

JAZZ BAND INFORMATION

Hello and thank you for being interested in the Jazz Band Program at Waterloo Junior High School! This advanced program is for 7th and 8th grade students interested in extending their knowledge of their instruments beyond the normal band experience.

Students are admitted into the Jazz Band after an audition with Mrs. Shaheen-Hoke in mid-September. You will need to be sure to pick up a Jazz Band Handbook at the beginning of the year. You are not officially auditioning until you SIGN UP FOR AUDITIONS with Mrs. Shaheen-Hoke in September. The audition materials are attached to this letter. Students will only be required to play a portion of each of the pieces at the audition.

The number of instruments accepted into the Jazz Band varies from year to year, but to give you an idea, here is a list of which instruments are typically in the Jazz Band and how many slots are allotted for each:

Wind Section

Alto Sax: 4, Tenor Sax: 2, Baritone Sax: 1, Trumpet: 4-5, Trombone: 4-5,

Rhythm Section

Piano: 2-3, Guitar: 1-2, Bass: 1-2, Drum Set: 2

Jazz Band meets twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays before school beginning at 7.00am. This means that students are to arrive between 6.50 and 6.55 am to get set up and ready to go. I would prefer that students do not arrive before 6.50am so I can get ready for the day before the day arrives in student form.

There is a uniform required for the Jazz Band. Gentlemen: It is black collared shirt with black on bottom and black shoes and socks. Ladies: Dressy black clothes and black shoes (black socks if desired). Students will be required to purchase the rest of their uniform (black suspenders and orange bow tie for the gentlemen and orange scarf for the ladies) through the school to ensure uniformity. The cost varies from year to year (depending on how many of what I order), and last year it was about \$18ish.

We will be working out of the Standard of Excellence Jazz Ensemble Book, which will be ordered through Nottelmann's Music Company after the auditions determine the placement of each student. These books are usually between \$15 and \$20.

If there are any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me by phone (939.3457) or email (jshaheen@wcusd5.net).

Sincerely,

Jennifer Shaheen- Hoke
Director of Bands

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