

**The Manchester High School Band program offers so much for students including:**

- \* A wide range of musical ensembles providing a wealth of musical experiences.
- \* Classes of mixed ages.
- \* Opportunities to develop musical skills.
- \* Opportunities to learn new instruments.
- \* A skilled and enthusiastic faculty.
- \* The chance to choose a course with your friends in it!
- \* A structured, positive learning environment where high standards are expected.
- \* Travel experiences.
- \* Leadership training and opportunities.
- \* A tradition of excellence.
- \* Contact and performances with professional musicians and performing ensembles.



**Join the MHS Band next year!!**

Please feel free to call Mr. Berry or Mr. Cancellieri with any questions at 860-647-3546.

[b11kberr@manchesterct.gov](mailto:b11kberr@manchesterct.gov)  
[b11mcanc@manchesterct.gov](mailto:b11mcanc@manchesterct.gov)

visit

[www.mhsbands.webs.com](http://www.mhsbands.webs.com)

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**2013-2014**

*An easy guide for parents and 8th grade band students*



## What band courses are offered for 9th graders?



### Concert Band

This is where all 9th graders begin their MHS Band experience. We work from basics review to high-level skills while enjoying a variety of band music along the way! This is a full-year course.

### Marching Band-voluntary

The MHS MB is most active during the 1st marking quarter. This ensemble includes wind instruments, colorguard, and percussionists. Students begin their training with a 1-week summer “band preseason” at MHS and end their fall season with a spectacular halftime “show” presentation. *A highlight for Marching Band members is the thrill of performing the halftime show at area marching band competitions!*

*Parents say that they like the **MHS MB** because of the positive and structured environment.*

*Kids say that they love the **MHS MB** because of the fun, the friends, the music, and the trips!*

## ....more band courses.

### Percussion Ensemble (Beg. & Adv.)

Every student percussionist will be assigned to one of these classes. The percussionists will perform in most of the Concert Band events, but the Percussion Ensemble class is all percussion, only percussion!! Students really enjoy having these classes that totally focus on their needs.



### Jazz Ensemble

The Jazz Ensemble is an auditioned group. We are so pleased to offer it during the school day because it allows for greater student participation and more in-depth study. Auditions are held in the Spring. Jazz Ensemble members must also be enrolled in the Concert Band class.

### Band membership also allows students to participate in:

Stage Band   Pit Orchestra  
Jazz Combo   Pep Band  
MHS Symphony Orchestra  
MHS “Santa” Band  
Chamber Music Ensembles

Eastern Region & All-State Music Festival

*...A note to parents: You will be invited to become active with the ‘Manchester Band Parents Association’ (MBPA), a great group of volunteers who make band better for all of our students!*

## MHS Band Frequently Asked Questions:

### Q. What is the difference between Marching Band and Concert Band?

A. The Marching Band combines music with motion! The fall MB season is devoted to training students as musicians and performers to present our halftime show.

### Q. How will MHS marching be different from middle school?

A. The MHS Marching Band primarily prepares for halftime performances. The middle school band usually prepares just for parade marching.

### Q. Is marching band required?

A. No. Marching Band meets outside of the school day during the fall and is optional.

### Q. Are there a lot of after school band activities?

A. It is seasonal. MB members are active in the fall with 2 after school practices per week (Mon. and Fri.), plus performances at football games and music festivals. Concert Band & Percussion Ensemble members are required to attend 3-4 after school (2:30-4:00) rehearsals prior to each major concert.

### Q. How can I get more information about the MHS Band program?

A. Please call either of the two MHS band directors, Keith Berry or Marco Cancellieri (860-647-3546). [www.mhsbands.webs.com](http://www.mhsbands.webs.com)

