



Moorpark High School, 4500 Tierra Rejada Rd. Moorpark, CA 93021, www.moorparkmusic.org

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Dear Music Students,

As it gets closer to registration time for high school, I'm sure you're wondering what is best for you next year, and what your choices are. As you weigh your options, do consider the importance of continuing your education in music through high school. As a current music student at Mesa Verde, or Chaparral Middle School, you've put in countless hours of practice and time on your instrument and it is truly an investment into your future. Don't quit now! The longer you spend studying music, the more benefits you gain. Haven't tried music before? We welcome beginners at Moorpark High School. **Your future employers are looking for skilled, creative minded, independent, high achieving, and motivated people. One of the BEST places to hone these qualities is in a music class.**

High School music teaches students...

- to be INTRINSICALLY motivated.
- to think critically and constructively.
- how to communicate effectively.
- time management skills.
- leadership skills.
- ways to express our emotions in a constructive way.
- long term goal planning and achievement.
- delayed gratification for consistent effort and hard work over time.
- 100% is an A+, and settling for less is not an option.
- to serve the community through their art.
- to have a deeper appreciation for quality, and the beauty around them.
- how to deal with success and failure, constructive criticism, collaboration with others, and on and on...

High School Music keeps students....

- busy and involved in high school doing something very positive.
- motivated to achieve a high standard in all things.
- surrounded by the best kids on campus, a natural place to make lifelong friends!

High School Music gives parents....

- an opportunity to volunteer for their school, make new friends, and be involved with your children during their last few years of school before college!

Enclosed in this packet is information about the different instrumental music classes offered at Moorpark High. Also included is audition information, which all students need to complete who wish to be in a marching band, concert band or orchestra class (for placement only. ALL students are welcome to be in the program regardless of your experience!). We invite you to the remaining meetings, concerts, and especially to the Freshmen Picnic and Rookie Camp (Dates included). We hope to see you next year!

Sincerely,

Mr. Pak

Year Elective Classes

Wind Ensemble (Concert Band 1)
Wind Symphony (Concert Band 2)
Symphonic Band (Concert Band 3)
Concert Orchestra (Orchestra 1)
String Orchestra (Orchestra 2)
Jazz A & B

Semester Elective Classes

Marching Band – Semester 1
Winter Ensemble –Semester 2 (Jazz C
& Winterguard)

Extra Ensembles

Jazz Combos
Chamber Music Groups
Honor Bands

Class Descriptions

Marching Band – Semester 1, PE CREDIT

Required Co-Requisite: Core Music Curricular Class: Either Concert Band or String Orchestra

Marching Band is a curricular AND extra-curricular activity. Students earn **PE credit** (One semester only). Class is on the students' schedule as a 7th period course, but meetings and rehearsal times vary after school and sometimes in the evening. Schedule is posted during the summer. Required performances include football games, local parades, and off campus competitions. Marching Band season begins with Band Camp on **August 5th** and ends **November 23rd**. Band Camp is 2 weeks long (day camp), and it is required for participation in Marching Band. Drumline and Color Guard members will have rehearsals throughout the summer. Sub Sections within the Marching Band include – Brass, Woodwinds, Drumline (Battery and Pit), Color Guard

Wind Ensemble/Wind Symphony/Symphonic Band – Year Long Core Music Class for Band.

These classes are all referred to as "Concert Bands." No Co-requisite required. Students are placed by audition

The concert bands at MHS are for woodwind, brass, and percussion musicians interested in furthering their musical development. The Wind Ensemble is for the very serious music student. Literature performed in this class is a very high caliber. Wind Symphony is for the intermediate musician, and Symphonic Band is for the developing musician. Students who wish to take a concert band class **AND** a foreign language their first year in high school and are **not** members of the Marching Band, will **need to take the 'Go Ahead'** summer school class for incoming freshmen. There are other options to consider as well. Check with your school counselor. Since **Marching Band members receive PE credit**, this elective would take the place of their otherwise required PE class.

Concert Orchestra/String Orchestra - Year Long Core Music Class for Orchestra.

No Co-requisite required. Students are placed by audition.

