



Jazz Band (5th Period) Syllabus

Mr. Sawyer, Paschal High School Jazz Band Director (matthew.sawyer@fwisd.org)

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Course Description

The Jazz Band class is open to all students in the McLean Band program. You must be in your 2nd year of playing, and concurrently enrolled in a performing ensemble (Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, or Concert Band, unless you play a non-traditional band instrument such as piano or guitar. Standing Bass players must be concurrently enrolled in the orchestra program. Jazz Band students will perform at band concerts, in addition to their performing ensemble. This class is a great place for students with little or no prior experience to start expanding your knowledge of jazz music!

Grading

It is important to realize that high expectations go hand-in-hand with a fine performing organization and students who do the necessary work to be a contributing member will receive a high grade. In determining the band grade there are two major areas involved:

1. Participation (50%) – This includes class participation. Class participation is based on having an instrument, equipment, and supplies (such as a pencil) each day in class.
2. Performance (50%) – This includes all performances/rehearsals, in class performances, recorded/live playing tests, and written assignments.

Supplies

Please see our online supply store at

<https://ntunemusic.com/product-category/choose-school/mclean-middle-school> for a detailed supply list for each individual instrument. You may purchase supplies online, and they will be delivered to the school free of charge within 1 week (if in stock). You may also contact our music store, N Tune Music, at (817) 441- 9003. They have all of the McLean supply lists and can guide you to make the best decision on supplies possible.

ALL STUDENTS:

- Band binder/music
- Essential Elements Jazz Book
- Pencil
- Metronome & tuner
- Flip folder

Woodwind students:

- 3-4 working reeds
- Swab
- Microphone pick up for tuner Brass

students:

- Valve oil/rotor oil/slide grease • Polishing cloth
- Microphone pick up for tuner

Percussion:

• Mallets (see online) • Sticks (see online) • • Drum pad + stand

Mallet bag

Performances

All jazz band students must attend the entire concert. Learning to be a good audience member and supporting the other performers is an important part of the curriculum. Concerts are the equivalent of an exam and students will have their grade lowered if they do not attend the entire concert. Absences from performances are excused only in the event of sickness or family emergency and must be approved *in advance* (when possible) by the director.

Pass Offs

All Jazz Band students will be expected to pass off their assigned music. Failure to do so may result in the student being withheld from performing with the band in any competition. Pass offs are completed on Music First, which may be downloaded as an app OR accessed on Chromebook (www.fwisdmusic.musicfirstclassroom.com). User ID:

Student ID number

Password: band

Private Lessons

The single most important factor in the development of a quality band program is the development of the individual player. There are many opportunities in the metroplex area for student musicians to study privately with professionals. There will also be private teaching specialists, on as many instruments as possible, teaching at McLean School. Private lesson instructors will teach as many students as possible. Lessons are 25 minutes once a week and cost the student \$17.00 per lesson. All students are encouraged to take private lessons and can find information on our website: www.mcleanmsband.com/private-lessons-instructors. **WE OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS!!!** Please contact Mrs. Reinhart if you would like to apply for a scholarship.

Tutoring Hours

Directors are available by appointment for tutorials.

Communication

Email: If you do not currently receive our emails, please contact Mrs. Martien be added to our Charms email list

Website: www.mcleanmsband.com

Facebook: McLean Bands

Instagram/Twitter: @mcleanbands

Band App:

