

band@westwood

"We play here!"



Clinical Feedback

"...the tightest program in the province and possibly the country..."
Festival Adjudicator



We're Family

"...it's hard to imagine high school without [band]." J.K.



Individualized

"I have honestly never learnt so much, so fast..." G.B.

Westwood Collegiate Band Program

"Making audiences clap because they want to...not because they have to."

At Westwood we offer three dynamic concert bands and three fully voiced jazz ensembles. Feel free to explore this brochure for loads of information about the fantastic programming available here in our band program and don't forget to check out bandatwestwood.com or our Twitter/Instagram (@bandatwestwood) feeds for even more info.

1

STUDENT DIRECTED

"...highlight of my high school career has definitely been the band program." A.C.

2

JAZZ BY ABILITY

"I am so proud of the progress I've made as a player and as a person. The amount of obstacles I overcame throughout my experiences in jazz is honestly unbelievable." B.K.

3

PROFESSIONAL

"... probably one of the most professional and well run programs that are out there right now..." Festival Adjudicator.

Band Basics

“... [Westwood] bands have impressed me for years by playing such developed music in such a high level and 'delicious' way. Certainly might be recorded and shared as examples of the right way of playing. Very high level.” [substitute teacher]

Why take the leap and register for Gr. 9 band **MB10SS**? What makes us unique, you ask? Unlike most top down organizations, we are a student led program that focuses on life-skill development and project based learning where student voice drives program change and development.

Band at Westwood is truly a unique opportunity for students, as Mr. Edwards' sees himself as a coach or mentor with his students on equal footing in the classroom. In this dynamic environment, students and coach work together to develop a strong relationship that centres on teamwork and personal pride that grow life-skills that last long beyond Westwood and our active classroom.

Concert band is the life blood of our program and the foundation of everything we do. Here you will go through “band bootcamp” and acquire, very similar to “dry-land” training or skills camp, all of the playing “tricks and tips” you will need to be successful in your music making.



From there you will learn about team strength through the 90's test, sectional work and written-reflection.

Lastly, there is the music that is guaranteed to take you on a journey that you will remember for a lifetime. Couple that with a band website that's chalk-full of information, mp3's of our current and upcoming music and an iOS Calendar with all of our dates, and you have the recipe for one of the most award-winning and respected band programs in the province.

SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT JAZZ BAND

First and foremost, it is important to note that Jazz band is a full credit and a university entrance course. In order to find a place for everyone interested in Jazz, we divide our ensembles by ability. All of our ensembles are for full credit. To get you started you need to be registered in MB10SS (Concert Band) and to be involved in Jazz Band you also register for **MJ10SS**. So what jazz band are you in then? In September you will be given an easy piece of jazz music to audition for the Westwood B.I.G. Band. If you think it might be too easy, you can jump into auditioning for our entry level pro band lovingly called Little Tykes Jazz Orchestra. Then after auditions in September, you will be placed in an ensemble. B.I.G. Band and L.T.J.O. meet during Per.4 (lunch) from 12:05 - 1:05. Now if you're really keen, you can contact Mr. Edwards at the beginning of May and get a copy of the Sr. Jazz audition music. Those auditions take place in June by appointment. All jazz bands compete at Optimist Jazz festival and travel to Brandon in March each year for the Brandon Jazz Festival.



"Not going into jazz band would have been the biggest mistake I ever made in high school." K.S.