



Welcome to the Panther Band Family!

I'm so excited to add you to one of the most rewarding activities here at Newbury Park. Below is a quick summary of what classes are offered and what those requirements are to be in those classes. If you have any questions about the structure of the program, please don't hesitate to ask! You can email me at: dcystal@conejousd.org

I hope you're looking forward to amazing year of musical growth and opportunity!

Mr. Crystal

Concert Band/Wind Ensemble (H)

These classes meet concurrently during period 1 everyday (7:05-8:05). All students in the Panther Band must be in one of these two classes in order to participate in any other groups. During the fall, the focus is primarily on Pep Band and our performances at home football games, the Homecoming rally, and the Camarillo Christmas Parade.

Around the end of September/early October, we change gears for the rest of the year to focus on Concert Band music. We put on a formal Winter Concert in December and often also participate in an optional music workshop at Disneyland.

Students who successfully audition into the Wind Ensemble section of this class will earn Honors credit for their participation. Those auditions are held in late May; specific audition dates will be posted on the band's web calendar.

Marching Band

The Marching Band is a competitive ensemble that meets after school from August –November utilizing wind instruments, percussion, and colorguard. Students are not required to participate in this group (however all NPHS Band students do perform as part of the NPHS Pep Band). The rehearsal schedule is typically 3 days per week, from 2:30pm-5pm with travel to Marching Band competitions on Saturdays in October and November.



Jazz I

Jazz I is an advanced section of Jazz Band that meets during 4th period on B days. Students must audition into this group and must also be enrolled in either Concert Band or Wind Ensemble (H). Students in this class perform in a typical big band instrumentation (saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drums, piano, bass, or guitar) with a rigorous focus on jazz improvisation and music theory. This group will have public performances at jazz festivals throughout Southern California and even some performances around town (as those opportunities arise).

Jazz II

Jazz II is an entry-level jazz ensemble that meets during 5th period starting after Winter Break and performs in the Spring semester at several local jazz festivals with Jazz I. There is no audition to participate in this group and we have had many students come in with no prior experience and even learning new instruments that eventually make it into Jazz I within a year or two. This is a fantastic opportunity for you to learn about the Jazz tradition and begin learning some of the important fundamental music theory that will help you grow into a competent improviser.

Colorguard

The colorguard performs as part of the Marching Band during the fall and there is no audition or experience required to join. We will teach you everything you need to know, you just need to practice!

Students earn 5 units of P.E. credit through their participation and are eligible for Scholar Athlete and Varsity Letter awards as part of this group.

Beginning Instruments

This class is offered in the fall semester during 2nd period and is for any student that wants to be in band, but doesn't know how to play an instrument. In one semester, students learn how to read music, play and instrument, and are prepared to participate in any of the other band classes at a fundamental level. Some of the students in this class have grown into very important musical leaders within the band program due to their hard work and dedication!