



# WDHS Music Department News



June 2023

## Special points of interest:

- 2024 Band & Choir Trip Destination Announced—Nashville, Tennessee!
- Nashville 2024 will be the 3rd trip to the Heart of Tennessee for the WDHS Band & Choir!
- 2023 Marching Band rehearsals begin July 11th 6pm-9pm at Oakview Elementary School
- The WDMB will be working towards their 11th Atlantic Coast Championship this season!

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## WDHS Band & Choir Make Travel Plans to Music City!

The WDHS Band & Choir are in the process of planning their next big adventure! After a four year hiatus from overnight travel, WDHS band and choir directors Mr. Kershaw and Mr. Wyatt have begun preliminary planning for a 5 day tour of Nashville and Pigeon Forge, Tennessee for next year's performance tour. The 5 day trip is currently approved to depart on May 29, 2024 and return on June 2, 2024.



*Tennessee Here We Come!*

The Band & Choir first made this journey in 2015 and it was a huge success. In 2019 the band & choir again took to the open road to Tennessee. The performance experiences were tremendous including performances by the Band & Choir in the Country Music Hall

of Fame. Both Mr. Kershaw and Mr. Wyatt feel that these trips were true "once in a lifetime" experiences and our current students would greatly benefit from the return this trip opportunity.

Current plans include both performance opportunities and touring area attractions throughout the Nashville/Pigeon Forge areas including Wild Horse Saloon, Grand Ole Opry, Ryman Auditorium, The Hermitage (Home of President Andrew Jackson), Dollywood, Johnny Cash Museum, General Jackson Riverboat Dinner Cruise, RCA Studio B tour, and many other area attractions, tours and performances. This exciting itinerary will be further developed over the upcoming summer months.

## WDHS Marching Band 2023

The 2023 edition of the WDHS Marching Band is getting ready to start. With rehearsals beginning in a few short weeks on July 11, the staff is working hard putting together another exciting show.

This year our marching band will be working towards their 11th Atlantic Coast, Tourna-

ment of Bands (TOB) Championship and defend their SJ Area and NJ State Championships.

Our Marching Band is still looking for members to help fill out its ranks. Positions in all sections are still available to all interested students. Color guard, percussion, woodwinds, and brass sec-

tions are all opportunities available to students and we want to encourage students to get involved. Contact Mr. Kershaw via email if you are interested!

Go to [www.wdhsmusic.org](http://www.wdhsmusic.org) for complete WDHS Marching Band information.

# WDHS Band & Choir Make Travel Plans to Music City! (Continued)



The Grand Ole Opry



General Jackson River Boat Dinner Cruise



Dollywood



Band & Choir Performances will be scheduled at the Country Music Hall of Fame!

Current estimates have the trip costing in the approximate range of \$1100-\$1200 for students and \$1500-1600 for adults for the 5 day trip. Mr. Kershaw and Mr. Wyatt along with the Band & Choir Parents Organizations are committed to keeping costs at a minimum as well as offering many opportunities to raise monies to offset out of pocket expenses.

This exciting opportunity is a large undertaking. The WDHS Music Department is always proud to take our students and display their talents for all to enjoy. This performance trip will allow the Band & Choir to represent WD & New Jersey in Music City—Nashville, TN!

*Students are eligible to participate on the Band & Choir trips by being members of the following performance groups: Marching Band, Concert Band, Jazz Lab, Madrigals, Spring Musical, Winterguard and Concert Choir. Students should look for detailed trip information upon their return to school in September.*

## Tentative Payment Schedule

### Students (based on \$1200) Quad Occupancy

- September 22—Payment 1—\$250
- October 20—Payment 2—\$150
- November 17—Payment 3—\$150
- December 15—Payment 4—\$100
- January 19—Payment 5—\$150
- February 16—Payment 6—\$150
- March 15—Payment 7—\$150
- April 19—Payment 8—\$100

### Parents/Adults (based on \$1600) Double Occupancy

- September 22—Payment 1—\$300
- October 20—Payment 2—\$200
- November 17—Payment 3—\$200
- December 15—Payment 4—\$150
- January 19—Payment 5—\$200
- February 16—Payment 6—\$200
- March 15—Payment 7—\$200
- April 19—Payment 8—\$150

This is a tentative payment schedule to help families plan for the expense. Final costs of the trip are dependent upon several factors including: cost of transportation, number of total trip participants and various admission costs.

