

DISTRICT ALIGNMENT INFORMATION

NORTHWEST DISTRICT KMEA

2023-Version I

1. Ensembles Offered

1. Junior High Band (7&8)
2. Junior High Choir (7&8)
3. High School Jazz Band
4. High School Concert Band
5. High School Choir
6. Elementary Choir
7. High School Orchestra
(combined with southwest-host every other year)

2. School Responsibilities

Each School:

1. Will be a member of the KSHSAA or a KSHSAA Approved School and be in good standing with the organization
2. Will be eligible to enter students as determined in the rules and guidelines established by Northwest District KMEA.
3. Will not allow students to audition for both choir and instrumental groups. (This is for high school only) The Honor Orchestra is shared with the Southwest District. On the years that the Northwest District hosts the Honor Orchestra, students will only be allowed to audition for one honor group. (This is for High School Only.)
4. Will be responsible for the supervision, conduct, and behavior of its students during the entire mini-convention. If the director is unable to attend, a staff member from their respective school must accompany the student/students for the duration of each event for which a student is participating in.

3. Director Responsibilities

1. Will determine its policy on auditions for district level performances.
2. Will supply an eligibility list to the chairperson for choir, band, orchestra, and jazz band immediately.
3. Will host and supervise district festival group rehearsals and the performances at the district mini-conventions. Each school will be responsible for the supervision, conduct, and behavior of its students during the district mini-conventions.
4. Will not allow students to audition, participate, or be selected to both the choir and instrumental groups
5. Will be responsible for providing to the teachers in the district information, rules, regulations, and guidelines concerning district and KMEA All-State groups.
6. Northwest District KMEA will not discriminate based upon gender for audition and participation of the honor groups.

7. All students who are auditioning MUSR be accompanied by their instructor and the Instructor will be required to participate in judging.auditioning activities. In the event of An emergency, the director must send a qualified substitute to judge or help with auditions.

4. Student Responsibilities

Each Student:

1. Will be in good standing and eligible according to the rules and guidelines for participation established by the KSHSAA and the resident school;
2. Must be a freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior in high school to be a member of a high school district honor group and a **freshman**, sophomore, junior or senior to be a member an all-state ensemble.
3. Must be a 7th or 8th grader to be in the district honor choir and band.
4. To be eligible to audition for District Ensembles, vocalists and Instrumentalists must be enrolled in a choral or instrumental performance class at a school in the KMEA Northwest District at the time of auditions and at the time of the performances of the District Ensembles. Students must also be eligible according to KSHSAA Rules. **If a student is taking private lessons and there is no certified music teacher at the school of the student who is auditioning, the student may audition for an honor group. The private teacher must be a member of KMEA.**
5. Will audition for the Northwest District and All-State groups according to the rules and guidelines established by the Northwest District and state KMEA Board.
6. **Will participate in all rehearsals and the entire duration of the concert(s) for the district mini-conventions. Failure to attend will result in disqualification in participation in all-state groups.**

5. Registration Process

Directors must be members of NAFME to register students. There are deadlines and students must be registered by the deadlines. Deadlines are posted on the District website.

Act of God

Students are required to attend all District Ensemble rehearsals and performances to be eligible for auditions and participation in All-State Ensembles. In the case of an "Act Of God" the State Board of Directors will make a decision as to what the status is for the student auditioning for State Groups.

Northwest District KMEA will not refund fees or registration paid to Northwest KMEA for participation in the November or December mini-conventions due to non-attendance of a registrant caused by an Act-of-God. An Act-of-God is deemed to include inclement weather, fire, emergency facility incapacity, or any other event resulting in limited or cancelled participation of the honor groups by the attendee. Exceptions to this policy, although not normally granted, may be approved by a majority vote of the District Board.

6. Audition Fees & Participation Fees

Audition Fees

\$5.00 Audition fee for the following groups

- a. Junior High Band
- b. High School Jazz Band
- c. High School Concert Band
- d. High School Orchestra

(\$3.00 audition fee goes towards payment of festival scores)

- e. High School Choir

(audition fee goes towards the Festival Audition fees .)

These fees will be assessed whether or not student actually auditions. Every Student registered will be assessed this fee.

Late choir audition fees established by the state are as follows:

1st late date-\$30.00

2nd late date-\$60.00

3rd late date-\$100.00

Junior High Choir and Elementary Choir are chosen by each individual teacher and do not have an audition fee.

Participation Fee

A **Participation** fee of **\$15.00** per student will be assessed to all students selected for the Northwest District Honor Groups. (elementary, middle school and high school). In the event a student drops or is sick the fee must still be paid for the student selected. This fee must be paid to the Executive Director before or on the day of the performance. In the event the school fails to pay this fee on time, the fee will be doubled. Special circumstances will be left to the decision of the District President and Executive Director.

7. Audition Process

Live auditions for High School choir will be held the first Saturday of November

Audition upload deadlines will be posted on the Northwest website each year.

Junior High Band-

1. Festival scores is used for audition
2. Teacher records students on MP3 and submits to junior high band chair.
3. Junior High Band chair selects one judge from teachers in the Northwest

- District to judge each section of the band.
4. Once judging is complete, judge submits results to chair and they are sent to the state webmaster to post on website.
 5. Music is ordered and original copies are mailed to students selected for district honor band.

