



Greetings, IB Program Member!

My name is David Simon, and I am the Director of Bands here at Frisco High School. On behalf of all the band directors here at FHS (Matthew Courtney, Heath Dillard, Gage Grimsley, and Toby Leikness), I'd like to congratulate you on your acceptance into the IB program at Frisco! *We also want to extend a warm welcome to you as a future member of the Frisco High School Band Family, and sincerely hope that you'll continue your career in Band as you fulfill your arts credit towards your IB diploma.*

We are **really** looking forward to having you join our program, and working to help you feel right at home. Earlier this year, we held an information meeting for parents of our incoming 9th grade band students. Your and your parents may [click here](#) to the handout and video from that meeting! It includes information about important dates, fees, auditions, etc. Don't hesitate to reach out to me (simond@friscoisd.org) with any questions that arise.

Please see the next page, which is a pamphlet containing some pertinent information about **upcoming dates**. We encourage you to join us for our spring events, starting with our next 'Frisco Band Academy' Meeting on January 22nd- [click here](#) to register! You'll have a chance to meet the directors, and start getting to know the MANY friends you'll have in Band. They will be so helpful to you as you start at a new school next year. Finally, check out the last pages with words from some of our current IB programme Band members. Again, feel free to send me an email if you have any questions!

We look forward to meeting you soon!

Sincerely,

David Simon-
Director of Bands



Matthew Courtney-
Associate Director



Heath Dillard-
Director of
Percussion



Toby Leikness-
Director of
Color Guard



Gage Grimsley-
Assistant Percussion
Director



Become a member of the **FRISCO BAND!!**



- ✓ *Become a member of something special*
- ✓ *Keep old friends, AND make new ones*
- ✓ *Take band trips near and far*
- ✓ *Participate in competitions*
- ✓ *Perform at football games*
- ✓ *Make great music with over 100 friends*

**Got questions about
Frisco Band?**

We've got Answers!

What is Marching Band like?

Playing your instrument while marching outdoors is unique to high school band and it is a ton of fun! Thousands of new members before you have learned to march without any experience just like you, and they've ended up being great at it and having a blast! Marching Band only takes place the first 14 weeks out of the school year.



Are there auditions to become a member of the Frisco Band?

Yes, there are auditions in May to place students in various concert ensembles. Everyone makes it into the Frisco Band!



Can I be in Band and Sports, or other activities?

YES, it is possible to be in more than one activity at FHS. Students who are undecided are encouraged to enroll in band along with their other activities for at least their freshmen year- any activity will be very different in high school! Just ask us how it can work for you ☺



Important 8th Grade Dates, 2023-24!

'Frisco Band Academy' (7th/8th Grade!)- 5:00-7:00 pm on these dates:

November 27, January 22, February 12, March 4

Mar 8, Evening • **Frisco Band Spring Party (7th/8th Grade Welcome!)** • FHS

April 16-18, 5:00-7:30 pm • **New Member Camp** • FHS Gym

April 18, 7:00 pm • **New Member Parent Meeting** • FHS Auditorium

May 3 • **2024-25 FHS Band Auditions** • Recording Uploads Due

May 21-22 • **Frisco Band Music Camp** • FHS Campus

July 22 • **Start of Summer Band Camp** • FHS

July 24, 6:30 – 7:30 pm • **Pre-Registration Meeting (Parents)** • Auditorium

July 27, Morning • **Frisco Band 2024-25 Registration** • FHS



Stuff for your parents:

Why should my student join the Frisco Band?

- Membership in the largest positive-image projecting organization on campus**
- Likelihood of academic success- Band students are great resources for one another in study groups. Among our members are representatives of the Top Ten Percent of Graduates, National Merit Scholars, and Honor Society Members**
- Camaraderie and support of older peers on campus**
- A social network that promotes academic prowess, self-discipline, teamwork, peer interaction, and leadership**
- Familiarity with campus prior to the first day of school**
- Dual credit hours for fine arts and physical education during the fall semesters**
- Opportunity for skilled preparation and public performance throughout the year**
- Recognition for being involved in an award winning, nationally renowned program**

Contact Mr. Simon to find out more!

simond@friscoisd.org

From some of our past and current IB-Band members...



"Being a member of the Frisco Band has made adjusting to a new school tons easier. The directors are genuinely kind and well-wishing, and the student leaders are extremely welcoming. One of my primary concerns about moving to a new school was the loss of all of my friends, but soon enough, being a part of the Frisco Band gave me the opportunity to make so many new friendships! This band certainly puts a lot of emphasis on team-building. My favorite thing about the Frisco Band so far has been the music. I love how creative the arrangements were for the show music, as well as how the directors weren't afraid to make stylistic and technical changes to the music so everyone would have a better experience playing."

Anushka Thakre

Alumnus of Vandeventer Middle School

"Being a member of the Frisco Band has helped me go to a different school because it has let me make new friends apart from my middle school friends. Going to a different high school was a little challenging at first, but the Frisco Band really helped get me introduced to people and make a lot of friendships as well. My favorite thing about the Frisco Band is being able to learn new music with friends and when we put in the effort, the results are amazing! I immediately became social with people in the band, and everyone is so friendly and supportive of one another."

Madhav Ravikiran

Alumnus of Fowler Middle School



"Being in a very unfamiliar high school with lots of new people was nerve wracking for me at first, but the Frisco Band Program helped me get started in Frisco High, and introduced me to many friendly people in the group that I connected with. I immediately became social with people in the band, and everyone is so friendly and supportive of one another. The Frisco Band was significant in getting me used to the feel of Frisco High School right away."

Haneef Ibrahim

Alumnus of Stafford Middle School

“Being in band has helped me make many more friends and I’ve gotten to know many upperclassmen who have been very helpful with adjusting to a new school. My favorite part about band is when we go and perform at football games and play in the stands. Football games are very exciting and fun!”

Marco Wilcox
Alumnus of Roach Middle School



“The upperclassmen are very nice and cooperative and they answer any questions I have. My favorite part about band would be the football games. Everyone is always really excited and it allows you to have a few hours to stop thinking about homework or assignments that are due.”

Bhavana Pothuri
Alumnus of Lawler Middle School

“Being in the Frisco Band has been a great experience. The people are nice and accepting, and most of my friends are in band. It really eased the stress of trying to make life easier at Frisco.”

Ore Okubanjo
Alumnus of Fowler Middle School



“Being an IB student, one of the downsides is you are separated from most of your old friends, and when I came to Frisco I had absolutely no friends or familiar faces. Since joining the band, I was able to quickly make many friends and it helped me adjust to going to Frisco High School. My favorite thing so far is that on days we have morning rehearsals we get an hour in between the end of rehearsal and the beginning of school, and I like to go, with friends, across the street and get breakfast!”

Neel Mehra
Alumnus of Trent Middle School