



Liberty Middle School

281 Dock Murphy Drive, Madison, Alabama 35758

Jazz Band

Mr. Curtis and Mrs. Sims

Teacher Contact Information	Email: wecurtis@madisoncity.k12.al.us ksims@madisoncity.k12.al.us Classroom Phone: 256-430-0001 ext. 83501 (Curtis), or ext. 83500 (Sims)
Classroom Digital Platforms	Band Webpage Link: https://www.madisoncity.k12.al.us/domain/562 Schoology Link: https://madisoncity.schoology.com/home
Textbook Information and Other Instructional Materials	Standard of Excellence, Jazz Ensemble Method (provided) <i>Parents and guardians can access other supplementary materials through the Schoology platform.</i>
Course Description	This course is designed as a complementary ensemble to the Concert or Symphonic Bands. Students must have at least one year of playing experience and must provide their own instrument. The Jazz Band may perform at Concerts, Competitions, or Festivals as determined by the director.
Course Objectives	Students in Jazz Band will explore jazz elements in literature while learning advanced playing techniques and fundamentals. Students will also exhibit appropriate etiquette during rehearsals and performances. Students will learn techniques for improvisation.
Course Outline	Overarching Objective: Jazz Fundamentals and Improvisational Skills Unit 1: Dessert Concert Preparation (Assessment- Dessert Concert) Unit 2: Solo and Ensemble Preparation (Assessment- Solo and Ensemble Performance) Unit 3: Jazz Exploration (Assessment- Weekly Sightreading)
Classroom Expectations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be seated and ready for class when the bell rings. Receiving multiple tardies to class will result in disciplinary action following LMS policy. 2. Students must have all required equipment for every rehearsal: instrument, book, music, pencil, instrument accessories (ie. reeds, mouthpiece, neck strap, sticks/mallets, etc). 3. Respect your directors, your classmates, and yourself. 4. Listen and follow directions. 5. Do not touch other student's instruments or equipment. Do not play other student's instruments. Do not trade instruments. 6. Follow all school rules. 7. No cell phones allowed during instructional time. 8. There is no eating or drinking (except water) in the band room. Gum is never allowed during class time. 9. Only band students are allowed to enter the band room. 10. The teacher dismisses the class, not the bell. <p>All students must follow the Madison City Schools Code of Conduct.</p>

<p>Technology & Cell Phone Procedures</p>	<p>Students should bring their MCS chromebooks and chargers to class each day. Teachers monitor student activity and participation; however, students are responsible for their activity on school-issued devices and using their MCS accounts.</p> <p>Cell phones and earbuds/headphones will not be allowed to be used during classroom instruction time. Phones and earbuds/headphones will be put away in a location designated by the teacher and placed in silent mode. Students will have access to their phones and earbuds/headphones outside of classroom instruction time, such as between classes and during lunch, but devices should be put away when students are in the serving line. Failure to follow these procedures will result in a disciplinary referral to the office.</p>
<p>Progressive Discipline</p>	<p>Liberty Middle School Classroom Management Plan:</p> <p>Step 1: Verbal warning Step 2: Student/teacher conference with parent notification Step 3: Parent contact/conference Step 4: Detention Step 5: Referral to administration for repeat Class I violations and initial Class II and Class III offenses (Madison City Schools Code of Conduct)</p>
<p>Grading Policy (MCS Policy)</p>	<p>60% = Assessments (Playing Tests, Required Performances) 40% = Daily Grades (Music Checks, Quizzes, Homework)</p>
<p>Late Work Policy</p>	<p>A student may make up missed assignments; however, they will lose points for work turned in late:</p> <p>Work that is <u>less</u> than 1 week past due (minus 10 points) Work that is <u>more</u> than 1 week past due (minus 20 points) Work may NOT be submitted after the grading period ends</p>
<p>Make-up Work/Test Policy</p>	<p>Students with excused absences will be allowed to make-up all work within 1 week of returning to school without being penalized. It is the student's responsibility to ask for make-up work. Students can consult with a classmate or teacher for help. Work that is not made up will become a zero (including quizzes/tests).</p> <p>Please see the <i>LMS Band Handbook</i> for policies pertaining to missed playing assignments or missed performances due to absences.</p>
<p>Materials & Supplies</p>	<p>Standard of Excellence, Jazz Ensemble Method Book (supplied by band director) Instrument and required instrument accessories (i.e. reeds, neck straps, valve oil, slide grease, etc.) Appropriate instrument cleaning supplies (varies by instrument) Pencils Folding stand (recommended for home practice)</p>
<p>Parent & Student Acknowledgment Form</p>	<p>Please read the <i>LMS Band Handbook</i> which is available on Schoology, the Liberty Middle School Band website, and Mrs. Sims' and Mr. Curtis's teacher pages on the LMS website. Please also sign the <i>Parent and Student Acknowledgement Form</i> sent home with your student (this is also available on the Liberty Middle School Band website.)</p> <p>By signing the Signature Page, the student and parent acknowledge understanding and agreement of the policies, procedures, and expectations of the Liberty Middle School Band program outlined in the Band Handbook and Band Syllabus.</p>

This syllabus is subject to change.