



State College Area School District
MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Answers to some *Frequently Asked Questions* about registering for music classes

HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC

9th GRADE PERFORMING ENSEMBLES

- **Ninth Grade Orchestra** (Y405) is limited to players of Violin, Viola, Cello, or String Bass. Woodwind, Brass, or Percussion instrumentalists may not enroll in this course.
- Students in band are not required to participate in **Marching Band**. Marching Band is a separate co-curricular activity. Information regarding Marching Band will be distributed to current band members in March, and can also be found on the web site.
- It is possible for a ninth grade student to schedule both **Ninth Grade Band** (Y401) and **Ninth Grade Orchestra** (Y405). Teachers of those courses work out a schedule to share students.
- *It is therefore possible for a ninth grade student to participate in Band, Choir, and Orchestra, which all meet during the same block.*

10th-12 GRADE PERFORMING ENSEMBLES

10th - 12th GRADE - Choir, Band, and Orchestra (Non-Auditioned)

- Students who wish to enroll in the non-audition performing ensemble of Band, Choir, and Orchestra will register for each of their respective ensembles.
 - **10th Grade:**
 - **Tenth Grade Choir** (Y411)
 - **Tenth Grade Band** (Y402)
 - **Symphony Orchestra** (Y406)
 - **11th and 12th Grade:**
 - **Concert Choir** (Y408)
 - Cecilian Singers (women) or OMA (men)
 - **Concert Band** (Y400)
 - Woodwind, Brass, or Percussion
 - **Symphony Orchestra** (Y406)
 - Violin, Viola, Cello, or String Bass can only enroll in.

10th- 12th GRADE – Advanced Ensembles (Auditioned)

- Students who wish to select an advanced ensemble must audition with the teacher of those courses and be accepted into the qualifying organizations prior to enrollment. **These auditions usually occur in January and February.** Students who move into the School District outside of the regular audition window will be able to audition for Advanced Ensembles upon enrollment in the district.
 - **Advanced Band** (Y404)
 - **Advanced Choir** (Y412)
 - **Advanced Strings** (Y407)
 - Students in Advanced Strings meet as Advanced String Orchestra for a half block and then as Full Symphony Orchestra for the remaining half block.
 - **All Advanced Ensemble students** are eligible to schedule the non-auditioned ensemble listed above.

MUSIC THEORY, IB, GUITAR, AND ROCK ENSEMBLE COURSES

MUSIC THEORY (Grades 9-12)

- **Music Theory 1** (S416) is intended for students with limited experience with the fundamentals of music. This course also serves as a suggested prerequisite for Advanced Placement Music Theory.
- **AP Music Theory** (Y417) is designed for students with extensive musical background. Suggested prerequisite is successful completion of Music Theory 1, reading notation / treble and bass clef / construction of Major and minor scales, intervals, triads, and seventh chords. Also designed for students who may have plans to continue their musical study at the collegiate level. This course prepares students for the successful completion of the AP test in Music Theory.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMME (Grades 11-12)

- **IB Music Y1** (1931 and 1929) is the first year of the IB Music program. It is intended for students interested in studying music through the IB framework. Students need to have a completion of Music Theory 1 as well as reading notation and the constructions of scales, intervals, triads, and seventh chords. IB Music is a two-year course.

GUITAR (Grades 9-12)

- **Guitar 1** (S415) is intended for individuals with little or no previous experience on the guitar or as a follow up to skills learned in general music class at the middle school.
- **Guitar 2** (S422) is for individuals who have successfully achieved the skills acquired in Guitar 1. (Gr. 10-12)

ROCK ENSEMBLE (Grades 9-12)

- Students wishing to enroll in **Rock Ensemble** (Y415) must interview or audition with the teacher of this course and be accepted prior to enrollment. **This course meets for one full block for half a year.** The interview or audition is waived for Eighth grade students. Students in their second year of this course will be eligible for **Advanced Rock Ensemble** (Y420).



Recognized as one of the "Best Communities for Music Education in America"
2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018

Grammy Signature School 2005, 2006, 2007
Grammy Signature School Semi-Finalist 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017

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