



SPARTAN
LEGION

2023-2024
MARCHING BAND
HANDBOOK

This handbook is a supplementary text to the Doherty Bands Handbook and is for Marching Band purposes only. All families in The Spartan Legion Marching Band should familiarize themselves with the regular Doherty Bands Handbook in addition to the policies and guidelines outlined in this text.

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

General Information

Marching band is a competitive, cooperative, team activity that requires significant effort and practice. Your involvement in the band impacts everyone around you. Prior to joining, please read this section thoroughly and understand the commitment required to be a part of the marching band.

Over the summer and into the fall semester, students work to prepare a six (6) to eight (8)-minute field show performing memorized music and choreography. The Spartan Legion performs across Colorado and may travel abroad to perform and compete in any given school year.

Marching band is a physically demanding activity. Students must be able to participate in lunges, crunches, push-ups, cardiovascular, strength training, and endurance-building activities.

All Spartan Legion members must be enrolled in a concert ensemble class for the entire school year, except for color guard members who do not play a musical instrument.

Marching Band Paperwork

Families need to have the following paperwork handed in to the Band Office before a performance spot can be issued. These forms are available at <https://www.dohertybands.com/forms>:

- A *Commitment Form* by **June 2, 2023**— available on the back of this handbook
- A *Medical and Media Release Form* by **July 24, 2023**
- A *Fieldtrip Permission Form* by **July 24, 2023**
- A school approved *Physical Form* (needs to be updated yearly) **September 1, 2023**

Marching Band Fee

The entire marching band experience is supported through the student fee. The participation fee for this season is **\$300**. This marching band participation fee **partially** covers transportation, competition and festival registration, equipment procurement, repairs, maintenance, staffing, uniforms, and show design. **Fundraising is required to supplement the remaining costs.**

New members are also required to purchase a pair of marching shoes. Marching shoes are \$45 and may be worn for multiple seasons if they are in good repair. This year's fees are due in full by **October 1, 2023**. Please communicate any financial challenges with Mr. Sapienza as early as possible. **We do not reject membership due to financial limitations; we want everyone to participate who wants to and are willing to work with us on individual plans as needed to cover the fee.**

- **\$100 deposit is due on June 2, 2023**
- **\$100 payment on August 4, 2023**
- **\$100 payment on October 1, 2023.**

All fees are non-refundable. Changes to student rosters are very expensive as there are additional expenses to rewriting music and marching drill for our field show. Once registered for marching band, fees are not refundable; quitting or being removed from the band program does not release you from this financial obligation. The best way to pay this and all fees is directly through the Business Office. Checks should be made payable to Doherty High School with the student's name, **"Marching Band Fee 2023 payment X/3"** on the memo line. You may also pay on MySchoolBucks, at Marching Band Camp Registration.

Marching Band Attendance Policy

In short: **Attendance at all rehearsals, performances, and functions is mandatory and critical to the success of the Spartan Legion Marching Band!**

Students are expected to attend all rehearsals, competitions, and designated activities such as football games, the homecoming bonfire, and parades. Every rehearsal involves a combination of learning new material, revising or omitting old material, and making our field show more cohesive and effective for the next performance. When students miss rehearsal, we lose invaluable time re-teaching concepts or changes, creating inconsistencies in everyone's personal performance.

New rule for 2023: If any student misses the final rehearsal before a scheduled performance for any reason, they will be required to attend the performance but may risk not being able to participate in the scheduled performance.

If you are interested in participating in other sports or activities at the school or with outside organizations, please ensure the practice and games schedule will not conflict with marching rehearsals or competitions.

Excused absences include illness (absence from school), sudden death in the family or other emergency, and/or important religious observances. Excused absences may result in a zero in the gradebook but may be eligible for a make-up assignment.

Unexcused absences include **any** jobs, homework, clubs, sports, activities, tutoring, and appointments. It is your responsibility to actively manage your calendar in such a way that eliminates any scheduling conflicts. Unexcused absences may result in a zero in the gradebook and are not eligible for a make-up assignment.

If you cannot attend an activity, it is your responsibility to communicate your absence, tardiness, or early departure to both your section leader and Mr. Sapienza **in writing and in person, at least two weeks in advance of the scheduled event.** All absences, tardiness, or early departures will be handled on a case-by-case basis but should be **avoided at all costs.** Excessive absences, tardiness, and early departures may result in dismissal from the marching band.

