times, devices should be put away and out of sight. Inappropriate use of electronic devices may result in confiscation for the remainder of class. Repeat offenses may result in confiscation for the rest of the day, turning in devices to the Dean of Students, and/or Family notification.

### **Etiquette**

All students are expected to maintain responsibility for their actions. When we are in rehearsal or at a performance, we are always representing Doherty High School, Colorado Springs, and District 11. People are always watching and making decisions on who we are and what we are about based on what we do and say.

### **Home Practice**

Students in all concert ensembles are expected to practice outside of class time regularly. Success in our ensembles begins with practicing at home (learning the individual's parts), and rehearsing/performing at school (learning everyone else's parts). Students should strive to practice a minimum of 15-25 minutes per day, 4 times per week. A designated quiet place and a predetermined scheduled time help ensure consistency in practice and growth in technical and musical skills.

### **Private Lessons**

All ensemble students are strongly encouraged to take private lessons. Studying music with a specialist on your instrument is one of the most beneficial and significant impacts on your musicality and will greatly and positively influence your enjoyment of music making. Please visit [www.dohertybands.com/privatelessons](http://www.dohertybands.com/privatelessons) for a list of local instructors.

### **Music Instrument Rental Fee**

Each instrument that is owned by District 11 will require a \$30/year usage fee. This money funds our ability to maintain our current inventory, ensuring each student who has a need has access to a quality playing instrument. Families will fill out and sign a detailed sheet outlining the exact equipment being loaned out. Families are responsible for maintaining the instrument in playing condition, and for repair costs in the event of damage as a result of ignorance or negligence. We understand that accidents do happen, so please communicate all disrepair of District 11 property to Mr. Sapienza in a timely manner.

## **Instrument Care**

Whether you own your instrument or are renting from the school or private party, great care must be taken to maintain all equipment in top playing condition at all times. Periodically check for loose screws, corks, pads, springs, etc. Ask Mr. Sapienza to examine any instrument with issues before taking it to a repair shop. Sometimes issues are quick fixes. Never play an instrument belonging or checked out to another student without their permission. You are responsible for the security and playing condition of your instrument. When not in use, store all instruments in cases with a name tag in a locked space. Do not leave instruments in vehicles over long periods of time. Doherty High School is not responsible for any damaged or stolen instrument. Do not peel off the red and white D11 VAPA sticker on your case or instrument. Cases/instruments missing the VAPA tag when checked back in will assess a \$20 tag replacement fee.

## **Storage Lockers in Performing Arts Hall**

Lockers are available for student use. These lockers are property of Doherty High School and students may be held liable for any unreasonable damage to this equipment. Students are required to purchase their own lock. Do not leave your locker faux-locked. Mr. Sapienza and Doherty High School are not responsible for instruments or equipment stolen because students did not lock their locker.

## ***Grading Policy – Concert and Jazz Ensembles***

Our grading system aims to be consistent, easier to understand, equitable, and a more accurate reflection of learning in class. All assignments and performances will be graded on a rubric on a scale of 1-5. One point will be assigned to missing and incomplete assignments, and 5 points will be the highest possible score. Grading Categories will include:

### ***Classwork/Homework***

### ***Performances***

### ***Playing Assessments***

Any late or missing work may receive full credit as long as it is turned in by the dates specified below, typically the day we have our concert. These dates are reflected on our Google Calendar.

- Concert Cycle 1 assignments due October 20, 2023
- Concert Cycle 2 assignments due December 15, 2023
- Concert Cycle 3 assignments due March 1, 2024
- Concert Cycle 4 assignments due May 9, 2024

It is your responsibility to consistently check your grades in class and communicate your unique scheduling needs to Mr. Sapienza as soon as you become aware of potential challenges. You are expected to communicate, in writing and in person, at least one month in advance of the events in question.

If students are involved in clubs, athletics, religious observations, or jobs, it is theirs and their parent/guardian's responsibility to communicate with both Mr. Sapienza and the facilitator(s) of the other activity to reach a scheduling conflict solution with at least one month in advance of the

events in question. Concert ensembles only have one opportunity to perform per quarter, and missing people has an immediate and drastic impact on our team's success. Please respect everyone's collective time by planning ahead. We share the dates early, as early as 6 months to 1 year out to avoid such problems.