The Orchestras at MHS are for violin, viola, cello, and string bass musicians interested in furthering their musical development. Concert Orchestra is for the more serious and accomplished musicians. Literature is of a high caliber. String Orchestra is for the intermediate to developing musician. Students who wish to take a string orchestra class **AND** a foreign language their first year in high school and are **not** members of the Marching Band, will need to take the **'Go Ahead'** summer school class for incoming freshmen. There are other options to consider as well. Check with your school counselor.

Jazz A and B – Year Long, Co-Requisite of Core Band/Orchestra Class

Meets 0 Period. Students placed by audition. Auditions take place on May 30th or 31st.

Jazz Band at Moorpark High has a long tradition of excellence. Musicians who already have experience playing saxophone, trombone, trumpet, piano, bass, guitar or drums are invited to try out for the jazz band to enrich their music education. Students are placed by skill level. Jazz A Band is a very busy group, performing many times throughout the year. Jazz A, B, and C will compete during semester 2 at local jazz festivals in addition to school performances.

Rehearsals are at 7:00 AM Monday-Friday and 8-9 AM Combo Rehearsal on Wednesdays. Jazz Band is meant to be enrichment for your musical education, **not a substitute** for concert band/orchestra (core music classes).

Jazz C – Semester 2,

Meets 7th Period. No audition necessary.

Jazz C is an excellent opportunity for beginning to intermediate instrumentalists to learn the language of Jazz Music, or intermediate to advanced instrumental musicians to 'double' on a new instrument.

Winterguard– Semester 2, PE CREDIT

Students are placed by audition. Co-Requisite of Core Music Class for Drumline and some Winterguard members.

This course is designed for the performance minded music student. It is designed to follow Marching Band and focus on indoor marching arts with particular emphasis on percussion and visual pageantry. These teams perform and compete independently all-over Southern California. It will entail approximately 8-10 hours of rehearsal a week plus weekend performances Jan-April. Attendance for these groups are mandatory, please verify schedule before committing to the season.

Extra Ensembles

Jazz Combos

Students that are part of the jazz bands and show an interest or talent for improvising and/or going further in depth in the jazz idiom will be pulled out of jazz band rehearsal once a week to work in a small group. Combos will perform at separate opportunities in addition to jazz band concerts. Students that are in combos will be heavily considered to be placed in Jazz A during their audition.

Chamber Groups

All students in concert bands, and strings classes will have at least one experience playing in smaller “chamber” music groups during the year as a group assignment (duets, trios, quartets, etc), and students who show interest in doing more will have the opportunity to do so at various off campus venues.

Colorguard

This activity is great for students interested in Dance, Choreography, and Gymnastics. No experience necessary, training will occur each semester and is sequential. This art form involves manipulating flags, rifles, sabers, dance choreography, etc. It is great for students who want to join the MHS Instrumental Music Family without prior band experience, AND/OR instrumentalists who want to add to their musical skill vocabulary. Colorguard is part of the Marching Band Semester 1, and Winterguard Semester 2.

Honor Bands

Moorpark High School regularly has representatives in the Ventura County Honor Band, SCSBOA All Southern Honor Band, Honor Jazz Band, and Honor Orchestras, and the All State Concert Band, Jazz Band and Orchestra. All students are encouraged to audition for these outside ensembles that are extremely enriching for the student, and also help to keep our own program strong.

Instrumental Music Auditions

Auditions for ALL new music students for the 2020-2021 school year will take place on **Saturday, March 7th 2020**. The audition takes approximately 10-15 minutes. The audition list will be finalized **Thursday, March 5th**. If there are huge gaps between students, we might push auditions closer to each other. We will notify every one of their times on **Friday, March 6th**. Please include your email when selecting a time slot. Good luck! Happy practicing! Time slots are available online:

Strings: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D4AA4A72DA4F85-freshmen>

Band: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D4AA4A72DA4F85-freshmen1>

If you are unable to make it on March 7th, please contact Mr. Pak at the above contact info (email) and we will set up a time for you. We would like to meet with and hear all incoming freshmen BEFORE May 31st, 2019.

PLEASE NOTE: EVERYONE WILL GET INTO A MUSIC CLASS THAT WANTS TO BE IN ONE!

