

Highland 2023/2024 Jazz Band Auditions

Baritone Saxophone

General Information

There are two jazz bands at Highland Middle School. These ensembles, Jazz 1 and Jazz 2, use “traditional” jazz band instruments (saxophones, trumpets, trombones, guitar, piano, bass, and drums). An audition is required in order to be considered for Jazz 1 and Jazz 2, but does not guarantee placement. Exact dates for the auditions and extra-help sessions will be posted outside the band room at the beginning of the year. They will also be available on the jazz audition website (<https://bit.ly/HMSjazz>).

Every seat in each jazz band is open at the start of the school year. Placement in either jazz band as a 6th or 7th grader does not guarantee placement in that same band or a higher band the following year.

Directions for the Music

Attached to this note is the audition material for next year’s jazz auditions. Included are portions of songs that Jazz 1 will be performing. Do not worry if some of it seems difficult. The audition material must challenge students from grades 6 through 8. The first selection is a swing tune called, “Four.” Play this selection in a swing style (uneven eighth notes and hard accents). The second selection is a Latin tune called, “La Noche del Burrito Picante.” Play this selection with straight eighth notes and hard accents. Metronome markings are indicated for each selection. If these are too fast for you it is O.K. to audition at a slower tempo, but students performing well at the correct speed will score higher than students playing well at a slower speed.

Listening to the Music

Recordings of this music are available online - See the jazz audition website (<https://bit.ly/HMSjazz>) for the link.

Highland Jazz Auditions September 2023

Baritone Saxophone

There are two songs for this jazz audition.

#1 "Four"

Special Note:

You only need to play the first 15 measures of this song in order to audition. Those students who play the entire song well will score higher than those students who only play the first 15 measures.

Swing ♩ = 144

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a swing feel. It consists of seven staves of music. The first staff begins with a *mf* dynamic. The second staff starts at measure 6. The third staff starts at measure 11 and includes a *f* dynamic marking. A dashed line separates the third staff from the fourth, which starts at measure 16 and also features a *f* dynamic. The fifth staff starts at measure 21, the sixth at measure 26, and the seventh at measure 31. The score concludes with a double bar line at the end of the seventh staff.

Highland Jazz Auditions September 2023

Baritone Saxophone

There are two songs for this jazz audition.

#2 "La Noche del Burrito Picante"

Note: You only need to play the first 2 lines of this song in order to audition. Those students who play the entire song well will score higher than those who only play the first 2 lines. Students should audition at a tempo where they can perform well. Higher scores will be given to those students who play up to tempo well.

HARD DRIVING LATIN FEEL ♩=152-160

The musical score is written for Baritone Saxophone in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The first two staves are the required audition piece. A dashed line separates the first two staves from the remaining four. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests. The tempo is marked as 'HARD DRIVING LATIN FEEL' with a quarter note equal to 152-160 beats per minute. The score is numbered 5, 9, 13, 17, and 21 at the beginning of each staff.