Failure to clearly communicate potential challenges in advance may result in a failing grade for any event without makeup eligibility.

## ***Class Required Materials***

**All students** are expected to bring a music folder, music, a pencil, the method book *Foundations for Superior Performance* for their instrument (except percussion), warmups, handouts, and their instruments in good playing condition. Every instrument case will have a filled-out name tag.

**Brass musicians** are expected to provide their own valve oil and/or slide cream and tuning slide grease.

**Woodwind musicians** are expected to provide their own swab, cork grease, and reed case. A minimum of three (3) Vandoren or Rico Royal brand reeds are expected at all rehearsals and performances. You may also use a synthetic Légère reed, purchase a strength that is a **quarter-strength weaker** than your normal wood reeds.

**Percussionists** are required to purchase their own stick bag and drum sticks (ProMark Concert One, Vic Firth SD1 **OR** 5B [5A for jazz] or equivalent) and mallets (Mike Balter 23R vibraphone/marimba mallets AND Innovative Percussion IP902 xylophone/glockenspiel mallets). Doherty High School has access to a full kit with everything needed that can be sold to you at cost for **\$120**. This equipment, when well-maintained will last all four years of high school and beyond.

A metronome and tuner are highly encouraged. **Phone apps for tuners are largely unreliable and are discouraged.** Consider the Korg TM60BK which has both functions.

**Mouthpieces** – If you are able, consider a mouthpiece upgrade for an improved tone, better range development, and increased playing facilities. Stock mouthpieces that come with your instrument can be detrimental to the intermediate and advancing student's playing abilities. The school inventory was newly refreshed this year and every school instrument now has a new mouthpiece. Recommendations from Mr. Sapienza or private lesson teachers are encouraged. Some suggestions include:

- **Clarinet** Vandoren 5RV/Lyre, M13 Lyre, B45 or Hite Premier
- **Bass Clarinet** Vandoren B45 or Fobes Debut
- **Saxophone** Selmer C\* or Rousseau NC4, NC5, Yamaha 5C
- **Double Reeds** handmade reeds preferred, see Mr. Sapienza for more information
- **Trumpet** Bach 3C or 5C
- **French Horn** Shilke 32 or Holton MDC
- **Tenor Trombone** Bach 5G or Dennis Wick 5AL
- **Bass Trombone** Dennis Wick 1AL
- **Euphonium** Bach 6½ AL
- **Tuba** Conn Helleberg 120 or Perantucci PT44, PT48



## ***Concert Performance Attire***

It is essential that each student wear the following to all performances:

- Cleaned, pressed, black, buttoned, long sleeve, collared dress shirt
- Cleaned, pressed, black dress pants - ladies may wear an ankle length black dress skirt
- Crew length black socks/stockings
- Black dress shoes – marching shoes that are clean and in good condition are acceptable and our Navy JROTC donates a bunch of gently-used dress shoes that are free to take home.

**Jazz Band** – For concerts at Doherty High School, the attire shall be the same as the concert ensembles. Students may wear a blue or green accent piece (tie, scarf, vest, pocket square, etc.) in addition. Accent pieces will need to be approved by Mr. Sapienza prior to the first performance.

For off-campus performances featuring only the jazz band, dress shirts may be blue, green, black, grey, or white. Ladies may wear a dress that is professionally appropriate attire and that adheres to Doherty High School Dress Code. Accent pieces may include blue, green, black, or white ties, pocket squares, scarves, etc. The dress for this ensemble will be set before the first performance of each year.

Please communicate any challenges with adhering to the dress code (i.e. costs, availability, etc.) with Mr. Sapienza.

## ***Concert & Jazz Ensembles Performance Schedule***

Please visit [www.dohertybands.com/calendar](http://www.dohertybands.com/calendar). A detailed itinerary will be provided for each off-campus performance and event no later than two weeks before the scheduled date.

## ***Doherty Instrumental Music Enthusiasts: D.I.M.E.***

It truly takes a village to make a program this size run smoothly and efficiently. That's where D.I.M.E. comes in! The *Doherty Instrumental Music Enthusiasts*, our band's booster club was established in 2022 and seeks to support the band program through fundraising support as well as lots of hands-on and practical support from family and friends.

