

Dragon Band Tradition

The 375 member Dragon Band is made up of 9th through 12th graders who enroll in one of the five performance band classes offered by Carroll ISD. Percussion students are expected to enroll in the Fall Percussion Ensemble Class and a performance band class, schedule permitting. Spring Percussion Ensemble classes would be optional with enrollment in a performance class a requirement. As members of the band, students develop their musical talents while participating in the fall marching season and the spring concert season, representing Carroll ISD in performances and at UIL competitions. The Dragon Band has a proud history including 28 first divisions in Regional Marching Contests and 13 performances at the state level. This includes 2 state championships, 2 runner up, 2 third place, thirteenth place, and 6 top nine finishes. The Carroll Dragon Band has also won 28 Sweepstakes awards during this time span by earning first divisions in all three UIL Events: Marching, Concert, and Sight-Reading, during each year. They have also received the Texas State Solo & Ensemble Sweepstakes award for the most number of points accumulated at this state contest for 1st divisions given for solos & ensembles in their class. Over the years, hundreds of Carroll Band students have advanced to the Texas State Solo & Ensemble Contests as well as to the All Region, All Area, and All State Bands. The Jazz bands have enjoyed a much respected reputation around the state for their outstanding performances year after year, capturing numerous outstanding band trophies throughout the years. These students are also members of the concert groups and put in many hours of dedicated practice.

Carroll Band Courses

The Carroll ISD offers five concert performance band classes for students of all abilities. Students audition in May for a chair in the Concert Band A and B, Symphonic Band, Symphonic Winds or Wind Ensemble. These five bands combine during the fall marching season to form the Dragon Marching Band. During the spring semester, each band focuses on performance as a concert group. Students are encouraged to take an ensemble course to refine their musical skills. Ensemble classes are offered in Woodwinds and Brass as well as several Jazz Band classes. Music theory classes may be offered based on Staff availability and student enrollment.

Marching Season

The marching season begins the last week of May with a 3 day rookie camp for incoming freshmen and students new to marching, where they learn the basics of marching. We will practice after school at CHS. Then in early August, the full band begins practice to refine marching, music techniques, and learn the charts of a new marching program. When classes begin, rehearsals are held on three days after school each week. The football season begins in late August with the Dragon Band performing at every varsity game, home and away. Whether encouraging the team from the stands or performing on the field, the Dragon Band is an enthusiastic and highly visible part of Dragon Pride. The month of October takes on additional excitement as the Dragon Band competes with other marching bands at invitational and UIL (University Interscholastic League) competitions. Success in competition can keep the Band competing until the State competition in November. The success of our football team can keep the Band performing at games through most of December.

Concert Season

The five performance bands present a winter concert every December and a spring concert in May. They may also compete in the UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest every spring. The spring band trip also presents an opportunity to perform or compete outside our immediate geographic area.

Individual Challenges

During the fall semester, students are encouraged to audition for the Area and All-Region Bands, which can lead to the opportunity to qualify for the Texas All State Band. These auditions take place in November with follow-up clinics, concerts and auditions in January. Those who qualify for the All State Band travel to the Texas Music Educators' Convention to perform. The Solo and Ensemble Contest is held during the month of February. Soloists who memorize a class one solo and earn a first division are qualified to go to the Texas State Solo and Ensemble Competition (TSSEC) in May. These competitions are excellent opportunities for students to stretch their abilities and be recognized for their accomplishments.

Jazz Bands

Carroll offers two or three jazz band classes. Participation in the jazz program is by audition and approval of the Director. Jazz students also compete for All Region Jazz Bands which can lead to the opportunity to qualify for the Texas All State Jazz Band. The jazz bands also compete in numerous jazz band competitions throughout the metroplex during the Spring. With the exception of a few musicians whose instruments aren't part of the concert bands, these students are part of the performance classes and Dragon Band.