Marching Band Schedule

The full performance and rehearsal schedule for every ensemble at Doherty High School is available on our band website www.dohertybands.com. A detailed itinerary will be provided for each performance and event no later than two weeks before the scheduled date.

Marching Band Camp is a **three-week** camp where we learn the music and drill of the field show. Band camp is typically held on the last week of July and the first week of August, Monday through Friday **from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM.** There is a scheduled hour break for lunch at noon. **Leaving campus for lunch is a privilege and may be revoked if students do not respect timeliness or the safety of themselves and others.**

The Marching Band rehearses on Mondays (student leader-guided sectionals) from 3:30-5:00, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:45-7:00, and Saturdays from 8:00 AM-12:00 PM.

Generally, the Spartan Legion will perform at four (4) to six (6) festivals and competitions, all home football games (at Garry Berry Stadium), and may march in one (1) or more parades per school year.

We will strive to communicate schedule changes at least two weeks out, and we will not add additional rehearsals to the schedule after July 1 of each year. Any unavoidable or unexpected changes will be communicated on the website, Facebook, Band app, and email ASAP.

Volunteering for the Marching Band and attending shows

Marching Band offers many opportunities for parent volunteers. Speak with DIME/committee leadership and Mr. Sapienza for information on how you might specifically help the Spartan Legion. Generally, we need assistance with pushing equipment, providing meals to students, prop set up and tear down, loading and driving of trucks, and various other forms of support.

Entry to marching competitions is only covered for students and staff. Family members and friends who wish to attend may be given a wrist band for field access to push equipment onto and off the field, but this does not grant access to the stands. Entry fees are typically less than \$25 per person for a full day but vary by facility. Each event will set their own admission prices. Costs will be published in our communications to you as soon as they are available from the Colorado Bandmasters Association (CBA) website (<https://www.coloradobandmasters.org/about-cba>).

Meals

Food may be provided by parent volunteers at competitions and long rehearsals as resources are available. Menus will be communicated in advance so that you can choose to bring alternate options if you desire. If food will not be provided at a competition or long rehearsal, we will ensure that it is adequately communicated in advance so you may budget accordingly and bring food or concessions money. Volunteers, food, and cash donations are greatly appreciated. Please reach out to DIME for more information about supporting the Food Committee or if you are interested in helping feed the Legion.

Marching Band Uniforms

The marching band uniform is a very expensive component of the band program. Our uniforms need to last up to ten (10) years before funds are available to replace and update them.

Uniform components include the jacket, pants with shoulder straps (bibbers), shako (headwear), shako box, plume, gauntlets, garment bag and hanger, marching shoes, and gloves. All new members are required to purchase marching shoes, which are \$45. Any student who wishes to purchase new marching shoes or gloves may do so at cost. Do not store socks in the garment bag. Shoes may be held in the back zipped pocket of the garment bag.

Marching Band Uniforms Continued

A uniform distribution meeting for students will be scheduled during the fall semester. Students are responsible for maintaining the uniform in pristine physical condition and will be held liable for damaged or lost articles. Any damage, functionality, or sizing issues must be immediately reported to Mr. Sapienza and the Uniform Committee Chair. Replacement costs for each component are listed below:

● Jacket	\$175	● Shako Box	\$8
● Pants/Bibbers	\$65	● Plume	\$21
● Gauntlets	\$42	● Garment Bag	\$13
● Shako	\$43	● Color Guard Uniform	\$200

Color Guard wears a costume that is unique to each season and may have specific storage and maintenance needs. Guard members are required to purchase makeup and cosmetic items for their hair. A list will be provided by color guard staff as early in the season as possible.

Uniform Etiquette

When wearing the uniform, you are responsible for:

- Bringing all components of the uniform to all performances
- Speaking professionally – do not use profane language
- Walking briskly in uniform – only run in absolute emergencies
- Avoiding eating food or drinking – water is permitted, and you may eat in half-uniform
- Always traveling in pairs or groups of three – never wander alone
- Removing all body jewelry while in uniform – use skin-tone studs to keep piercings from closing
- Placing long hair in a tight sock bun to fit in the shako
- Using common sense – i.e. don't polish shoes/instruments in uniform, avoid leaning or sitting on dirty surfaces, etc.

Your behavior as part of the marching band reflects not only on you, but also your team, the entire Doherty Band program, Doherty High School, and Colorado Springs School District 11.

We are proud to strive to be an organization of class, respect, and sophistication. You are responsible for contributing positively to that image, including through your interactions on social media.

