

## 2011-2012 WSHSB Placement Auditions CONCERT SENIOR BAND

If you wish to join Concert Senior for the first time as a new member you need to contact the director for particulars.

If you are currently in Concert Junior Band and want to audition for Concert Senior Band you must prepare an audition for both Concert Junior Band **AND** Concert Senior Band. Each audition must be on a separate video.

If you are currently in Concert Senior Band and want to stay there, you need audition for Concert Senior Band only.

**NEW MEMBERS' NOTE:** You are also invited and encouraged to come along with your parent(s) to the Parents' & New Members' meeting in September. See the **CALENDAR** webpage for the exact date and time for this meeting as well as for the first band practice.

**AUDITIONING FOR A PARTICULAR BAND DOES NOT GUARANTEE ACCEPTANCE IN THAT BAND.** You will be placed in a band level based on your proficiency and the needs within each section and band. **Membership in the WSHSB is by audition only, Cadets (beginners) excluded. Those who do not submit an audition video will not receive music and will not be considered a member of the band.**

### What We're Looking For

Multiple things determine a student's placement

- 1) Proficiency of player
- 3) Musical needs/balance of the band
- 3) For current members, the following six points are considered when determining chair assignments:
  - Regular attendance
  - Practice times
  - Spirit of service to band
  - Attitude/demeanor
  - Performance at rehearsals and sectionals
  - Overall leadership abilities

We realize it is very difficult to play everything perfectly. Part of being a good performer or "showman" is to keep going, despite mistakes. A solid performance, incorporating the following aspects is more important than playing all the correct notes with incorrect rhythms, tempos, articulation, etc.

Musical aspects that will be considered when evaluating a performance are

- Note accuracy
- Correct rhythms **and** tempos
- **Note** - Avoid the tendency to slow down or stop when a difficult passage is encountered. Stay with the beat. Do not let the metronome simply be "white noise" in the background while you play at a different or uneven tempo. Weakness in playing at the correct rhythm and/or tempo is often what prevents one from getting a higher placement.
- Continue to play at tempo through mistakes
- Articulation, which includes things like tonguing, accents, staccatos, correct phrasing and slurs
- Dynamics (applies to both winds and percussion)
- Tone
- Intonation (playing in tune)

## CONCERT SENIOR AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

For recording

- At the beginning of the recording clearly state your first and last name and announce for which band and instrument you are auditioning.
- If you are not interested in being 1<sup>st</sup> chair, assuming a leadership position and playing solos, please say so at the beginning of your recording. There is much expected of a principle player.
- Announce each selection before playing e.g.; Bb chromatic scale, passage name, etc.
- **Everything must be played with a metronome at the designated tempo where specified.**
- VERY IMPORTANT – You may choose to record parts of your audition on different days or at different times. However, there is to be no break or editing within any passage/exercise/scale. If you make a mistake or stop within a passage, etc., leave the video running and pick-up where you left off. Points will be deducted for breaks in the recording, other than at measured rests. One or two measures of rest should be counted out on the video. Where there are three or more measures of rest, leave the video running, pause playing and announce, “I am continuing at measure \_\_\_\_.” Resume playing at that measure. **While making your audition video if you record any passage/exercise/scale more than once you must edit that video to a final video with only one take of each audition requirement.**
- AUDITION VIDEOS MUST BE AT THE DIRECTOR’S HOME BY 9PM, AUGUST 11, 2011.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR WINDS** (percussion requirements follow winds’)

- 1) Two octave chromatic scale, tongued up slurred down  
Will be rated on overall accuracy and tempo (tempo of your own choice)
- 2) First two lines (six measures) of “Part 2 No. 1” scale exercise on page 8, from the book **Unisonal Scales, Chords & Rhythmic Studies for Bands**  
Compiled and edited by William C White, published by Carl Fischer  
(If you have any difficulty locating these books, we know they can be ordered through JW Pepper, in Carol Stream, phone 630-462-0787. Allow 2 to 4 weeks for delivery. For additional resources see the “Music and Instrument Stores” document on **Forms/Documents**.)
- 3) From **Essential Elements 2000 Book 2 “RED” Page 42**  
PLAY (do not clap) the complete rhythm lines for measures listed below.  
Metronome set to one quarter note = 100  
Measures: 17-36  
Play as if one continuous song. Rest four beats between each line
- 4) **Audition sheet music for all Concert Senior and Symphonic:** To be picked up at the director’s home in Winfield starting **July 13, 9 AM.**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR PERCUSSION**

**IMPORTANT REMINDER** - When making percussion roster assignments for current members, one’s ability to play proper dynamics in all ranges, will be considered

**BELLS**

- 1) Two octave chromatic scale  
Will be rated on overall accuracy and tempo (tempo of your own choice)
- 2) First two lines (six measures) of “Part 2 No. 1” scale exercise on page 8, from the book **Unisonal Scales, Chords & Rhythmic Studies for Bands**  
Compiled and edited by William C White, published by Carl Fischer

*(If you have any difficulty locating these books, we know they can be ordered through JW Pepper, in Carol Stream, phone 630-462-0787. Allow 2 to 4 weeks for delivery. For additional resources see the "Music and Instrument Stores" document on **Forms/Documents**.)*

**3) Audition sheet music for bells, for all Concert Senior and Symphonic:** To be picked up at the director's home in Winfield starting **July 13, 2011, 9 AM**.

## **DRUM PAD**

From **Essential Elements 2000 Book 2 "RED"**- *(instrument specific)*

**1. Rhythms, page 42**, measures 17-36, one quarter note = 120

Play as if one continuous song. Rest four beats between each line.

**2. Audition sheet music for drums (sheet music for snares or other drums TO BE PLAYED ON PADS) for all Concert Senior and Symphonic:** To be picked up at the director's home in Winfield starting **July 13, 2011, 9 AM**.