

High School Band at West Linn

High school band may easily be the highlight of your time at West Linn. Mr. Egan is awesome, supportive, and one of the most highly regarded teachers at the school. He will support you as you strive for your musical goals, whether that means playing just for fun while in high school or preparing for college music auditions. You will make life-long friends, have great musical and social experiences, and be part of an incredible legacy of musical excellence.

Frequently Asked Questions:

What are the bands offered at the high school?

1. **Concert Band I:** Freshman only, non-auditioned. Just sign up on your forecasting form!
2. **Concert Band II:** All grades, auditioned, rarely includes freshman
3. **Symphonic Band:** All grades, auditioned, rarely includes freshman
4. **Jazz Ensemble:** Before school, auditioned, rarely has freshman. Taught by Mr. Egan
5. **Jazz Band II:** Before school, auditioned. Taught by Ms. Muggli
6. **Jazz Band III:** Before school, auditioned. Taught by Mr. Koehler

What are the time commitments for freshmen?

1. Three fall football games (more than this are extra credit).
 - a. Football games with the band ARE FUN! There is really awesome food involved after each game as well.
2. Four basketball game nights in the winter
3. Four concerts (October, December, March, May)
4. One festival in April
5. Optional Solo & Ensemble (highly recommended).
6. If you are in Concert Band II or Symphonic Band, there are other opportunities to perform (pit orchestra, full symphony, etc).

Am I a good enough player to be in high school band?

Yes! Mr. Egan accepts and helps musicians of all levels. There's no minimum playing level to be in Concert Band I. He's just happy you're there. It's amazing how much he will help you improve!

I play a school-owned instrument. Does West Linn have ones that I can use?

Yes. These are distributed in the fall.

I'm a super over-achiever and want to take an AP class as a freshman. Can I do that and still be in band?

Yes. But... you should investigate taking Wellness over the summer and putting off your language requirements until Junior and Senior year. Talk to Mr. Egan – he knows how to work with the counselors to make this possible. Sign up RIGHT AWAY. Summer Wellness fills up fast.

I am an athlete and want to play sports in high school. Can you do both Band and Sports at West Linn HS?

Yes. Mr. Egan is a BIG supporter of other high school activities. He encourages Band kids to play all sports (including football), try out for plays, and participate in other activities and clubs. There are a lot of athletes and mock trial members and actors *and... and... and....* in the band.

Are there grades in high school band?

Yes. There are performance tests and finals. However, there are no minimum practice requirements. Mr. Egan feels that you should practice so you are prepared to play your best in class and at performances. If you work hard to improve, you'll be fine (just like in life ☺)

I want to audition for Concert Band II. What do I need to do?

1. Talk to Ms. Arthur. She will speak with Mr. Egan after May 13. There will be an audition during June. **Ms. Arthur will probably encourage you to go to Concert Band I, no matter your playing level.**
 - a. The audition is the entire high school All-State Audition pieces at the recommended tempo.
2. Investigate taking private lessons – many Concert Band II members study privately.

I want to audition for Symphonic Band. What do I need to do?

1. Talk to Ms. Arthur. She will speak with Mr. Egan after May 14. There will be an audition during June. **Ms. Arthur will probably encourage you to go to Concert Band I, no matter your playing level.**
 - a. The audition is the entire high school All-State Audition pieces at the recommended tempo.
2. Investigate taking private lessons – most Symphonic Band members study privately.

I want to audition for Jazz Band II or III. What do I need to do?

1. The audition material will not be available until Tuesday, May 21st
2. Choose one of the three head charts to play. You'll play the melody and one chorus of improvised solo
3. Schedule an audition with Mr. Egan, Ms. Muggli and Mr. Koehler. There will be electronic sign-ups. Auditions are the last week of school.
4. Investigate taking private lessons – most Jazz Band members study privately.
5. **Ms. Arthur is NOT responsible for arranging your audition time with Mr. Egan. Make a good first impression, reach out early, and follow through with your commitments.**

I'm SO EXCITED FOR HIGH SCHOOL BAND!

You should be. It's awesome.

Questions?

Ask Ms. Arthur first (arthurl@wlwv.k12.or.us)...

...then ask Mr. Egan (egank@wlwv.k12.or.us), but not until May 14th. Seriously.