

The Unofficial Parent Guide to the Dublin Jerome Marching Band

May 2026

Welcome to the Band Family!

Congratulations and welcome to the Dublin Jerome Marching Band! This guide is here to help you understand what the season feels like – how it flows, what to expect, and where **you** fit in.



The Dublin Jerome Marching Band (DJMB) is a competitive, corps-style marching ensemble that performs at all football games and designated Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) adjudicated events.

But DJMB is more than halftime shows and competitions. **Band really does make high school better.** Beyond Superior ratings at State and Grand Champion awards, it creates a unique community within Jerome – *the band family* – where students and parent volunteers build lasting friendships and share a love of music and the arts.

The Rhythm of the Year

May

The season begins before the school year wraps up with our first rehearsal and Ice Cream Social. It's a fun, low-key way to step into the band community – meet other families, get a glimpse of the year ahead, and learn how parents play an essential role in making the season possible.

June/July

The last week of June will have morning rehearsals (8:30am-12:30pm) to get the band ready to march in the Dublin Independence Day Parade. Then it's a few weeks off until preseason officially begins.

Late July brings a week just for our new members and the leadership team. Four morning-only sessions are dedicated to teaching freshmen and new members the fundamental marching basics. The full band comes together the week after New Member Camp and starts learning the music and marching for the show.

August

Preseason ramps up quickly, with the first two weeks of August devoted to longer rehearsal days and sectionals. By the time school begins, students have learned much of the show – and built the strong bonds that make band feel like a second family.

2026 Dates to Remember

6/30-7/3 – Parade Rehearsals (AM Only)
 7/4 – Dublin Independence Day Parade
 7/20-23 – New Member Camp (AM Only)
 Drumline Camp (AM Only)
 Color Guard Camp (Evening)
 7/27-30 – Pre-Camp Rehearsals (AM Only)
 7/27&28 – Uniform Fittings
 8/3-6 – Band Camp Rehearsals (All Day)
 8/10-14 – Band Camp Rehearsals (All Day)
 8/14 – Parent Preview Performance
 8/18 & 19 – Evening Rehearsals
 8/20 – First Day of School (No Rehearsal)
 8/21 – First Football Game
 10/3 – Buckeye Invitational (OMEA Event)
 Additional OMEA Dates TBD

September-November

Once school starts, the rhythm of the season settles in – after-school rehearsals and Friday night games. Students share Row Dinners, perform during pregame and halftime, and often wrap up the night together with a stop at Steak 'n Shake.

October brings Saturday competitions across Ohio, culminating in the OMEA State Finals, typically held on the last Saturday in October.

In early November, students and families come together for the Band Banquet to celebrate the season, recognize outstanding students, honor our seniors, and relive the memories.

Weekly Schedule

Mondays

Winds – 3:30-5:30pm
 Guard and Percussion Off

Tuesdays

Percussion – 3:30-5:30pm
 Color Guard – 4:30-6:30pm
 Winds Off

Wednesdays

Full Ensemble –
 3:30-5:30pm

Thursdays

Full Ensemble –
 3:30-5:30pm

Where do I fit in?

Parent Involvement: How Families Support the Band

The marching band is truly a family activity. While students are the ones on the field, it takes a large, dedicated group of parents behind the scenes to make the season run smoothly. From feeding students to moving equipment to running fundraisers, parent involvement is what keeps everything going.

There's a place for everyone. Whether you have a few hours here and there or want to be more involved, you'll find a role that fits.



Concessions

Concessions are the backbone of the band's fundraising – and the one volunteer role every family participates in. **Each family is required to work 3 shifts in the fall and 3 shifts in the spring.** This commitment is expected of all families, even if you choose to volunteer in other areas.

This is how the band funds a large portion of its program, and it only works when *everyone* does their part.

What to Expect

Shifts take place at athletic events in Celtic Stadium during the fall and spring seasons. You'll sign up in advance for times that fit your schedule and work alongside other band parents, with plenty of guidance and support at each event.

Why It Matters

Concessions aren't just another volunteer job – they are essential to keeping the band running. Revenue from concessions helps cover:

- Field Equipment
- Instruments and repairs
- Uniforms and maintenance
- Support for our future musicians in elementary & middle school



How Shifts Are Counted

Each shift is counted *per person*. If two family members work the same event, that counts as two shifts.

