



Choctaw High School Concert Bands

Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band

Each student will be placed and participate in a concert band. Should enrollment be sufficient, band students will be divided into two bands. Each of these bands will rehearse during first period. The Wind Ensemble will be a small select group comprised of auditioned players who are comfortable in a smaller setting with greater responsibilities. The Symphonic Band will be a larger group comprised of all remaining students. Both bands will perform at concerts and contests where applicable. While all students will participate and be graded as part of a concert band, students who wish to join extra ensembles like the ones listed below will also be evaluated and graded on those as well.

1. **Wind Ensemble** - Acceptance of a chair in the Wind Ensemble is optional. As such, members of this band will attend and participate in each rehearsal and performance without exception or excuse. The grading criteria for this group will consist of the following.
 - a. To be a member, students should follow the outlined procedures to signify a desire to be considered for this group. The group will then be selected based on a set instrumentation consisting of the highest scores of all students desiring Wind Ensemble membership. Not every auditioning student will be selected for the Wind Ensemble.
 - b. Each member will return a signed contract agreeing to all policies of the Wind Ensemble.
 - c. Each member will spend at least 60 minutes per week in the band room practicing either ensemble or solo parts.
 - i. A log in sheet will be available for members.
 - d. Each member will be tested each week on music from their folder.
 - e. Each member will be expected to play their music at the highest level possible.
 - f. Tuesday evening rehearsals may be scheduled for the Spring Semester.
 - g. Should a member not perform up to the required standard, they may be replaced by a qualified Symphonic Band member.
 - h. All members should be prepared for rehearsal and in attendance with all equipment at the specified time.
2. **Symphonic Band** – It is the hope of the band staff that younger and less experienced students will use the Symphonic Band to improve all aspects of their playing. The Symphonic Band should provide a bridge between the easier music of the middle schools and the more difficult demands of the Wind Ensemble. Even though this ensemble may perform different music, they are expected to perform at a high standard.
 - a. All students in this ensemble will be placed in a chair based on an audition process.
 - b. Each member should participate each day in rehearsal.
 - i. This includes being prepared and in attendance with all equipment at the specified time.
 - c. Each student may be tested based on music in their folder.
 - d. Each member should fulfill all behavioral requirements at all times.
3. **Jazz Bands** – All students who are enrolled in band and participating in a concert band may choose to participate in a jazz band.
 - a. Should interest be sufficient, two jazz ensembles will be formed.
 - b. Placement in the first band will be determined by an audition.
 - c. All rehearsal times will be set and announced.
 - d. Students choosing to participate in a jazz ensemble will be graded on attendance and participation.

4. **Chamber Ensembles** - All students who are enrolled in band and participating in a concert band may choose to and are encouraged to participate in an ensemble at district contest.
 - a. Students will be made aware of the contest date.
 - b. Students choosing to participate in a chamber ensemble will be graded on attendance and participation.
 - c. Each member of an ensemble will be expected to fulfill his or her commitment to the ensemble by being present and being proficient on their part.
 - d. There will be a small entry fee.
5. **Solos** – Students, especially seniors wishing to audition for college scholarships may wish to, and are encouraged to participate in solo contests.
 - a. While the staff may be able to guide and suggest literature, it is the responsibility of the student to find or purchase an acceptable solo.
 - b. While the staff may be able to suggest an accompanist, students who have solos written with piano accompaniment must ultimately be responsible for acquiring, rehearsing, and paying a suitable accompanist.
 - c. There will be a small entry fee and a posted sign-up sheet for students to signify a desire to be entered.