

COURSE TITLE: JAZZ BAND

Course Description: Jazz Band is an auditioned ensemble that meets two evenings per week from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. . Members of this ensemble learn to play various styles of jazz, improvise and appreciate jazz music. The band performs on several occasions throughout the school year.

Course Requirements and Required Materials:

- I. Audition
- II. Music and exercises given throughout the year

Course Objectives: To perform jazz music at a high level of mastery, learn various improvisational techniques and develop the musical ear.

COURSE OUTLINE:

I. First Quarter:

- A. Elements of rhythm
- B. Elements of ensemble playing
- C. Introduction to improvisation
- D. At least one required performance

II. Second Quarter:

- A. Focus on ensemble rhythm
- B. Ensemble balance, blend and pitch
- C. Improvisation techniques and ear training
- D. Two to four required performances

III. Third Quarter:

- A. Focus on ensemble rhythm
- B. Ensemble balance, blend and pitch
- C. Improvisation techniques and ear training
- D. One required performance

IV. Fourth Quarter:

- A. Focus on ensemble rhythm
- B. Ensemble balance, blend and pitch
- C. Improvisation techniques and ear training
- D. Two or three required performances