

# Band Glossary of Terms

**All State** – Students who excel at their Honor Band (see below) audition may be invited to audition for the Georgia All-State Band. If selected, students will participate in a clinic weekend with superior high school musicians from around the state.

**Band Night** – Supplemental practice. Marching band schedules band nights on Tuesdays during summer break.

**Battery** – Drum Line members who march on the field.

**Blue** – The large blue Harrison Band truck used to transport instruments and props.

**BOA** – Bands of America. A non-profit educational organization that is the nation's leading presenter of music events for high school band students. Sponsored events include various regional competitions, Grand National Championships, National Concert Band Festival, and Summer Symposium. BOA's stated mission is to provide "positively life-changing" experiences for students, teachers, parents, and communities.

**BOA Summer Symposium** – An excellent summer camp held for one week in June at Illinois State University. Students can enroll in concert band, jazz band, orchestra, color guard, and drum major camps where they are taught by leading instructors from around the country.

**Bucks** – Students receive a portion of the profits that they generate in fund-raising activities. These "*Bucks*" are deposited into their student accounts and can be used to help defray some band expenses.

**Chamber Music** – Students perform compositions written for small groups, usually 4-12 players.

**Color Guard** – The marching band members who add visual impact and color to the musical performance in a challenging activity that combines equipment work using flags, rifles, and sabers, with dancing and marching. Membership is open to anyone at Harrison High School and members are not required to be enrolled in band class. Auditions are typically held in April of each year.

**Concert Bands** – Any of the three band classes: Concert Band, Symphonic Band, or Wind Ensemble.

**DCI** – Drum Corps International. A non-profit youth organization that sponsors Drum and Bugle Corps. These corps are made up of high school and college students up to age 21, who spend the summer traveling and competing against other corps in shows across the country. There are Division I, II, and III corps and auditions are typically held in late fall or early winter.

**Dinkles** – Black uniform shoes worn by marching band members.

**Dot Book** – Small notebook worn by band members during practice to record their marching band formations.

**Dots** – Specific points on the marching field.

**Drill** – Marching formations on the field.

**Drill Charts** – A picture of what each set is supposed to look like.

**Drum Line** – All percussion members in the marching band, including both Battery and Pit.

**E Books** – Entertainment books. Sale of these coupon books represents one of the Booster Club's fund-raising activities.

**Embouchure** – Mouth placement on an instrument.

**Festival** – A competition and clinic for all concert bands within the District. District Festival is held each spring.

**Honor Band** – Students from throughout the district may audition for District Honor Band. Based on the audition results, students may be selected for either the 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade Honor Band or 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade Honor Band. During Honor Band weekend, students will practice Friday night, all day Saturday, then perform a concert on Sunday.

**Jan Fest** – A clinic weekend for selected band members, held at the University of Georgia each January.

**Pass-Off** – After a student has memorized his or her marching music, it must be played for the section leader with two or fewer mistakes. Students will not be allowed to participate in a show until they have “passed-off” on the music.

**Percussion Ensemble** – Extra-curricular opportunity for students to explore percussion.

**Pit** – Members of the drum line who play xylophone and other instruments on the front sideline during performances and do not march on the field.

**Plume** – The large, very expensive feather worn on top of the shako (uniform hat).

**SCGC** – Southeastern Color Guard Circuit. The competing color guard circuit covering Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia.

**Sectional** – Specially scheduled practice for all band members who play the same instrument (e.g. clarinet, flute, etc.). Sectionals are scheduled to give members of each section an opportunity to practice their own music or routines.

**Shakos** – Uniform hats worn by marching band members.

**Silks** – Color Guard flags. Nowadays they are typically made out of polyester fabric, not silk.

**Solo/Ensemble** – Voluntary competition where individual students or ensembles of students prepare a piece of music and perform for competitive ratings.

**Student *Bucks* Account** – Students earn “*Bucks*” for a portion of the profits that they earn by selling fund-raiser items, securing corporate sponsors, working at car washes, etc.. The *Bucks* accumulate in an account and may then be used to pay a portion of the band expenses, excluding commitment fees. See Band Handbook and Parent Handbook for more detailed information.

**Summer workshop opportunities** – Specialized instruction with professionals in a camp-like setting. Summer workshops are held in a number of locations across the country including university campuses and a variety of specialty camps.

**Symphonic Camp** – A mandatory mini-camp weekend for all band class students. Guest conductors and clinicians teach the students in a condensed weekend workshop. Symphonic Camp is typically held in February of each year.

**WGI** – Winter Guard International. A non-profit youth organization that serves as the governing body for Winter Guard and Indoor Percussion activities.

**Winter Guard** – A color guard team that performs to recorded music at indoor competitions from January through April. This activity combines modern dance with flag, rifle, and saber work. Membership is open to anyone at Harrison High School and members are not required to be enrolled in band class. Auditions are typically held in late November or early December of each year.