As a parent of a band student, you are automatically a member of our booster club. Our parents possess many skills and expertise that can directly benefit student enjoyment of music making. DIME meetings take place each month, please attend as often as possible to stay up to date on band activities and enjoy our parent community. We meet at 6:30pm on the second Wednesday of every month August through October, and the second Thursday of each month January-May.

DIME's executive board is elected each spring and consists of the Doherty High School band director, president, two vice presidents, secretary, treasurer, and second. Additionally, nine committees are headed up by parent volunteers and run by supporters throughout the school year. These committees include: food, transportation, pit crew, props, uniforms, banquet, communication, merchandise/apparel, craft fair, and Vibes baseball. If you can volunteer extra time and skills, please fill out the DIME Supporter form.



## ***Student Accounts***

Each student in the band program has an account that is maintained within our **DIME booster accounts, formerly through the school**. For example, when volunteering with the Rocky Mountain Vibes Concession Stand, students earn a monetary credit they can use to pay for band expenses. These funds do not belong to the student, but are set aside to be used by that student for band related fees and expenses. If a student does not use all the funds prior to their graduation date, the funds may be transferred into a sibling's account only. If you are interested in transferring funds, you must **access the fund transfer form found at <https://www.dohertybands.com/forms>**.

When any student leaves or graduates from the band program, all positive balances in their student account are transferred into the General Fund, unless transferred to a sibling. Transfers to the General Fund occur after the student leaves the program. Negative balances incurred for unpaid fees, lost or damaged equipment, etc. are documented as obligations at the Business Office and must be reconciled in accordance with Doherty High School and District 11 policy.

## ***Fundraising Opportunities***

### **March-A-Thon – Beginning of the School Year to Early September**

The March-A-Thon is a donation-based fundraiser where each student in the marching band is asked to raise a yearly goal from community members, friends, and family. **All donations are to DIME** and are 100% tax deductible. Donors are invited to a performance of the fall marching band show in early September. Students and sections who raise the most funds will earn prizes in the form of gift cards and a **special section prize to be determined annually**.

### **Doherty High School Craft Fair – first weekend of December**

This event is the single largest income generator for the band program. 100% of the proceeds benefit our Band Operations account which pays for equipment, staffing, maintenance of inventory, new music, and long-term planning of trips, uniforms, new instruments, etc. Details on how to volunteer your time will be provided at the monthly DIME parent meetings leading up to the Craft Fair. Generally, we require adult and student volunteers on Friday evening and all-day Saturday and Sunday. Our Craft Fair Coordinator is Angela Foster and she may be reached at [mommafostercraftfair@gmail.com](mailto:mommafostercraftfair@gmail.com).

### **Rocky Mountain Vibes Concessions – Summer through September**

This Fundraiser directly benefits the marching band. We partner **with a concessions company** to run a concession stand for all Rocky Mountain Vibes home games at UCHealth Park. **Students earn \$25 per game and may earn an additional \$25 per game with each additional person volunteering in the student's name**. Student volunteers split all tips earned at the end of each game! Sign-up links are typically made available in the spring semester before the start of the season. Our Rocky Mountain Vibes Coordinator is Jonette Dukart. She can be reached at [dohertyvibes@gmail.com](mailto:dohertyvibes@gmail.com).

### **Mattress Fundraiser – Spring Semester (typically mid-April)**

The Mattress Fundraiser is program-wide and has the potential to make the most money with the least amount of time commitment. This fundraiser relies on families spreading awareness of a one-day mattress sale at Doherty High School. Students can earn up to \$500 in referrals in addition to the proceeds made for the band program! Details on this fundraiser will be made available early in the spring semester. Please email [angelo.sapienza@d11.org](mailto:angelo.sapienza@d11.org) with any questions.

# ***Doherty High School Bands***

## **2023-2024 Handbook Acknowledgement Form for All Classes**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (student's name) have read through and understand all rules and procedures for participation in the Band Program at Doherty High School. I am ready and willing to positively contribute to the band program with my best effort for the 2023-2024 school year.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (guardian's name) have read through and understand all rules and procedures that my student will adhere to for participation in the Band Program at Doherty High School. I am ready and willing to support my students in their musical pursuits for the 2023-2024 school year.

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**This Handbook Acknowledgement is your student's first assignment of the year. Please make sure to turn this form in by Monday August 21, 2023**