

8th Grade



Welcome to
Jenks Band

2023-2024 Handbook

WELCOME

TO JENKS BAND

Welcome back to band at JMS! After last year's many successes, the band directors are very excited about this coming year and the many great experiences that we will enjoy together.

While many are familiar with each other, it can still take a bit to get to know everyone in this year's bands. Please do not hesitate to talk to the directors and tell us about you. We love to hear about interesting things you did this summer, cool hobbies or skills, or whatever else makes you, you!

Participation in the band program at Jenks Middle School is truly special. The many positive facets of the program are too numerous to mention. The year ahead holds many treasures, so we hope you are ready to get started!

-Mrs. Cryer, Mr. Silverman, and Mr. Stevenson

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The purpose of the Jenks Middle School band handbook is to inform band members and their parents of the expectations of the band program. The following guidelines are designed to promote the constructive teaching and learning environment needed to develop and maintain a successful program at the highest level of excellence.

Jenks Band is dedicated to helping students become responsible adults through participation in musical ensembles. Members are given the opportunity to develop self-esteem, poise, and confidence in addition to strengthening their musical abilities.

Communication

1. Website

The band website is an outstanding source of information for students and parents. Students will be held responsible for dates and information posted on the website. Please refer to the band website before asking a director for information.

2. Canvas

The middle school band directors will send an email blast through Canvas as a reminder to all parents. Please sign up to as an observer through you child's Canvas account. You can also message the directors through your Canvas observer account.

3. Email

Since the band directors are at different sites within the school district throughout the day, email is the best way to contact us. Please see below for their individual email addresses:

Julie Cryer
7th & 8th Grade Band Director
julie.cryer@jenksp.org

Sam Silverman
7th Grade Band Director
sam.silverman@jenksp.org

Jill Johnson
7th Grade Band Director
jill.johnson@jenksp.org

Mark Stevenson
7th & 8th Grade Percussion Director
mark.stevenson@jenksp.org

Eligibility

The standards mandated by the Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities Association and those of Jenks Independent School District will be used to determine a student's eligibility for performances. Students must maintain a passing grade of at least a 60% or above in all classes (not just band). Students with a grade lower than a 60% are considered ineligible and will not be able to participate in contests or trips.

Eligibility Example

Student is failing one class

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Probation period begins

8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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Ineligible period begins if all classes are not in passing range

15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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If all classes are in passing range, the student becomes eligible again. If not, the student will remain ineligible.

22	23	24	25	26	27	28
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During the probation period, students are considered eligible. If students are not passing all classes at the end of the probation period, they are considered ineligible.

Grading

Grades in band reflect the student's performance in all aspects of being a responsible member of an organization. Every band member will be held accountable for their attendance, materials, and preparation.

School policies for tardies and absences will be observed. Excessive tardies and/or absences may affect a student's eligibility and participation in band.

Tests will be given at the discretion of the director. Tests will be given through Canvas video submissions or in class. Students are held accountable for any material covered in a previous lesson. Tests and tryouts for chair placement will be announced in advance. Students who miss a chair test will go to the last chair of their section, but will have the opportunity to make up the grade.

Performances are required and are graded as multiple tests. An unexcused absence from a performance will lower a student's grade significantly.

Band members are expected to take their instruments home and practice each evening. Occasionally, material and maintenance grades will be taken to ensure students have all of their required items for rehearsals, and that they are caring for their instruments properly.

Did you know...?

-Music helps develop skills needed in today's workforce: critical thinking, creative problem solving, effective communication, teamwork, and confidence.

-Middle school and high school students who participated in instrumental music performances scored significantly higher than their non-band peers in standardized tests.

-The College Entrance Examination Board found that students in music (middle and high school) scored 63 points higher on verbal and 44 points higher on math than students with no arts participation.

-More than half of U.S. households (52%) have at least one person, age 5 or older, who currently plays a musical instrument

Concerts

**12/5 Holiday
Concert**

**3/12
Preview
Concert**

**3/14
OSSAA District
Contest**

**5/7
Spring
Concert**

**Please see the
schedule page for a
more complete list of
band activities.**

Performance & Participation

All band students are expected to participate in rehearsals, concerts, and any other school function in which the band takes part throughout the school year. Missing a performance will be reflected in the student's grade.

Personal illness, family death, unsafe road conditions, or conflicts with other school-sponsored activities may be considered excused absences from rehearsals and performances if proper communication has been fulfilled. Parents and students should notify the band director well in advance of any possible scheduling conflict.

A director may exclude a student from a performance for inappropriate dress, excessive absences, or lack of individual preparation.

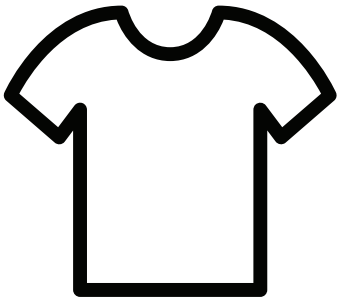
Once a student has chosen band as an elective, the expectation is for the student to remain in band for the duration of the school year.