## Stay informed!

### Sign Up for Text Notifications for Nashville.



# Parent Groups Offer Much to the WDHS Music Department

The music department at WDHS owes a lot to our two parent organizations. Through their combined efforts, any opportunities are brought within reach of students due to both groups' activities and sponsored events.

The West Deptford Band Parents are heavily involved with support of the instrumental music activities at WDHS. Throughout the fall months, the band parents organize meals for the marching band, raise funds running the concessions during home varsity football games, sponsor and coordinate marching band competitions and help organize various fundraisers for students throughout the year.

Similarly, the West Deptford Choir Parents work to support the activities of the vocal music programs at WDHS. They organize events associated with the vocal program such as the biennial Madrigals Feaste and annual spring musical. They also coordinate many fundraising opportunities for music department students throughout the year.

All parents are invited to get involved and stay in the loop of all of their child's opportunities. Band Parents meet the first Monday of each month beginning in August at WDHS. The Choir Parents meet the second Tuesday of each month beginning in September at WDHS.



## Vocal Music at WDHS

The WDHS Vocal Music Program offers a wide variety of singing opportunities. The Concert Choir is the central unit of the program and all singers perform with this ensemble. Madrigals meet daily as a class and students singing in this group must either audition or be recommended by their vocal music teacher. This select choir performs at special events as well as concerts.

The Treble Makers is an extra circular SA chorus, featuring music made for close harmony treble voices.

The highlight of the vocal music year is the annual musical, when students are given an opportunity to rehearse and present a Broadway show. This always proves to be a great experience for all involved, and a wonderful opportunity to expand your horizons and perform on stage.

*All Parents are encouraged to get involved and stay in the loop with our incredible parents organizations!*

## Do You Have Questions?

If you have questions about any of the music department's many activities or programs, please contact our directors. Mr. Kershaw & Mr. Wyatt are happy to discuss the fine details involved with their programs and activities. We would also welcome parents to contact parent group leaders with any questions about how parents can get involved and enhance the music making experiences.

**Instrumental Music—Mr. Kershaw**  
tkershaw@wdeptford.k12.nj.us

**Vocal Music—Mr. Wyatt**  
mwyatt@wdeptford.k12.nj.us

**Band Parents—Mrs. Patricia Watts**  
wdhsbandparents@gmail.com

**Choir Parents—Mrs. Sharon Damon**  
wdhschoirparents@gmail.com



**Have a Question?**

# **2023-2024 WDHS Music Department Performance Opportunities**

## **INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAMS & ENSEMBLES**

### **Marching Band (July through December)**

This group rehearses 2-3 evenings per week and performs 2-3 times per weekend.

### **Symphonic Concert Band (September through June)**

This group meets daily as a class and performs throughout the year.

### **Jazz Lab (October through May)**

This group rehearses 1-2 times per week after school and performs throughout the year.

### **Solo/Ensemble Performances (January through March)**

Opportunities are given to students to prepare a solo performance to be performed at our annual March event.

## **VOCAL PROGRAMS & ENSEMBLES**

### **Concert Choir (September through June)**

This group meets daily as a class and performs throughout the year.

### **Madrigals (September through June)**

This group meets daily as a class and performs throughout the year.

### **Spring Musical Production (December through March)**

This group meets during evenings and performs in mid-March. Auditions are held in November.

### **Treblemakers/After School Vocal Ensemble (September through May)**

This group rehearses after school once a week and includes trios, quintets and more.

### **Solo Performances (January through March)**

Opportunities are given to students to prepare a solo performance to be performed at our annual March event.