Private Lessons Program

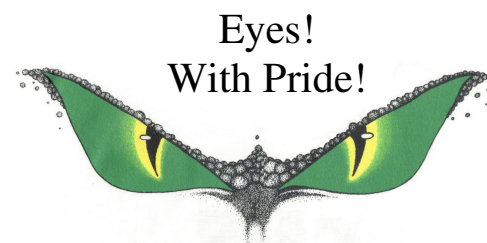
The Carroll ISD Band directors facilitate private lessons through local instructors. Students are highly encouraged to develop their musical skills through private lessons. These instructors are approved by the directors in the district.

Band Banquet

All Dragon Band and Jazz Band members reunite in May for the annual Dragon Band Banquet. This elegant and exciting event is held at a local banquet facility and gives the students, directors and parents an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of the past year. The evening includes a formal dinner, awards program, recognition of seniors and dancing.

Carroll Band Boosters

The Band Boosters is an active organization made up of all parents with students involved in the Carroll Band program. The parents provide manpower and financial support for many aspects of the program. Members volunteer to drive the equipment trailers, organize and serve meals for the Band on the road, keep the membership informed through newsletters and electronic updates, manage and maintain hundreds of uniforms, provide administrative support and raise funds to support and enhance the Band program. The Partnership with Parents program gives every family the opportunity to support the Band financially.



Why join the Dragon Band?

- ❖ Be part of a proud tradition.
- ❖ Make friends across all high school grades.
- ❖ Meet PE and Fine Arts requirements simultaneously!
- ❖ Have an instant group of friends to go to the game with!
- ❖ Enjoy free admission and reserved seats at football games.
- ❖ Have a date every Friday night in the fall!
- ❖ Refine your multi-tasking skills...
march, play, and look great!
- ❖ Never worry about what to wear to the game.

What do members of the Dragon Band do?

- ❖ Develop musical skills
- ❖ Learn marching techniques
- ❖ Perform as a group and individually for these events:
 - Convocation
 - Football Games & Pep Rallies
 - Winter & Spring Concerts
 - Spring Trip
- ❖ Compete as a group and individually at these events:
 - UIL Marching Competitions
 - Solo & Ensemble
 - UIL Concert & Sight-reading Competition
 - TMEA All Region/All State Band
- ❖ Accompany the Emerald Belles Drill Team in performance
- ❖ Gather for social events
- ❖ Rehearse individually and in groups
- ❖ Take a spring trip
- ❖ Celebrate at the May Band Banquet

What will Dragon Band do for me?

- ❖ Provide an instant group of friends
- ❖ Fulfill PE & Fine Arts credit requirements
- ❖ Help you meet students with similar interests
- ❖ Build friendships that will carry you through high school.
- ❖ Give you a great activity to put on your college applications.

What extra-curricular commitment do members make?

- ❖ Rookie Camp for new students (3 days in May)
- ❖ Band Camp (August 2 to the start of school)
- ❖ Rehearse Mon., Tues., Thurs. after school(3:20-6:10pm)
- ❖ Shorter rehearsal Fri. after school
- ❖ Football games on Friday evenings (& playoffs!)
- ❖ Sectional rehearsals as needed
- ❖ Competition Saturdays in the fall (1-3)

What should I do if I have a conflict, but would like to be part of the Dragon Band?

Indicate the potential conflict on the Band Survey Form and discuss it with one of the directors.

What if I play a double reed instrument that doesn't march?

You may manage props, join the Color Guard or assume other responsibilities. Talk with a director for more details.

What leadership opportunities are available to Dragon Band members?

- ❖ Drum Major
- ❖ Section Leader
- ❖ Squad Leader
- ❖ Elected Officer
- ❖ Appointed Officer

How do I sign up for Dragon Band?

Prepare for May band auditions and sign up for band when completing your class schedule for your freshman year. Contact the Band Directors at CSHS or CHS to answer any other questions that you may have.



Carroll ISD

Dragon Band

**Information
&
Answers
For Potential
Band Members
& Parents**

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