If you forget any component to your uniform or fail to adhere to these etiquette expectations, you may not be allowed to perform, and your Marching Band grade may be affected.

Marching Band Specific Required Materials

For all rehearsals in addition to applicable concert band materials, students are required to bring:

- **A separate backpack** for marching band materials
- Music lyre and compact flip folder for music
- Quality running or tennis shoes – protect your feet!
- Hat
- Sunscreen
- **Durable** ½ gallon camping-style water jug – check out Igloo and Coleman brands
- 1½ binder with 75-100 page protectors to hold music and drill
- Pencil
- **Your Smartphone Charged – we're using a new app for learning drill**

For all performances, students are required to bring:

- Uniform – you are responsible for bringing all components to every performance
- Instrument/Equipment
- Form fitting athletic shirt
- Loose, but not baggy, athletic shorts/pants
 - Do not wear jeans under your uniform!
- Long, at least ankle length, black socks
- Weather appropriate change of clothes for after the performance/watching other bands
- Extra reeds, valve oil, stick/guard tape (as relevant to your instrument)
- Rehearsal materials in previous lists, as communicated by Mr. Sapienza in advance

Marching Band Grading Policy

There may also be classwork/homework assigned similarly to Concert and Jazz Ensembles.

A performance rubric will be assigned similarly to Concert and Jazz Ensembles. Please make every effort to not miss performances. In the event of an excused absence, makeup work is available, and details will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

The Doherty High School Spartan Legion Marching Band

2023 Fall Season Commitment Form

Students and parents/guardians need to initial each of the following:

____ / ____ We will follow all school and band class rules. We understand that we may lose the privilege of participating with The Spartan Legion Marching Band and forfeit any paid fees for violating any policies, by intentional ignorance or neglect, set forth by Colorado Springs School District 11, Doherty High School, and/or the Doherty High School Bands.

____ / ____ We will work out all appointments and scheduled events to completely avoid rehearsal and performance times to the best of our ability. We understand the attendance policy and that our commitment to the ensemble is necessary and crucial for the success of all members of the team.

____ / ____ We understand the marching band fee is \$265 (\$150 tuition and \$115 uniform) per student. Marching shoes are required and are an additional \$45 for members who do not own a pair in good condition. All fees are non-refundable. Failure to pay these fees in a timely manner or communicate special financial need may result in a financial obligation being filed with the business office.

____ / ____ We understand that we are responsible for the cleanliness and maintenance of our marching band uniform, instrument, and equipment. We will return all equipment at the end of the season in the same condition it was issued. We assume full responsibility for all repair and replacement costs as outlined in the handbook resulting from loss, or negligence. We will immediately report any damage and function/sizing issues to the band director and appropriate staff or parent volunteers.

By signing this Commitment Form, we certify that we have read the entire 2023/2024 Doherty High School Band Spartan Legion Handbook. We understand the level of commitment necessary to be a member of The Spartan Legion Marching Band. We are committing to membership in the Doherty Band Program for the entire 2023/2024 school year. We are also agreeing to pay the participation fee, attend all mandatory rehearsals and performances, and abide by the rules and regulations of the Doherty Bands Program, Doherty High School, and Colorado Springs School District 11.

Student Printed Name _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Guardian Printed Name _____

Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 11 FIELD TRIP PERMISSION FORM

School and Address Doherty High School 4515 Barnes Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80917 ZIP (719) 328-7879
Contact Phone # _____

I, (print name) _____ am the custodial parent and/or legal guardian of:
(print name of student) _____

I give my permission for the student to participate in the following activity:
All Doherty High School Marching Band Competitions and Parades for the 2023-2024 Season
9/9 9/23 9/30 10/14 10/18 10/27 10/28 11/4 12/2 all in 2023

Is participation in the activity mandatory?

I acknowledge that the student's participation in the activity is a privilege and is completely voluntary.

What about insurance?

I understand that Colorado Springs School District 11 (the District) is not responsible for insuring me or the student with regard to the student's participation in the activity or any fund raising event associated with the activity. I am responsible for obtaining any medical, accident, or other insurance that I may deem appropriate.

Is the District responsible for damages or injuries that may occur during the activity?

I understand that the District and its employees may have certain legal protections and immunities from liability with respect to any property damage or personal injury that may occur during the field trip activity or any fund raising event associated with the activity. The District and its employees have not waived these protections and immunities.