Junior High Choir

Junior High Choir is selected by recommendation of each school music teacher. 25% of the school junior high choir class may be sent in for the junior high honor choir. There is no audition procedure.

High School Jazz Band

1. High School Jazz uses **festival scores** for the audition procedure.
2. State Jazz band audition music is used.
3. Audition recordings must be mp3 format audio files.
4. Improvisation is optional.
5. If student does not submit an improvisation they will not be placed in first chair.
- 6. After all audition music has been judged and students selected, vacant positions may be filled by recommendations of teachers.**

Elementary Choir

Elementary Honor choir members are selected by school music teachers from grades 5 & 6. Six (or fewer) students from each building may participate. All students must be enrolled in the school from which they are entered. The director of each building is responsible for selecting the students who attend and submit their names by the deadline.

High School Orchestra

NW and SW Presidents take turns facilitating auditions, depending upon where the festival is held that year.

1. Festivalscores.com is used for audition.
2. Judges are assigned according to their wishes, and have at least 2 on an instrument.
3. students must play one of the All State excerpts, one of the All State scales and an excerpt from one of the District pieces. All of these are picked by the chair.
4. Both Presidents look at results, and make a cut off for each instrument wherever it falls naturally in the scores. The orchestra usually ends up with between 50 and 60 members. They are seated in order of their scores.

High School Band

1. High School band auditions are submitted online using Festival Scores.
2. State audition music will be used for District auditions.
3. Audition recordings must be mp3 format audio files.
4. Band Chair selects teachers to judge the recordings.
5. Each section is judged by one teacher and then submits final results to chair who in turn then sends to state webmaster to post.
6. Once selections are made the band chair hands out music to teachers at the November Mini-convention or mails out parts to schools.

High School Choir

High School Choir uses the State Audition pieces for district choir selection. The choral directors are given the cuts as soon as the state releases them.

1. High School Choral auditions are live auditions on the first Saturday in November.
2. The chair will create and provide an audition schedule to teachers at least 1 week prior to the audition. This schedule may still change up to the date of the audition, but only with the consent or by request of the representative teachers.
3. Audition cuts will be provided as soon as they are made available by the state.
4. Work positions for the audition include, Registration table, Tabulators, Monitors, Proctors, and Judges.
5. District teachers are expected to be available during the day to fill these rolls. However, in order to ensure that all positions are filled, work positions for the audition may be filled by the following people as appropriate in order to ensure equity and fairness. Teachers, former teachers, parents, and upper-level college students. No high school students will be allowed to handle audition information or witness another student's audition.
6. Students will be given identifying audition labels that will serve as an entrance ticket for their audition.
7. Practice rooms will be provided.
8. Each audition room will be staffed with 3 judges. Judges will sit with their backs to the auditioners.
9. Students will perform auditions with recorded accompaniments as provided by the state.
10. Results will be given to the state tech coordinator to post on the website as soon as the scores have been tabulated and all participation guidelines are certified by the chair and district president.
11. The choral chair will send state submissions for honor groups as soon as participation in the district choir is certified, and all rules are confirmed to have been met by the District choral chair and District president.
12. Each school that sends students to audition and student successfully completes an audition must have at least one student in the district choir
13. **All late registration fees must be paid before a student is allowed to audition.**

*****District Honor Choir Member Guideline*****

Each voice part of the district choir (S1, S2, A1, A2, T1, T2, B1, B2) will have no more than 25 members. A student receiving an audition score average of 20 or lower will not be select for the District Choir regardless of number of students that auditioned on that voice part.

****Exceptions:**

- 1.-**In the event of a tied score for the 25th slot all students with that exact same score will be selected for District.**
- 2.-**Keeping current District policy to select at least one student from every school that sends auditions-this student will be added to the top 25 scorers for that voice part.**

8. Audition Materials

That information is under the Audition process.

Audition Notification

Once students are selected for the honor groups the chairs send the information to the state webmaster (Troy) and he posts it. Then music for Jazz Band, High School Concert band, Orchestra and Junior High Concert band is mailed to schools that have students selected.

9. Participation Responsibilities

District Honor Group Responsibilities

1. Will determine its policy on auditions for district level performances.
2. Will supply an eligibility list to the chairperson for choir, band, orchestra, and jazz band immediately.
3. Will host and supervise district festival group rehearsals and the performances at the district mini-conventions. Each school will be responsible for the supervision, conduct, and behavior of its students during the district mini-conventions.
4. Will not allow students to audition, participate, or be selected to both the choir and instrumental groups (high school only) May audition for jazz band and concert band as they are on different weekends.
5. Will be responsible for providing to the teachers in the district information, rules, regulations, and guidelines concerning district and KMEA All-State groups.
6. Northwest District KMEA will not discriminate based upon gender for audition and participation of the honor groups.

Each year these awards are nominated by fellow teachers or students.

Awards and Scholarships

Outstanding Educator Awards

- Elementary
- Junior High (Middle School)
- High School
- College
- Administrato

Julie Groom Memorial Scholarship Award

This scholarship is given to a junior or senior in college majoring in Music Education that has graduated from a Northwest High School. Most years three (3) scholarships are given out. However more have been have been awarded.

William Schick Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is given in memory of William Schick, a Northwest Music Educator who was the mentoring chair and did so much for first year music teachers. Northwest District will pay the NAFME memberships dues for first year teachers out of college and teachers who have taught before but it is their first year in the Northwest District.