

Seaquam Music Department
Course Outline and Music Teacher's Expectations
Jazz Band

"For the strength of the pack is the wolf and the strength of the wolf is the pack"
Kipling

The coursework in Jazz Band is designed to develop each student's individual musical skills, learn the responsibilities of being a member of a musical ensemble, provide opportunities for musical leadership, and continue to foster a life-long love of music.

The Jazz Band course focuses on transferring the basic musical skills developed in Concert Band and Wind Ensemble to the jazz idiom. Students will learn to play in the different styles of Jazz (swing, latin, ballad, funk) and have to opportunity to play solos and venture into the world of improvisation.

Much of the course outline and teacher's expectations are the same for Jazz Band as they are for Concert Band and Wind Ensemble. The policies outlined for performance tests, written assignments, preparation, attendance at concerts, and uniforms are exactly the same for Jazz Band as they are for Concert Band and Wind Ensemble. In order to save paper and not repeat myself, this course outline will touch on those things that are different about Jazz Band.

In Jazz Band, students will be assessed and evaluated on three components of musicianship: Performance (50%), Written (10%), and Personal Responsibility (40%).

Jazz Band Class Schedule

Jazz Band classes take place in the mornings, outside the school's regular timetable. **Jazz Band is at 7:30 a.m. to 8:25 on Day 1.** I recommend that students mark the days they have jazz band on the calendar at home to be sure when classes are. "I didn't know what day it was!" as the reason a student missed class will not be greeted with warm fuzzies.

When a PLC day falls on Day 1 Jazz Band class will be re-scheduled to Tuesday morning, the day before the PLC day. There will be 8 rescheduled Jazz Band classes this year on the following dates.

Tuesday September 27
Tuesday October 25
Tuesday November 8
Tuesday December 6
Tuesday February 28
Tuesday March 13
Tuesday May 1
Tuesday May 15

There will be NO excuses accepted for missing re-scheduled classes. Should a student be absent from Jazz Band and not be absent from school that day (so you had better let me know) they will forfeit their late start the next day and report to Ms. Sparrow-Ng at 8:25 to perform service to the Music Department. Students who do not full fill the commitment of this consequence will be referred directly to Ms. Kyle.

Punctuality and Attendance

The expectations about Punctuality and Attendance are exactly the same for Jazz Band as they are for all other music courses. However, because of when the class is scheduled Punctuality and Attendance can be an issue for some students, specific things students and parents need to be aware of and follow through on.

Class starts at 7:30 am. Students are to be set up, in place and warming up before class starts, not running in the door at 7:30 am. Over the years students have demonstrated a much greater ability to get to Jazz Band on time when the doors are locked at 7:30 am, so this will remain our habit. I am aware however, that rarely "life happens." If circumstances beyond your control cause you to be late, you must call Ms. Sparrow-Ng 604.591.6166 local 6179) and the back door will be left open for you. I check to see if there are any messages just before I lock the door. Students must note two things: 1) the door will only be open if you call ME on the Music Room phone - not email or texting your buds AND 2) this is for **emergencies** only (once maybe twice a YEAR).

Because the main office is not open at the time Jazz Band starts, if a student must to be absent the student's parent/guardian **MUST** call and leave a message on my voicemail (604.591.6166 local 6179) if they are to earn full personal responsibility marks. You must do this yourself. Do not call a friend and ask him/her to pass on a message, as it often does not get done or the message is incorrect.

Jazz Band **not** an extra-curricular rehearsal, but a class same as classes scheduled during Blocks A through H, and is not expendable. When something arises ask yourself the question, "Would I miss my Block C Math class to do this?" If the answer is no, you don't miss Jazz Band do to it ether. Students are to arrange to make-up tests, work on group projects, and serve detentions etc at other times. All Seaquam teachers are made aware of when Jazz Band is scheduled and a list of list of students who are in Jazz Band is posted on SE staff.

Group Performance Test/Concert Schedule

Students must attend all concerts and festivals. Students are required to stay for the entire concert not just their ensemble's performance. Learning to be a respectful audience member and supporting all Seaquam's Music students is important. A list of confirmed concert dates for 2009/2010 follows. The dates of other performances will be posted on the website as soon as they are confirmed.

Wednesday October 5	Squeak & Squawk/ Chantalez Nouveau	7:00 p.m	Music Room
Tuesday November 29	Premiere Concert	7:00 p.m.	Seaquam PAC
Friday January 20	Seaquam Celebration	7:00 p.m.	Seaquam Cafeteria
Wendesday February 8	Delta Night of Music	7:00 p.m.	SDSS
Feburary 22 - 24	Kiwanis Jazz Festival		Capilano University
Thursday March 1	Spring Concert	7:00 p.m.	Seaquam PAC
Thursday June 7	Final Concert	7:00 p.m.	Seaquam PAC

What can students expect?

What students can expect from me is a mirror of my expectations for them. Student musicians can expect that the teacher musician will:

- be in class or rehearsal on time and prepared
- be concerned with the musical achievements of the ensemble and each individual within it
- give help outside of class time —please arrange a time in advance so I will be sure to be there!
- be concerned for the holistic welfare of each student
- share my love of music and learning

We have read and understand the music teacher's expectations.

Student signature

Parent/Guardian signature

Date