

JOHNSON MIDDLE SCHOOL JAZZ BAND

Congratulations on being a part of the J.M.S. Jazz Band!!! This ensemble has a tradition of being outstanding in our school and community, and we have our work cut out for us to live up to this tradition!

Take note of the following items concerning jazz band participation:

- ❖ Since jazz band music is written for one-on-a-part, students **MUST BE PRESENT EVERY DAY FOR JAZZ BAND CLASS**. Any student who is absent (excused or unexcused) excessively **will be replaced** in jazz band.
- ❖ Any student who must be absent **MUST** make sure their jazz band folder containing the music is at school. The jazz band simply cannot function without all the parts, and even when you are not there, your part must be covered.
- ❖ Jazz band students will wear the following for performances: Black pants, tux shirt with no bowtie, black socks/shoes. For in-school performances, we will simply "dress up" sometimes. "Dress up" means no jeans or shorts and no tennis shoes. Students will wear a nice, put-together outfit.
- ❖ There will be no outside-of-school rehearsals for jazz band (thus making class time all the more precious), but there will be many performance opportunities and some performances will take place on short-notice. **ALL JAZZ BAND STUDENTS MUST BE AT ALL PERFORMANCES, NO EXCUSES!!!!!!** We cannot play without everyone being there, so make arrangements to be there. Be flexible!!!!!!
- ❖ Your grade in Jazz Band is based solely on participation and performance. Learn your part, be prepared to play your part alone, have a good attitude, and **BE PRESENT IN CLASS EACH DAY**, and you will certainly get an "A" in Jazz Band!!!
- ❖ Some students will need to get the proper equipment for jazz band. The same reeds, mouthpieces, drumsticks that you use for symphonic band may not necessarily be the equipment that is appropriate for playing jazz. Consult your private teacher and Mrs. Singletary to discuss equipment you are responsible for getting.
- ❖ Most importantly, start listening to Jazz whenever you can. Get recordings, find radio stations, and attend concerts. Jazz is a unique art form based on **LISTENING** and imitation. You must make jazz a part of your life to make our Jazz Band really great.