

St. Louis Suburban MMEA District 5

2023-24 Middle School Honor Band Audition Information

September 1, 2023

TO: St. Louis Suburban Middle School Band Directors and Students
FROM: Jared Brockmeyer – St. Louis Suburban MMEA District 5 MS Band Vice President
RE: 2023-2024 All-Suburban Middle School Band Auditions
WHEN: Monday, October 23, 2023 - 4:30-9:00 PM
WHERE: Clayton High School, 1 Mark Twain Circle, Clayton, MO 63105
CLINICIAN: Chip DeStefano

The St. Louis Suburban MMEA District 5 Middle School Band is an honor band consisting of students in grades 7 and 8 from throughout the St. Louis area. Students selected to this group have the distinction of representing their schools at the All-Suburban Honors Band Concert held in January 2024. All-Suburban Band members also have the opportunity to work with and learn from outstanding guest conductors as well as with other talented student musicians from the St. Louis area. Please note that both the All-Suburban Middle School Honor Band and the Honor Jazz Band auditions will be held on the same evening at the same time and location.

Registration for All-Suburban Middle School Honor Band is online.

Go to the St. Louis Suburban MMEA District 5 website: www.stlsuburbanmmeadistrict5.com

**Locate the “Band Honor Groups” page and click on the
“Online Registration Link”**

All-Suburban Middle School Bands Schedule

Monday, September 25:	Registration Opens - MS Concert Band & MS Jazz Band
Friday, October 6:	Registration Deadline – MS Band & MS Jazz
Monday, October 23:	MS Honor Concert and Jazz Band Auditions – Clayton High School, 4:30-9:00 PM
Monday, November 13:	MS Honor Concert and Jazz Band Rehearsal – Rockwood South MS, 7-9:00PM
Monday, November 20:	MS Honor Concert and Jazz Band Rehearsal – Rockwood South MS, 7-9:00PM
Monday, November 27:	MS Honor Concert and Jazz Band Rehearsal – Rockwood South MS, 7-9:00PM
Friday, January 5:	MS Honor Concert and Jazz Band Rehearsal – Rockwood South MS, 7-9:00PM
Saturday, January 6:	MS Honor Concert Band Rehearsal – Kirkwood High School, 8:00AM – 1:00PM
Sunday, January 7:	MS Honor Concert Band Concert – Kirkwood High School, 3:30 PM

*****In order to participate, students accepted to the ensemble must attend all rehearsals and the performance.*****

APPLICATION/REGISTRATION

- Registration for auditions will be done by directors and/or their students by going to the St. Louis Suburban MMEA District 5 website. Click on the appropriate honor group page (band, orchestra, or choir) and click on the "On-Line Registration Link" for the group you wish to register for. Students auditioning for more than one instrument only need to register ONCE. Just make sure you answer all the questions on the page. If a student is auditioning for BOTH concert and jazz band, you only need to register that student ONCE. Just make sure you answer ALL the questions on the registration page. Once you have completed the registration page for that student, click SUBMIT. You WILL NOT receive a confirmation.
- Once registration closes for each group, directors will have a chance to verify their school's entries through the verification process. There will be a \$25.00 fee assessed to any late entry or any correction needed after the verification deadline. This fee will be assessed to each correction. It is a huge undertaking to make adjustments to this process after the deadline. All correction fees will be added to your final registration invoice.

- Audition times and room assignments will be EMAILED to directors the week of October 16. **Directors are strongly encouraged to handle the entire registration process for all of their students.**
- **REGISTRATION WILL BEGIN Monday, September 25 at 6:00 a.m. REGISTRATION will conclude Friday, October 6 at MIDNIGHT.**
- On October 23, a director or school representative will need to check-in and certify that the registered students are members of their junior high/middle school band program and meet all requirements of St. Louis Suburban MMEA District 5.
- Auditions are blind; the judges will not see the students auditioning.
- The audition fee is \$15.00 per audition and you must pay for all auditions that have registered. If you register 10 students who will be taking a total of 15 different auditions, you owe \$225.00 even if only 9 actual auditions take place on October 23. This is consistent with the state audition process. Once students are registered, directors will receive an invoice from St. Louis Suburban MMEA District 5 with payment instructions. Upon receiving that invoice, directors will have 30 days to submit their payment for the audition fees.
- When students arrive at Clayton High School, they will go to the registration desk in the lobby to pick up their registration form that will be waiting for them. Students must have this form to audition.
- Students will not be permitted to audition without an application on file.

AUDITION INSTRUCTIONS

- Students will not be given an audition number. The audition judge will only recognize you by your audition time and instrument. You will be met at your audition room by a room monitor who will double check with you as to your audition time and confirm your name. This information will not be made available to the judge.
- Audition times and room assignments will be EMAILED to band directors by the end of the week of October 16.
- Report to your audition room 10 minutes prior to your audition. The room monitor will call you by your audition time when it is your time to audition.
- Avoid talking to the judge. If you have any questions, ask the room monitor.
- Failure to report to your audition at your assigned time may result in you not being able to audition.

AUDITION PROCEDURES

- Plan to arrive at Clayton High School 30 minutes before your assigned audition time.
- **PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE AT CLAYTON HIGH SCHOOL BEFORE 4:00 pm unless you have a 4:30 audition time. 4:30 auditionees may show up at 4:00 pm.**
- **Students/directors must register on-line by Friday, October 6 at midnight.**
- **Scales (for Concert Band auditions) are listed in CONCERT PITCH and do not need to be memorized.** Concert C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, and Chromatic – 2 octaves if possible (no scales required for percussion). Please see scale sheets for suggested scale ranges.
- **Percussion auditions: All students must bring their own snare drum.** Timpani will be provided and they will already be tuned. A set of bells, a xylophone, and a marimba will be available to accommodate

the instrument that the students most practice on their own. Vibes will not be available because they will be used for Jazz auditions at the same time.

- **CONCERT BAND AUDITION ETUDES HAVE BEEN ALTERED - PARTICULARLY ETUDE #2!!!!** This year we will use **SET #2 - REVISED**.
- **Sight-reading (4-8 measures) for all wind instruments. Percussion sight-reads on snare drum.**
- There will be a directors' hospitality room where you will find food and drinks in the choir room.
- Students will pick up their registration forms in the lobby entrance. The forms will also be emailed to Band Directors prior to the event.
- Remember, students that do not register on-line by October 6 will **NOT** be allowed to audition.
- **REMINDER** –In order to keep auditions flowing smoothly and quickly, students may only be asked to play sections of the etudes. Students should, however, prepare all etudes in their entirety. Sight reading examples will be at about the same difficulty level as the prepared etudes.

AUDITION RESULTS

Audition results will be emailed to directors within 24-48 hours after auditions conclude. If students are auditioning for multiple ensembles and are selected for both the concert and jazz bands, they will be asked to choose one. This also applies to students auditioning across band, choir, and orchestra. Students may only be in one Honors ensemble. Ask your students to be available at home after auditions so that they may choose which group they most prefer.

ATTENTION DIRECTORS

While the St. Louis Suburban MMEA District 5 Middle School Band is not covered under the MSHSAA rules requiring directors to be present at rehearsals, you are welcome and encouraged to attend and assist with rehearsal supervision. Directors may be needed to run sectional rehearsals on some rehearsal nights. Please consider volunteering to help with these rehearsals so that we can have smaller, more productive sectional groups. Please contact the St. Louis Suburban MMEA District 5 Middle School Band Vice President to volunteer for a sectional rehearsal or if you have any questions.