Parents, siblings, and even grandparents are all welcome to help – many families team up to complete their shifts.

What You'll Do

Handle simple food items (hot dogs, pretzels, popcorn, bottled water & soda, etc.)

Run the register (adults only – and no pressure if you'd rather not deal with money)

Restock items and help keep things running smoothly

Be a friendly, positive representative of the band

Sign-Up Tips

Just jump in – it's not nearly as scary as it might seem.

Pay attention to which events allow student volunteers and which are adults-only when signing up.

Sign up early. The low-key weeknight shifts tend to fill up quickly.

Use the "Add the Calendar" feature in SignUpGenius to instantly add your shift to your iCal, Google, or Outlook Calendar.

More Ways to Help

Uniforms

Fittings, sizing and ordering shoes and gloves, distributing/collecting uniforms, and occasional laundering.

Preseason Support

Help during August rehearsals with student supervision, water, and general logistics during long practice days.

Pit Crew / Chaperones

Pit crew moves equipment at home; chaperones travel with the band and handle equipment at away events.

Hospitality

Provide water and cookies for both bands during the 3rd quarter of home games.

Meals

Provide and serve food for students on competition days.

Special Events

Coordinate and support events like 8th Grade Night, Senior Night, the banquet, and other traditions.

Media

Photography, video, and social media.

Spirit Wear

Help design, order, and sell band apparel and gear.

Fundraising

Help with the Annual Fund Drive, sponsorships, restaurant nights, or other fundraising events.

Parent Social Coordinator

Organize tailgates and parent-only gatherings.

Ready to Jump In?

Volunteer sign-ups are shared via CutTime & email throughout the season. If you're not sure where to start, contact a member of the Music Boosters or email us at djmbmusicboosters@gmail.com – we'll help you find the right fit.

The Fund Drive

The Fund Drive is the largest fundraiser of the season. On one night in early September, students go door-to-door through the Dublin Jerome community asking for donations – raising as much as \$30,000+ across all three Dublin high schools.

Students head out after rehearsal (following a quick pizza dinner) in groups of four with a parent driver. Because every group requires a driver, this is one of the **most critical volunteer needs of the season** – we simply can't cover our neighborhoods without enough parents behind the wheel.

Volunteer Background Checks

For the safety of all students, **any parent volunteering in roles that interact with students** (such as driving, chaperoning, or working closely with the band) must complete a background check through Dublin City Schools.



Start your background check here

Uniform Information

Summer Uniforms

Each student is responsible for the purchase of a summer uniform. They consist of a green polo shirt and hat with the Jerome Band logo, khaki shorts, a brown belt, white socks and white shoes.

Polos, hats, and shorts should be **purchased at Embroidery Design Group**, 2564 Billingsley Road, Columbus, OH 43235. When you arrive, ask for the Jerome uniform, and they will know what to do.

Competition Uniforms

Each student is fitted and assigned a competition uniform. Students will also be sized for marching shoes and gloves that need to be ordered via a link that will be provided *after* uniform fitting. Students are also responsible for purchasing long black socks.

Care and Keeping

- The uniform jacket and bibs (pants) will be stored at the school when not in use.
- Students are issued a duffel and hatbox for all remaining uniform pieces and are responsible for keeping and bringing it to each performance.



The uniform depreciation fee covers normal wear and tear. Replacement of destroyed or lost items are the financial responsibility of the student.

Preseason Quick Reference

What to Bring to Rehearsals

Must Haves:

- Water bottle (large, clearly labeled – bottle and lid)
- Athletic shoes + socks (no sandals/flip-flops)
- Breathable athletic clothing
- Music binder + pencils
- Fully charged phone with UDBapp Installed

Strongly Recommended:

- Sunscreen (SPF 30+)
- Hat & sunglasses
- Extra socks
- Portable phone charger

Pack a sack lunch for all-day rehearsals (Aug 3-6 & Aug 10-14). Students will NOT be permitted to leave for lunch.

CutTime is the official, real-time calendar for all band events, including rehearsals, performances, and updates. Families should check it regularly and sync it to their personal calendars to stay up to date, as times and details may change throughout the season.



CutTime Public Calendar

Instructions on how to sync it with your Google Calendar



Ultimate Drill Book App (UDBapp) Instructions

Download UDBapp Pro from the App Store or Google Play
Sign in or tap "Don't have an account? Sign-up"***

Create a new personal account to use with UDBapp

**Once an account is created, students can log in to multiple devices with their login credentials. Do not create a new account for a new device!

The ensemble code and password will be provided directly to the students by Mr. Abrams.

UDBapp Overview for Students



This may look overwhelming, but Mr. Abrams will explain everything (including performer codes) at rehearsals before beginning to learn the show.

How to use the UDBapp Interface



Duffel Bag Checklist

Required:

- Hat/Hat Box
- Band Shoes
- Gauntlets
- Raincoat
- Black Socks (2 pairs)
- Water Bottle
- Marching Gloves (2 pairs)

Other Useful Items:

- Money for Concessions
- Snacks
- Basic Sundries (Chapstick, Sunscreen, Hand Sanitizer, Deodorant, Hand Warmers, etc.)
- Sweatshirt or Jacket

Traditions That Build the Band

Some of the most meaningful parts of marching band are the traditions that bring students together, create lasting memories, and mark their growth from freshmen to seniors.

Section Banners

Before the season begins, each instrument section comes together in July to create a section banner.

For many freshmen, this is the first time they meet their section in a smaller, more relaxed setting. It's an opportunity to start building connections, feel included, and contribute to something shared. It's one of the first steps in turning a large group into smaller "families" within the band.

Painting is typically organized by student leadership and often takes place at a squad leader's home, with supplies coordinated in advance.

Row Dinners

Row Dinners (not Road Dinners) are a tradition in which each section or squad (aka "a row") eats together after school on football game days to encourage team bonding.

Squad leaders typically drive other students to a local quick-service restaurant (so they will need money), but parents are also encouraged to host a simple meal.

Row Decs

Row Decs are a competition day tradition in which one or two members of each squad provide low-cost gifts for the rest of their group. This starts with the squad leader then rotates until everyone has had an opportunity. Ideas include hats, headbands, candy, small novelty toys, or really anything your student might find fun.

Quick Terms

CPA: Center for Performing Arts; the large auditorium just inside the DJHS front door and to the right.

The Cage: Uniform storage area; The entrance is in the CPA lobby.

Band Room Door: The door that goes directly from the Band Room to the Brand Road parking lot. It is to the right of the main entrance with the #21 above it. It's always locked, but students will often ask to be picked up there.

Senior Serenade

Seniors perform a short musical set that reflects their time in band, featuring selections from their previous three shows along with favorite stand tunes. The tone is more reflective than performative, marking an important point in their final season.

This tradition is **reserved for students only**, giving them a dedicated space to connect, reflect, and share the experience together.

Memory Boards

Parents of seniors decorate a poster-size board of photos of their student to celebrate their years in band. These will be on display in the commons area of the high school during Senior Night and at the Band Banquet.

Pro Tip: Visit the Facebook Media page often and start collecting photos when your student is a freshman. Senior boards are less stressful when you aren't rushing to find photos at the last minute.

We ♥ Our Seniors!



Events You'll Be Glad You Didn't Miss

Parent Tailgate & Show Preview: The first opportunity to see the show. You'll be impressed with what they learned in 2 weeks.

Home Football Games: Sit with the other band parents, and don't miss the halftime show. (We try to stay close to the 50-yard line, but it varies where we can find space.)

OMEA Competitions: Plan to attend at least one competition (many parents come to more) in addition to State Finals. You'll be even more impressed than you were at the preview show.

Dublin Band Showcase: The only chance each year to see all three Dublin high school bands in one place.

Band Banquet: Come for the awards, stay for the stories, and be prepared to say, "I can't believe how fast that went."

Parades and other events

DJMB performs in three local parades every year: The Dublin Independence Day Parade, the Jerome Homecoming Parade, and the Dublin St. Patrick's Day parade.

Dublin's Memorial Day ceremonies are done by one band each year on a rotation between the schools.

The marching band will also perform at various community events, such as the opening convocation to kick off each school year and small concerts at various feeder schools.

Online Resources

Dublin Jerome Band Website



DJMB Facebook Page (Public)

DJMB Media Facebook Page (Public)



DJMB Parents' Facebook Group (Private)