

Advanced Jazz Band (PA3150)

Course Overview: The jazz ensemble will follow the curriculum established by Chesterfield County Public Schools for the Advanced Jazz Band class with improved and updated information, the standards established by the Virginia State SOLs (Instrumental Music – Advanced Level), and the Music Educator’s National Conference Standards for the Arts. The ensemble is a performance-oriented class, requiring regular evaluation of instrumental skills in individual and ensemble settings. The ensemble will perform several concerts throughout the school year, including some state-wide adjudicated Jazz Festivals, and a recording session for the Jazz at Lincoln Center – Essentially Ellington competition.

The class does require that students have an instrument and/or mouthpiece. Instruments will be provided in the case of especially expensive or unique instruments. However, each student is required to have their own mouthpiece as a minimum, because instruments borrowed from the school may need to be shared between students. Lockers will be provided for all student instruments. It is strongly advised that students purchase a combination lock to keep their instrument safely stored in its locker. All combination locks must have their combinations registered with Mr. Morehouse. No keyed locks are acceptable. All students are also required to have appropriate concert attire (formal black and white).

Assessment and Evaluation: Throughout the year, students will perform as individuals and an ensemble, receiving evaluations and feedback on their playing. Sometimes the assessments will be administered in person by the director, but may also be done by tape/cd/mini-disk recordings, video taped recordings, peer evaluations, or even self-evaluations. In all cases, the criteria for the evaluation will be clear and objective.

The grades will be weighted as follows:

Individual Progress/Part Preparation: 15%
Weekly Participation/Preparation: 10%
Ensemble Performance/Preparation: 10%
Improvisation: 10%
Concert Performance: 10%
Rehearsal Attendance: 10%
Extra-Curricular Concert Attendance: 10%
Theory/Vocabulary: 10%
Exploratory Projects: 10%

If questions or emergencies occur throughout the year, please contact Mr. Morehouse at the office via telephone: 768-6245, ext. 671; via e-mail: Jason_Morehouse@ccpsnet.net; or find answers via the band website: www.tdhsband.com.