

# Why participate in Music Ensembles?

- The arts are one of the six subject areas in which the College Board recognizes as essential in order to thrive in college.
- The cognitive structures developed through music instruction help to expose and illuminate more general organizing structures relevant for other disciplines. From *Research in Music Education*, 2009
- In a high-level performance environment, hard work and dedicated practice predicts success far more than innate ability. Music performance offers opportunities to achieve. Students learn the value of persistence, and of working hard for an uncertain outcome.
- Through working together to create a finished product, students learn to incorporate different approaches and to leverage individual strengths for a higher-quality outcome.
- Music education is more than just introducing students to beats, notes, and songs. Instead, it completely transforms a child's mind and opens up endless possibilities to their learning potential. Music is something that affects the mind, body, and spirit, but yet its importance is often underrated. Especially when it comes to the educational benefits.
- Schools with music programs have significantly higher graduation and attendance rates than those without music programs. *Harris Interactive Inc., 2006*
- Anecdotal evidence indicates that music study helps many students stay engaged and interested not only in music class, but also in their other academic work. *Harris Interactive Inc., 2006*
- The combined results of 30 studies indicate that music instruction has a significant positive effect on reading. *Update: Applications of Research in Music Education*, 2008
- Through working together to create a finished product, students learn to incorporate different approaches and to leverage individual strengths for a higher-quality outcome.
- Through both the creative and reflective learning process, students gain greater capacity to question, interpret, and influence their own lives.
- It's fun! Participation in music ensembles creates life long positive memories for students.



# Our Philosophy.....

Learners connect to the arts by creation, presentation/performance, and response. Through personal discovery and experimentation, along with consistent involvement in an artistic activity, skills are developed, appreciations are formed, and creativity is encouraged. Rhythmic movement, musical, artistic, dramatic experiences, and twenty-first century approaches expand learners' horizons, develop creative and inventive thought, and provide unique experiences for self-revelation and reflection.



*Nationally recognized for our  
commitment to music education  
for 7 consecutive years!*

# Neptune Middle School Visual & Performing Arts Department



## Music Programs Band & Chorus





## Band Program

The NMS Band Program meets as a school-time elective, and for after school rehearsals. Students who participated in the Elementary Band Program are encouraged to continue into Middle School.

The Band performs at our major concerts, school assemblies, 8th grade promotion, and parades. Also, students are given the opportunity to participate in special field trips to perform at music festivals.

Instruments are available for student use based on need.

Students are strongly encouraged to participate in school-time Band for all available marking periods.

## Who we are

Neptune Middle School offers all students in grades 6th, 7th, and 8th the opportunity to participate in our Concert Band or Choral Programs. Students have the opportunity to perform with one, or both programs, continuing instruction from their respective elementary school.

In any school year, students who participate with either ensemble may:

- Participate in a variety of special performances, including school-wide assemblies and concerts
- Attend special field trips, geared for performance
- Participate in activities with the Neptune High School Music Programs
- Join both Band and Choral programs

Through participation in NMS Music Ensembles, learners develop skills for success, such as leadership, resiliency, organization, and time management.

## How do I Join?

- All students may register for school-time ensembles through the Guidance Department
- Students may register for after school rehearsals with the respective ensemble director
  - Band: [rakelly@neptune.k12.nj.us](mailto:rakelly@neptune.k12.nj.us)
  - Chorus: [lhollander@neptune.k12.nj.us](mailto:lhollander@neptune.k12.nj.us)



## Choral Program

Our Choral Program is open to all NMS students. The ensemble sings a wide variety of pieces, including popular songs, and songs chosen with student input.

Students may choose to take Chorus as a school-time elective, and have the opportunity to participate in additional rehearsals after school.

The Chorus performs at our major concerts, school assemblies, and are given the opportunity to participate in special field trips to perform at music festivals.

The program welcomes students new to singing, and students who participated in their Elementary Choral Program.

Students are strongly encouraged to participate in school-time Chorus for all available marking periods.