

MHS Ensemble Placement Audition Information

We are so excited to welcome you all to next year's band program. It is important that you all know that you are in band. **No matter what** your audition sounds like or if you miss the audition completely, you will end up placed in a band class and will be a part of the marching band.

Rule #1 – Everyone must play an audition for Mr. Sall. The audition is to be placed in an ensemble based on skill level. If you do not do an audition you will be placed automatically in the lower ensemble, last chair. All auditions will take place at your school in your class time. If you miss the audition, please email Mr. Sall to schedule one afterschool.

Rule #2 – Concert band classes are everyday during the school day. Marching band is after school. Everyone in a concert band class is required to participate in marching band. Some exceptions are made due to medical reasons, religious reasons, or varsity fall sports.

Rule #3 – Every player is expected to play their scales from memory. High School scale requirements are all 12 major scales. If you do not know the scale that Mr. Sall asks, just state you do not know the scale. You will be given an alternative scale to play at that time. Yes, that will be noted in the audition and will affect your placement.

Rule #4 – If you are auditioning for jazz band in addition to the concert band, your jazz audition will take place directly after your concert audition. Students wanting to be in jazz band are required to be enrolled in the concert band class. The only exceptions are for piano, guitar, bass students only. Jazz students will play their jazz prepared piece only.

Ensemble descriptions

Wind Ensemble – Our highest difficulty level class. Music difficulty is at the collegiate/professional level (music grade 4-6). Students will have the opportunity to play special performances in the community and work with professors and collegiate directors. Students must demonstrate their ability to play in the full range (and even some extended ranges) of their instrument. All 12 scales are required in multiple octaves from memory. Extra rehearsal and performance time outside of school is required.

Symphonic Band – Our intermediate level class. Music difficulty is at the advanced high school level (music grade 3-5). Students must demonstrate their ability to play in the full range of their instrument. All 12 scales are required from memory. Some extra rehearsal and performance time outside of school is required.

Concert Band – Our introductory level class. Music difficulty is at moderate to basic high school level. Students will be challenged to create musical phrases and change bad habits that have developed. Students must demonstrate their ability to play their instrument with a characteristic tone quality. Scales Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, G, C, F are required from memory.

Reminder: All members of the 2018 MHS band program are required to attend our minicamp/informational meeting on May 12th from 9am-2pm in the MHS band room. Lunch will be provided. Dress for outdoors. Do not wear pants or a hoodie! Bring water!

Parents will have a required meeting at 1pm.