The audition is for placement as well as to answer any questions and help get you better prepared for the choices you'll have when you sign up for classes at the high school. It is very low pressure!

For Concert Bands, and String Orchestras:

At your audition:

Woodwinds/Brass/Percussion

1. You will be asked to play a major scale, interval exercise, 3rds, and velocity in either C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, G, or D Major. But you will only play through one series. You will also play a chromatic scale, in one or two octaves, according to your ability (You will be considered for Wind Ensemble if you can play 2 or 3 octaves well)
2. Choose two contrasting short excerpts of your choice (minimum of 32 measures per excerpt, no longer than 2 minutes in performance length) that you have been working on with your private instructor, on your own, or in your school band or orchestra. Select excerpts that demonstrates your skill level on both lyrical and technical playing. Accompaniment is not required. **Bring at least one copy of your music for the adjudicators**

If you are auditioning for Wind Ensemble you will play a different audition excerpt instead. Please follow the link to access the music for your instrument.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/vfdq9ksx4pqcrIf/Moorpark%20High%20School%20Incoming%20Freshmen%20Audition%20Music.pdf?dl=0>

3. You will be given a short song to sight read during your audition. Percussionists may be asked to demonstrate basic rudiments on the snare drum.
4. Come prepared with your questions!

Strings

3. Play a major scale, interval exercise, 3rds, and velocity in **D Major**. You will also play a chromatic scale, in one or two octaves, according to your ability (You will be considered for Concert Orchestra if you can play 2 or 3 octaves well)
4. All String students will be asked to play an excerpt from Mozart's G-minor Symphony. The music can be found through this link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/11Dp7s4GHdiGJjNWMXYblfR-t4nLdVCbe>

Violins: measure 20 to letter A

Violas: measure 56-71

Cello/Bass: measure 85-100

5. In addition to the Mozart excerpt, students will choose one short excerpts of your choice (minimum of 32 measures, no longer than 2 minutes in performance length) that you have been working on with your private instructor, on your own, or in your school band or orchestra. Select excerpts that demonstrates your skill level on either lyrical or technical playing. Accompaniment is not required. **Bring at least one copy of your music for the adjudicators.**
6. You will be given a short song to sight read during your audition.
7. Come prepared with your questions!

MARCHING BAND INFO: In order to be in marching band, you must also enroll in a concert band, or string orchestra class. Please let us know at your audition if you plan to do marching band.

JAZZ BAND INFO: Jazz Band auditions take place either Wednesday or Thursday May 27th or 28th. Enrollment in the jazz bands is limited and by audition only. There will be only 2 jazz bands that meet in the fall semester. Information about auditions for next year's jazz ensembles will be posted in April/May. If you would like to do jazz but don't have experience, it is recommended that you sign up for Jazz C.

Important Dates

Sunday, March 7th 9AM-6:30PM – Auditions for Incoming Freshmen

Sign up for a time slot by going to

Strings: : <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D4AA4A72DA4F85-freshmen>

Band: : <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D4AA4A72DA4F85-freshmen1>

Need an alternative date? Please email Mr. Pak to set one up at ampak@mrpk.org

Drumline & Colorguard-Training Sessions- TBD

- *Training for the 2020 Marching Band Drumline & Colorguard sections begin*
- *No experience Necessary!! Great for Orchestra members or students new to our band programs!*

Jazz Auditions-for 2020-2021 Year, Wednesday or Thursday, May 27th or 28th

- *Sign-up Genius & Audition Material will be released via email*

Saturday, June 13th

Freshmen Welcome Picnic

- *All Students and their families are invited. Free Food!*
- **Time and location TBD**

Monday, June 15th - June 17th 9AM-2PM Rookie Camp

- *CLC and All incoming Freshmen*

Wednesday, June 17th – 7PM – MANDATORY Marching Band Student & Parent Meeting

MB-August 3rd- 14th (Monday-Friday) Marching Band Camp

Required for Marching Band

ALL-Saturday, August 8th – Registration/Uniform Fitting Day

All Music Students & Parents

ALL-Wednesday, August 19th – School Starts