

Information for the Central Hardin Band Classes



Courses are available for all brass, woodwind, and percussion students attending
Central Hardin High School

CENTRAL HARDIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND

Yes – you can take band in high school

- Lots of students regularly take band class and career/pathway classes
- Lots of students take classes at EC3 and band classes

Band is a fun, challenging, friendship-building, and excellent life-long pursuit for anyone.

- Band is a great way to build relationships in high school that will last a lifetime
- Band is a great way to participate in something beyond “the regular classroom experience”
- Central Hardin is a BIG school with lots of students – band offers a place to belong!
- Band Students can also participate in sports (basketball, volleyball, football) or ROTC

The Central Hardin Bands have a long history of success

- Band Classes have received Distinguished Ratings for the past 15 Years!
- CHHS Students regularly score in the top of the District and State for All-District and All-State Bands, Solo and Ensembles, and other Honor Bands
- The CHHS Marching Band is recognized on the state and national level for achieving a high level of excellence in performance and is a multiple Grand National Semi-finalist!
- The CHHS Band has ~160 active student musicians
- All Band Ensembles are Voluntary based – no requirements to participate in particular ensembles

Scheduling Tips from the Director:

- In order to fit band into your schedule, sometimes you have to do things “differently” than non-band students. For example, I recommend NOT taking a foreign language your freshman year. By waiting a year to start foreign language, you can open up your schedule for band electives.
- Band students receive the “A&H” Credit by taking band, this frees up two electives in the sophomore year because band students don’t have to take the 2 Arts Appreciation Courses

Scheduling can be very confusing to plan out the schedule. Please let me know if you have questions. Don’t just accept that you “can’t take band” – contact a school counselor or principal and ask how you can work out the schedule to include band – they are very willing to help.

Please feel free to contact me at:

Email: david.centers@hardin.kyschools.us

Phone: 502-822-6362

This is my “band phone number” and accepts voicemail and texts and is generally on during the week from 8AM-6PM

Concert Band:

This class is for all incoming Freshman band students who play a woodwind or brass instrument. *Note: Percussion students should sign up for the Percussion Ensemble Class.* This class is the perfect place to start for all incoming freshman and first year high school band musicians. We meet each day during school as a regular class – just like you did in middle school.

The goal of this class is to create the perfect transition from the middle school band experience to the expectations of being a more mature high school musician. We review many of the things students learned in middle school and take it to the next level.

Performances:

There are usually 4 performances for this class each year. These performances are usually given as follows:

- 1 in early December (there are usually 2 after school rehearsals to prepare for this one)
- 2 in March (there are usually 3 after school rehearsals to prepare for this these)
- 1 in May (there are usually 2 after school rehearsals to prepare for this one).

The March concerts are part of the annual band assessment known as Large Ensemble Performance Assessment by the Kentucky Music Educators Association.

Grades:

Grades are based on homework, playing tests, concert assignments, and LEVELS.

For the homework, students submit a 30 second recording once per week of something they are practicing for class. This is submitted through their CHARMS account (the online CHARMS account is provided by the band boosters for every student) which can be accessed by a computer, phone, iPad or other similar devices.

LEVELS are the “standards based grading system” created specifically for Central Hardin Band Students. This is a list of musical skills divided up into levels. As the student performs a skill, they increase their “level” – each level receives a higher grade. The complete LEVEL program can be found on the band website. Students in this course should reach Level 4 by the end of the year.

Scheduling:

Concert Band meets for 3 semesters (a.k.a. “trimesters” as they are called at CHHS). When registering for the class students should register for Concert Band A, B, and C

Symphonic Band:

This class is for all Sophomore through Senior band students who play a woodwind or brass instrument. *Note: Percussion students should sign up for the Percussion Ensemble Class.* This class is the “next level” band for all students at Central Hardin that have completed the Concert Band course. We review many concepts taught in the Concert Band Course and introduce new performance requirements for advancing high school musicians.