Rehearsals outside of the normal school day may need to be scheduled in preparation for concerts and contests. These rehearsals will be announced well in advance.

Please visit jenksband.com for the most up to date calendar and for each event's schedule.

Performance Attire

Informal Uniform



Band students will be required to purchase a band t-shirt. This shirt will be worn with jeans, socks, and tennis shoes at the Homecoming Parade and the Spring Festival trips.

Semi-formal Uniform



Girls

- Black, long-sleeved, collared dress shirt
- Black dress pants (no jeans)
- Black dress shoes (no tennis shoes)

Boys

- Black, long-sleeved, collared dress shirt
- Black dress pants (no jeans)
- Black socks
- Black dress shoes (no tennis shoes)

Students who disregard any of the performance attire may not be allowed to participate in the concert and will have their performance grade lowered.

Honor Band Important Dates

**NCDA Honor Band Audition
November 4, 2023
Owasso High School**

**NCDA Honor Band Concert
& Clinic
January 5-6, 2024
Stillwater High School**

**Middle School Solo &
Ensemble
February 17, 2024
Jenks Middle School**

Honor Band Auditions

Band members are strongly encouraged to audition for membership in honor bands. Membership in the North Central Director's Association Honor Band is a great honor and holds much significance for university officials when distributing scholarship offers. Preparation for these auditions requires a great deal of initiative and self-discipline, as most of the practice is done out of class. Students auditioning for NCDA are strongly encouraged to include sight-reading as part of their preparation for the audition. Sight-reading is a major portion of the audition process and has a direct impact on whether a student makes the honor band and how high they place.

Solo and Ensemble

Another opportunity for musical growth is through participation in solo and ensemble contests. It is another opportunity for exposure to challenging music of various styles on an individual basis or through a smaller group. Students will have the opportunity to compete the District level contest. As with honor bands, a great deal of initiative and preparation is done outside of class. Regular rehearsals with accompanists or ensembles will be scheduled in the spring.

Private Lessons

Students are also highly encouraged to study privately on their instrument. This gives the student the opportunity to study with a person who specializes on their particular instrument. A list of teachers and contact information is available on the band website.

Did you know...?



70%

OF ADMISSIONS OFFICERS OF THE NATION'S MAJOR UNIVERSITIES SAY HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT AND ACHIEVEMENT IN THE ARTS ARE SIGNIFICANT CONSIDERATIONS FOR ADMISSION.



107

POINTS SCORED HIGHER ON THE SAT FOR STUDENTS INVOLVED IN PUBLIC SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAMS ACCORDING TO THE COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION BOARD.



66%

LEWIS THOMAS, PHYSICIAN AND BIOLOGIST, FOUND THAT MUSIC MAJORS COMPRISE THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF ACCEPTED MEDICAL STUDENTS.



94%

OF RESPONDENTS (GALLUP POLL), BELIEVE MUSIC IS PART OF A WELL-ROUNDED EDUCATION AND SHOULD BE OFFERED AS PART OF THE REGULAR CURRICULUM IN SCHOOLS.

Music & Milkshakes

Music and Milkshakes is a time after school when students may receive help with music, and then we walk to Braum's. This help should NOT replace private lessons. It will take place on various Mondays at 4 PM. We will usually work on music for 45 minutes and then walk to Braum's. Parents will pick up their children from Braum's at 5:30 PM. There will be some M&Ms where only specific students are allowed to attend (those auditioning for solo/ensemble). There will be others where any eighth grade band student may attend. Please check the calendar for the schedule.

Music and Milkshake Dates:

Any 8th grade band student may attend: Aug. 28, Nov. 13, Dec. 11

Solo/Ensemble participants may attend: Jan. 22, Jan. 29, Feb. 5, Feb. 12

Important Dates

October 8* *Buddy Baseball (likely will be a different date)*

October 13 Homecoming Parade

October 13 8th Grade Night at High School Football Game

November 4 NCDA Honor Band tryout at Owasso High School

November 10 Veterans Day Assembly Performance (during school hours)

December 5 Middle School Holiday Concert at JHS Performing Arts Center

January 5-6 NCDA Honor Band Concert and Clinic – Stillwater

February 1 HS Band/ Night Light Tulsa parent informational meeting

February 10 Solo & Ensemble fundraiser for Night Light Tulsa @ Reasor's in Jenks

February 17 Middle School Solo & Ensemble at Jenks Middle School

March 12 Pre-Contest Concert at JHS Performing Arts Center

March 14* 8th Grade OSSAA District Concert Contest at Owasso High School

March 28 Jenks 8th Grade Band Night at Night Light Tulsa

May 4 8th Grade band trip to Branson

May 7 Spring Concert at JHS Performing Arts Center

May 18 HS Marching Band In-Person Registration

Events in italics are optional and not required.

***This date is unconfirmed. We will keep in communication with any changes ASAP.**

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