



**What is the Symphonic Band?** *The Symphonic Band is a class at the high school that consists of band students in grades 9-12. The Symphonic Band class meets just as frequently as all the other classes you will take. It is a full year course and meets 3 to 4 times a week (depending on the rotation) for 58 minutes.*



**Can I borrow an instrument from the school?** *We have a select number of instruments that can be borrowed. If you are in need of an instrument, just ask and we will do everything we can to provide you with one!*

**How many electives can I take in 9th grade?** *You can take two electives in 9th grade. Many students take band and choir. Some take band and art or band and TV production. You can take band for 4 years and take many other courses that interest you at CHS!*

**Am I required to be in Symphonic Band to be in Jazz Band?** *You are not required to be in the Symphonic Band, but the Jazz Band is an auditioned group, so the more you are playing in Symphonic Band - the better your chances are of making the jazz band!*



**Do I have to be in Symphonic Band or 8th Grade Band to be in the Marching Band?** *While it is strongly recommended that you do both, it is not required. You can be in the MBG and not be in Symphonic Band. Participating in a curricular band helps improve individual musicianship and also benefits the entire band program.*

**Can I change instruments in high school?** *If you are interested in switching instruments in high school, we can definitely look into that possibility. We need to make sure you are a good fit for the instrument you'd like to play and that there is a need for that instrument in the band. If you are committed and eager to learn, we can explore your options.*

**Do I have to audition to be in the high school band?** *No! Anyone can join the band. While Mr. Schwartz will hear each 8th grade student play, it is **not** an audition - just a way to get familiar with the musicians that could be joining the band as 9th graders to help with planning the right music that we can be successful with.*

**How often do we perform?** *The band performs in 3 to 5 concerts a year. Performing is the best part of playing in an ensemble, so we try to do it pretty consistently. We have a concert in the fall, winter, and the spring. We also often perform in one festival/competition in addition to performing at the graduation ceremony in June - a great honor!*

**Can I be in band and take Honors and AP classes?** *Absolutely! Many of the students in the band program are enrolled in honors/AP courses and have been since they began their academic careers. While moving on to the high school can be a scary thing due to increased academic pressure, the overwhelming majority of band students develop advanced organizational skills, a strong work ethic, and a drastic increase in academic discipline while in the band. Our band members are high achieving students who support each other both emotionally and academically!*

**What kind of music do we play? Is it challenging?** *We play a wide variety of music at the high school. Some of the music is challenging, some of the music is "easy" and some are right in the middle! There is a little bit of everything!*

**Lessons?** *We do have lessons at the high school, but they are set up differently than at Timberlane. Lessons occur on a rotating basis during our lunch period or Recitation. Students **are not** pulled from academic classes for lessons. The scheduled lessons are geared to help students develop their individual musicianship.*

