

A Counselor's Guide to Band Class Offerings

Concert Band (per. 1) – For all students that want to be part of the band program. There is no audition, but a minimum skill level with playing an instrument and reading music is required. I will arrange with the Middle School band teachers to determine who may not be suited for this class or will determine this when I meet the students at the end of the Spring Semester before they get here.

Wind Ensemble H (per. 1) – This is an audition only section of Concert Band that meets at the same time as Concert Band. Students audition into this class at the end of the school year. Anybody what wants to request this class can have it added to their schedule. If they don't pass the audition at the end of the year, they'll get moved into Concert Band, but both classes perform together so there it won't require any changes to the rest of their schedule.

Beginning Instruments (per. 2/Fall) – This course is for anybody that wants to learn how to play a band instrument (flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, tuba, percussion). No experience is necessary. Students will learn everything they need to know about how to read music and play an instrument with other people. In most cases, students will use a school instrument while in the class. By the end of the semester, students will be fully prepared to participate in the band program if they want.

Studio Jazz Ensemble H (per. 4B) – This is an audition only section of Jazz Band. Auditions are at the end of the school year. Any student that wants to request this may add it. If they don't pass the audition, we can adjust their schedule at that time, but it will likely be harder to add them to this class after the fact than it will to take them out and give them something else.

Marching Band (per. 5/Fall) – Open to all students who play a band instrument and are registered for Period 1 Concert Band/Wind Ensemble. This class is more like a Varsity sport in terms of the schedule. There is a substantial co-curricular requirement with this class from August to November, with practices happening primarily after school, on some evenings and weekends, and with competitions on Saturdays during October and November. We are done by Thanksgiving. Students who are interested in late Fall or Winter sports can do those as well. Students earn 5 units of P.E. credit

Colorguard (per. 5/Fall) - Open to all students who have an interest in Dance and want to perform with the Marching Band. Students DO NOT have to be enrolled in Concert Band to participate in the Colorguard. This class is more like a Varsity sport in terms of the schedule. There is a substantial co-curricular requirement with this class from August to November, with practices happening primarily after school, on some evenings and weekends, and with competitions on Saturdays during October and November. We are done by Thanksgiving. Students who are interested in late Fall or Winter sports can do those as well.

Jazz Ensemble (per. 5/Spring) – Open to all students who play saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, bass, guitar, or drums. Students must be in Period 1 Concert Band or Wind Ensemble and have a minimum level ability to read music and play an instrument. I'm happy to let anybody that is interested in the class sign up for it. We can determine their suitability for the class when we start meeting in the Spring.