The goal of this class is to provide a more advanced band experience and continue to build higher level music skills. This course reviews many concepts taught in Concert Band, but at an accelerated pace

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Scheduling:

Symphonic Band meets for 3 semesters (a.k.a. “trimesters” as they are called at CHHS). When registering for the class students should register for Symphonic Band A, B, and C

Wind Ensemble:

This class is for select Freshman through Senior band students who play a woodwind or brass instrument. *Note: Percussion students should sign up for the Percussion Ensemble Class.* This class is the highest level band for select students at Central Hardin. Students are chosen in February of the previous year only by audition and recommendation of the band director.

The goal of this class is to provide a challenging and exceptional band experience for the highest-level student musicians at CHHS and continue to build superior level musicianship. This ensemble regularly performs collegiate level music and requires a higher level of commitment from the students wishing to take on this wonderful and rewarding challenge.

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Scheduling:

Wind Ensemble meets for 3 semesters (a.k.a. “trimesters” as they are called at CHHS). When registering for the class students should register for Wind Ensemble A, B, and C. Due to the high level of difficulty of the music, Wind Ensemble students must sign up for all three semesters or they are not permitted to be in the class

Percussion Ensemble

This class is for all Freshman through Senior band students who play a percussion instrument. This class is the perfect class for all percussion students at Central Hardin. We review many concepts taught in middle school as well as introduce new performance requirements for advancing high school musicians.

The goal of this class is to provide an advancing band experience and continue to build higher level music skills in both an ensemble and individual (i.e. solo) setting. Students are expected to practice and learn a variety of percussion instruments and skills and are given the opportunity to focus on the instruments they enjoy the most.

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Scheduling:

Percussion Ensemble meets for 3 semesters (a.k.a. “trimesters” as they are called at CHHS). When registering for the class students should register for Percussion Ensemble A, B, and C

Other Performance Opportunities:

The following opportunities are not required for students enrolling in a band course at Central Hardin, but are offered as extra performance ensembles for students wishing to enrich their time as a high school musician at Central Hardin. These opportunities are usually the students favorite activities. Some of these require that a student be in enrolled in a band course.

Jazz Band:

Typical time-line: January through early May

Students are selected for jazz band through an audition. We typically give 1 or 2 performances each year. Rehearsals are typically once per week.

Chamber Ensembles:

Typical time-line: January through early May. These are small ensembles available for every instrument (for example: flute ensemble) that are taught by specialized teachers that the band boosters hire to teach/coach the ensemble. Ensembles meet once per week starting in January and perform at the Solo and Ensemble Event in February and the Prism Concert at the PAC. There is a \$25 fee to help cover cost of teachers, music, and entry fees.

Solo and Ensemble:

This event is held once per year for students enrolled in band classes. Students can choose to perform a solo, duet, trio, etc. for judges at the Solo and Ensemble event in February. There is a small fee to cover cost of registration and judges' fees.

Recital Night:

This event is held once per year. Students must apply for this event, perform an approved solo, receive a Distinguished Rating from a Solo and Ensemble Judge, and receive a recommendation. This is the highest level solo event for CHHS Band students.

Pep Band

Typical Timeline: December through early March

This ensemble performs "pep tunes" for home games and tournament basketball games for the boys' and girls' games. It is open to any student enrolled in a band class and tends to be the most "fun" ensemble to perform in.

Marching Band:

Typical Timeline: July through Early November with a 1 week camp in June.

This is the most dynamic and exciting ensemble offered at Central Hardin High School. This high-level ensemble competes in September through November at state and national competitions. Please refer to the separate packet for Marching Band at Central Hardin for more information. This is not a required ensemble at Central Hardin, but is only for students who select to be a part of this award-winning and impressive group.

CENTRAL HARDIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND

“Music is about communication, creativity and cooperation. By studying music in school, students have the opportunity to build on these skills, enrich their lives and experience the world from a new perspective.... I don't think I would have become President if it were not for my school music program.”

President Bill Clinton

“Education in music is most sovereign because more than anything else rhythm and harmony find their way to the innermost soul and take strongest hold upon it”

Plato

“Music education opens doors that help children pass from school into the world around them a world of work, culture, intellectual activity, and human involvement. The future of our nation depends on providing our children with a complete education that includes music.”

Gerald Ford