

Jazz Band Handbook

Jazz Band Requirements:

Jazz Band is an after school 9th period **CLASS** that meets for a .5 credit. Each band meets once a week for 1.5 hours, teacher led sectionals once a month for 30 minutes, and concerts. Students must audition in order to join Monday Night Jazz Band, Tuesday Night Jazz Band, and Combo. Students and parents must sign the *Jazz Band Registration Form* in order to register the student to be a part of the jazz band ensemble.

Jazz Band Required Uniform:

The jazz band uniform is a long sleeve black button down shirt, black dress pants, long black socks, black shoes, black belt, and a school provided blue tie. All of these items can be found at [Wal-Mart](#), [Kohl's](#), or [JCPenney](#). The blue tie will be handed out before the concert and turned back in afterwards.

Grading Jazz Band:

Jazz band is graded on attendance at rehearsals and performances. It is extremely important to be at every rehearsal.

Weekly Rehearsal:	10 points
Performance:	20 points

Missing Jazz Band:

Like band, concerts and participation make up a large portion of the grade. If a student misses a concert or practice they are missing a large portion of their class. Due to this fact missing jazz band is highly discouraged. If a student must miss, there needs to be a parent signed note 2 weeks in advance. A student has 4 weeks to decide if he/she wants to drop the Jazz Band Course. Students who wish to be removed after the grace period will be withdrawn with a failing grade.

In addition to effecting the student's final grade through attendance points, any **UNEXCUSED** absence from a **Festival or Concert** will also lower the student's grade by **two full letter grades**: A+ minus a performance = C+ Students who miss these required events will be offered opportunities to "make up" points through assignments.

Extenuating circumstances will be addressed at the director's discretion.

Concert Dates:

1. FUHS Jazz Band Festival- Every year we are invited to the Fairfield Union Jazz Festival. Although I am unsure of the date, I believe that we will be attending the festival again. This is a great school organization/event and I am looking forward to showing off our jazz band at this festival.
2. Jazz Band Dance- On **May 2nd** we will be holding a Jazz Dance concert at Pastor Brian's Hebron New Life UM Church. The church is located at 925 West Main St. in Hebron and is the old catering building. This is a new event and we are trying it this year to see how everything goes. We will need parent help running and fundraising for this event.
3. Fine Arts Festival- On **May 18th** the jazz bands will play at Lakewood's Fine Arts Festival.

Fundraising:

This year we will be doing a few different fundraisers in order to help buy things that we desperately need for the jazz program. All parents are going to be required to help to some degree.

1. Hi-Lights Concert Fundraiser: We will be selling baked goods during the intermission at the Hi-Lights concert. Every parent will be required to create/buy something for sale at the concert. We will need 2 parents to work this table between intermission and after the concert each night. Likewise, we will also be selling concert T-Shirts during intermission and after the concert both nights. Jazz band parents will also be in charge of this table and we will need about 3 parents to successfully run this table.
2. Spring Fundraiser: I am unsure of what we might do in the spring.
3. Jazz Band Dance: parents needed to take tickets/money at the door and help behind scenes.

Although this will be more work than usual we will be raising money for jazz band uniform ties, new stand fronts, transportation, and entry fees for different jazz band festivals. We will also save this money for amps, instruments, microphones, and other such equipment. The fundraising that you all do throughout the year is the driving force behind our band program. It is the reason that we can give our students the opportunities and tools they use to become successful musicians and people throughout their lives. Thank you for your continued support of the fine arts.

Audition Process:

There will be auditions for Monday Night Jazz Band, Tuesday Night Jazz Band, and Combo. This is **NOT** a scary process but will help me better place you for success in the upcoming jazz year. The audition process will have a few easy steps to complete which include; scales, playing passages of music from the packet, sight-reading, and jazz improvisation. I encourage every student to come in with your instrument, your audition packet, a positive attitude, and a smile.

Jazz Band Classes:

Monday Night Jazz Band: MNJB is a jazz band that meets Monday nights after school (about 2:30) until 4:00. Each section will be required once a month to stay until 4:30 for their required teacher led sectional time. In MNJB each student is responsible for learning his or her own part. There will be no doubling of parts in this band. This class is focused on stylistic properties of the different jazz periods, advanced improvisation techniques, and finding the sound to emulate in your own playing. While auditioning for this band it is important that each student plays confidently with an appropriate style, sound, and improvisational techniques.

Tuesday Night Jazz Band: TNJB is a jazz band that meets Tuesday nights after school (about 2:30) until 4:00. Each section will be required once a month to stay until 4:30 for their required teacher led sectional time. In TNJB students work together to figure out difficult passages while sharing/playing the same part. Students will be given copies of music to take home and practice individually. This class is focused on creating an appropriate jazz style in the individuals playing, creating a confident sound in improvisation settings, and learning a basic history of jazz. While auditioning for this band it is important that each student plays with an appropriate sound and a willingness to improvise.

Combo: Combo is a small jazz ensemble consisting of 4 to 7 students that meets Mondays from 4:00 until 4:45. This ensemble is made up of students who have a vast knowledge and/or history of improvising/soloing and leadership in the jazz setting. Students in this band will primarily work on their music in the small group without the teacher's supervision. Students will also be encouraged to write/arrange their own music for the jazz ensemble. This ensemble may be asked to make up extra time at the teachers decision. While auditioning for this ensemble it is important that each student plays confidently with an appropriate style, correct pitch/embouchure, and improvises with the forethought of chord changes.

Jazz Band Registration Form

(Return the whole form)

By signing and turning in this form I, _____ agree to all the rules and regulation created in the Jazz Band Handbook, Lancer Band Handbook, and the Lakewood High School Student Handbook. I understand that this is a class, with a grade, that equates to a .5 credit.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Teacher's Signature: _____ Date: _____
(When received)

Fundraising Form

This fundraising form is for the sale of baked goods and concert t-shirts at the Thursday and Friday Hi-Lights Concert. Everyone is expected to do something during this fundraiser but there are a few options to pick from. Please contact me with any questions or concerns at jgrimm@laca.org. This form is to be turned in by Friday, Nov. 1st.

1. You can buy or bake something to donate for sale during the intermission of the Hi-Lights concert. Simply come in, drop off the item at the table, write down your students name, and you are done. Please fill out the form below and return it by Nov. 1st if you are interested in this option.

- OR -

2. You can help sell things at the tables before, during the intermission, and after the Hi-Lights concert. If you pick this option you will not miss any of the concert but will have to move to get out to the tables before everyone else. This volunteer work will be on a first come basis as we only need about 4 or 5 people each night. You do not have to bring any baked goods if you work at the tables. Please contact me no later than Oct. 30th at jgrimm@laca.org for more information if you are interested in this option.

Thank you for all of your volunteerism.

Mr. John Grimm
Lakewood High School
Assistant Band Director
Director of Jazz
Hebron Elementary
General Music K-2

I, _____ plan to bring _____ on
(name) (food)

_____ for sale during the Marching Band Hi-Lights intermission.
(Thursday or Friday)

Volunteer's Signature: _____ Date: _____

RETURN BY NOV. 1ST