By signing this form, on behalf of myself, the student, and our family and representatives, I release, indemnify, and hold harmless Colorado Springs School District 11 and its employees from and against all claims for damages or injuries involving the student which occur as a result of the student's own misconduct, the actions or omissions of third parties, or relate to property which is not owned by the District 11. I understand that for purposes of this form, the term "employees" includes School District 11 directors, employees, servants, and volunteers.

Out of Country Field Trips

I understand that any field trip involving air travel or any type of travel outside of the continental United States could have additional risks and safety considerations. The current geo-political climate as well as cultural and legal differences in other countries may create safety and legal considerations different from those found in traveling in the United States. Evacuation from a foreign country due to an emergency medical condition of the student could be very expensive. The District recommends contacting the U.S. Department of State website for tips on traveling abroad. _____

I acknowledge that I have read and understand this Field Trip Permission Form.

(Read carefully before signing)

Date

Signature of Custodial Parent or Legal Guardian

Street Address

City State ZIP

Emergency Contact: Name & Phone

Work Phone / Home Phone

STATEMENT OF ASSUMED RISK INFORMATION (Signature Required)

WARNING: Although participation in supervised interscholastic athletics and activities may be one of the least hazardous which a student will engage in or out of school, **BY ITS NATURE, PARTICIPATION IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS INCLUDES A RISK OF INJURY WHICH MAY RANGE IN SEVERITY FROM MINOR TO LONG-LASTING CATASTROPHIC.** Although serious injuries are not common in supervised school programs, it is impossible to eliminate this risk. Participants can and have the responsibility to help reduce the chance of injury. **PLAYERS MUST OBEY ALL RULES, REPORT ALL PHYSICAL PROBLEMS TO THEIR COACHES, FOLLOW A PROPER CONDITIONING PROGRAM, AND INSPECT THEIR EQUIPMENT DAILY.** By signing this form, we acknowledge that we have read and understand this warning. **PARENTS OR STUDENTS WHO DO NOT WISH TO ACCEPT THE RISK DESCRIBED IN THE WARNING SHOULD NOT SIGN THIS PERMISSION FORM.**

I hereby give my consent for my student, _____, to compete in athletics for Colorado Springs School District 11, in Colorado High School Activities Association approved sports except those crossed out below. Baseball, basketball, cheer, cross country, football, golf, gymnastics, softball, tennis, swimming, track and field, wrestling, volleyball, soccer, ice hockey, and lacrosse. In consideration of my son's/daughter's opportunity to participate in interscholastic activities, hereby consent to emergency treatment, hospitalization or other medical treatment as may be necessary for the welfare of the above named child, by a physician, qualified nurse, and/or hospital, in the event of injury or illness during all periods of time in which the student is away from his/her legal residence as a member of an interscholastic activity team or group, and hereby waive on behalf of myself and the above named child and liability of Colorado Springs School District 11, any of its agents or employees, arising out of such medical treatment.

I HAVE ALSO READ AND UNDERSTAND THE COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 11 ATHLETIC HANDBOOK WHICH CAN BE FOUND AT: [HTTP://WWW.D11.ORG/ATHLETICS](http://www.d11.org/athletics) (Hard copies available upon request).

Parent's or Guardian's Signature

Date

Student's Signature

Date

INSURANCE RELEASE (Signature Required)

Colorado Springs School District 11 Athletic / Activity Insurance Waiver

This statement releases Colorado Springs School District 11 schools of responsibility in case of accident to my son/daughter while he/she is participating in interscholastic activities. I fully understand that Colorado Springs School District 11 does not provide accident and health insurance coverage for my son/daughter while he/she is participating in interscholastic activities. However, such insurance is made available by the Colorado Springs School District 11 through an authorized agent. I further understand that it is my responsibility to provide accident insurance for my son/daughter.

1) I feel that my present insurance coverage is adequate:

Parent's or Guardian's Signature

Date

***** OR *****

2) I am purchasing student accident insurance for my son/daughter through the authorized agent approved by the Board of Education of Colorado Springs School District 11:

Parent's or Guardian's Signature

Date

PHOTO RELEASE (Signature Required)

I hereby give my permission to Colorado Springs School District 11 to publish photographs and/or videos of my student. I understand that such publication may occur through school and/or district newsletters, media releases, public reports, training material, assemblies, public meetings, the district websites, as well as through other school related publications and events.

I further understand that this permission for the Colorado Springs School District 11 to publish will remain in force until such a time as the District Communications Office or School Principal is notified by me in writing of its withdrawal.

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date
