

From the Band Captains....

Dear old members of the Band, new members of the Band, relatives of members of the Band, parents of members of the Band, those considering being members of the Band, friends of the Band, third cousins twice removed of the members of the Band, and all other associates,

We are very glad to have so many members of the Band returning, and sorry to see our friends graduating and leaving us. First, however, we must all extend our hands to the new members of our Band, the rising first-years and transfers. You are the force that keeps our Band alive, and we hope you come to love the Band like we do. We are all very excited to welcome you into the fold and we're certain you and your families will enjoy the experience.

I know from my own experiences that sometimes there may be misconceptions about what the Band will be like, just as there are misconceptions about high school in general. The important thing is to get here and to try it. The Band is what introduced me to the rest of the high school when the only people I ever saw in my classes were first-years. It's where I met new people, made lasting friendships, and most importantly, Band is where I felt I was a part of something. Meeting and hanging out with my Big Brother helped introduce me to other fun people, and that's how I ended up making most of my friends. Section bonding became a great, fun way to hang out, and activities like the Senior-first-year lock-in and Band camp were more fun than I can express.

This year, every first-year will have a senior or member of the Band leadership to be their Big Brother or Big Sister. If you hear anyone refer to their Bigs or Littles, that's what they're talking about. The Bigs will help the Littles adjust to high school life, which can be a shock, and they're around to hang out with and to help meet new people. We recommend students get in touch with their Big or Little and plan some time to get to know each other. That makes getting involved with the Band much easier.

The Band is a proud and fun organization, and this year we will be competing in a marching competition in an effort to represent Decatur High School and showcase our talents with other bands throughout Georgia. We plan to learn a large part of the marching show at Band camp, and by the end of Band camp it is our intention for every member of the band to feel like they know every other member, first-years and veterans alike. Community is one of the most important facets of the Band, and we are certain everyone will feel a part of it.

Hope you enjoy your summer and see you soon!

Jackson Spell
Band Captain

Jake Rodgers
Asst. Band Captain