



John Palmer, Director
Chris Johns, Assistant Director

Dear 8th Grade Band Students and Parents,

The eighth-grade year is an exciting time for students as you finish your time in middle school and prepare to transition to high school! We are excited for you to join us at Walton, and hope you will continue your musical experiences in the award-winning Walton High School Band!

You are zoned for one of the best high schools in the state, and in the country, but the registration and transition process for Walton High School can still be very intimidating! Fortunately, one of our goals of the Walton Band program is to make this experience as easy as possible for students and parents. With a student population of over 2,700 students, it's very important for freshmen to be a part of an activity or group – the marching band is the largest and one of the most visible organizations at Walton.

Students and parents will all have questions about Walton, and about the Walton band program. Between now and registration in March, Walton band students and directors will visit with middle school classes at Dickerson and Dodgen and be available to answer questions.

We invite you to an information meeting for students and parents on Monday, February 11 to go over all aspects of the Walton band program. This meeting can help you make your final decision about joining band at Walton before the registration materials are sent home with students.

Many students also have questions about the marching band at Walton. In addition to visiting in classes, our current band students invite all eight-grade students to "Rookie Week" in April. This is a wonderful opportunity for rising freshmen to get to know current high school students and to gain a little experience with marching band. If you can't attend all four days due to obligations, then no worries – join us for the days you can!

Again, we are very excited for the upcoming class of 2023! We can't wait to open the new Fine Arts wing with you next year!

Sincerely,

John Palmer and Chris Johns,
Band Directors

Walton Band Courses:

Percussion Class
Concert Band II (Beginning Band)
Concert Band I (Intermediate Band)
Symphonic Band (Advanced Band)
Wind Symphony (Mastery Band)

Walton Band Extracurricular Ensembles (Fall Semester)

Marching Band – After-school, open to all grades and classes
Chamber Ensembles – Student-led

Walton Band Extracurricular Ensembles (Spring Semester)

2 Jazz Bands
4 Percussion Ensembles
Winter Guard
Chamber Ensembles – Student-led

Band Class Registration Important Dates

Mon, Feb 11 7:00 pm	Rising 9 th Grade Band Meeting for students and parents.	Walton HS Band Room
Late February In class	High School Registration	Students need to have band listed as their first choice.
March 25 & 26 Evening	Walton Fall Auditions Students only audition on One of the two nights.	Only for students who wish to be considered for one of the Symphonic Bands.

Marching Band Important Dates

April 15 – 18	Rookie Week	Walton
May 28 – 31	Mini-Camp - Different days/times for Winds, Percussion, and Guard	Dickerson
July 8 – 12	Home Camp *Mandatory	Dickerson 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
July 14 – 19	Away Camp *Mandatory	LaGrange College

Questions?

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