

# Symphonic Winds Expectations

## **Mission of the Symphonic Winds**

The mission of the O'Fallon District 90 Symphonic Winds is to challenge the highest achieving band students in a high quality ensemble. While Symphonic Winds participates in several competitive events, the purpose is to perform challenging music at the highest level. Simply put, we're here for the music.

## **General Expectations**

The Symphonic Winds are made up of the best students in District 90. They serve as ambassadors for Fulton and Carriel, District 90, and O'Fallon. In the past, the group has been recognized as one of the top Jr. High Bands in Illinois, it is expected that these students will maintain and grow on that tradition of success. More importantly though, it is expected that the students represent the best of O'Fallon.

## **ILMEA**

Symphonic Winds members are strongly encouraged to audition for the ILMEA All-District Honor Band. Both the audition and the honor band are great experiences and help the students grow.

## **Private Lessons**

In order to maintain the highest standards and the continued growth of the students, private lessons are strongly recommended. Contact Mr. Donahue if you need assistance setting lessons up.

## **Concert Attire**

We wear more formal attire for Symphonic Winds. We have a uniform blouse for girls that we order, and a uniform vest and black tie for boys. Students need to have black dress pants, black socks, and black dress shoes. Boys need a white, long sleeve, button down dress shirt. **See attached order form for Concert Attire.**

## **Rehearsals**

Rehearsals take place on Mondays and Thursdays each week from 6-8pm at Carriel Jr. High. Rehearsals begin promptly at 6pm, students are expected to arrive early so they can set up, warm up, and be prepared to play at 6pm.

## **Rehearsal Etiquette**

Rehearsal etiquette, or how the students act in rehearsals, is the most important factor in the success of the ensemble. Students who consistently display poor preparation or poor behavior during rehearsal will be dismissed from Symphonic Winds.

## **Attendance**

To remain in good standing, regular attendance is required. Illness and pre-approved conflicts are acceptable reasons for missing rehearsal. Homework, class projects, or last minute conflicts without communication will be considered unexcused. Two or more unexcused absences, or four or more absences due to illness are grounds for dismissal from Symphonic Winds.

## **School Attendance Policy**

Students must be in school for at least half of the school day to attend Symphonic Winds rehearsal. Any student who is suspended, in or out of school, is not allowed to attend rehearsal.

## **Eligibility**

Students must remain eligible per the Jr. High Handbook to attend rehearsals or performances with Symphonic Winds. Students are considered ineligible if they have an "F" average in any class.

Eligibility lists are posted each Friday. Two or more weeks of ineligibility are grounds for dismissal from the ensemble.

**Important Dates to Plan for Now**

October 2nd-ILMEA Mock Auditions (No Rehearsal)

October 9th-ILMEA Auditions

November 14th-Symphonic Winds and OTHS Wind Ensemble Combined Concert at OTHS Milburn

\*November 17th-Symphonic Winds Clinic/Pizza Party/Movie Night

November 18th-ILMEA All-District Festival

February 2nd-Solo and Ensemble

February 8th-Symphonic Winds and Jazz Band Winter Concert

February 12th-Practice Recording Session at Carriel

February 14th-Extra Rehearsal

February 19th-Recording Session at McKendree University (President's Day-No School)

March 5th-Performance at Music for All Festival at OTHS (Casimir Pulaski Day-No School)

April 28th-Rehearsal Clinic and Concert

May 2nd-Symphonic Winds Spring Concert

\*May 4th-University of Illinois Superstate (If Accepted)

Please join the Symphonic Winds Google Classroom to receive announcements, reference recordings, copies of the music and more!

**Symphonic Winds Code: hvg3lr**