

NW KMEA BAND DIRECTOR'S MEETING
December 6, 2025
8:30 a.m.

Chris Barlow–High School Band chair called the meeting to order.

- I. Chris had all the directors introduce themselves and tell where they taught.

- II High School Band-Chris Barlow
 - A. Assistant-Billy Wicks
 - B. Clinician-Travis Johnson-Cheney
 - C. 140 completed auditions
 - D. 76 selected
 - E. 27 schools

- III. Discussion of Junior High Band Auditions
 - a. Cross-walked with SW district.
 - i. Chromatic scale will still be a requirement.
 - ii. Discussion of a minimum of 2 octave scale with the option of full chromatic.

*****MOTION**

Kristi Vetter made the motion to enact a minimum of octave range with the option of full range of scale. Kelly Burris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- b. New Cycle 1
 - i. 159 or 160
 - ii. Suggestions **for wind and mallets**-159 up to where it changes back to concert Bb and include 160. Dotted eighth and sixteenth rhythm in 160 is helpful.

*****MOTION**

Kristi Vetter moved to accept the wind and mallets as suggested with the “cuts” that were given. Talley Morrow seconded the motion. Discussion was opened. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Junior High Percussion Audition**

- a. **Snare:** 132 has rolls and 160 flams and dotted eights/sixteen rhythms.

*****MOTION**

Barb Elbracht made the motion to have the snare audition as above. (132 and 160). Kelly Burris seconded the motion. Discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. **Timpani** Tabled until further investigation. Barb Elbracht is willing to look into this.

*****MOTION**

Megan Reiner made the motion to use cycle 1 for even years and develop cycle 2 more for odd years. Seconded by Kelly Burris. Discussion opened: Send ideas to Vesta Jo Still regarding cycle 2 excerpts. All instructors. Motion carried.

Cycle 2: TABLED UNTIL NEXT YEAR (2026-2027)

- IV. Junior High Band-Lucas Burmeister-Chair
 - a. Assistant-Max Befort
 - b. Clinician-Erik Stone-Golden Parks Academy-Wichita
 - c. Numbers have gone from a high of 110+ to 55
 - d. Audition-66
 - e. Students selected-55
 - f. Schools-18
 - g. In attendance today-55
 - h. Instrument sections needing “pushed” would be clarinets, F horns, Bass clarinet, some more trombones, as well as additional percussion. Schools may not have some of the instruments such as timpani.
 - i. School class times is also an issue. Going from 50 minutes a day each week to 3 times a week of 40 minutes.

- j. The change of audition material can help with these numbers as well. Enact these changes this coming year for cycle 1 and see how that correlates to possibility of growth in auditions and numbers.

V. Other Discussion

- A. High School snare drum auditions. Barb Elbracht and Allen Brockmeir got together to create a snare audition that included John Philip Sousa and a Jay Dawson excerpt. Sousa is public domain and we have been given permission by Dawson to share out the excerpt. This would be the snare audition for our district only. Four years of excerpts have been created.

*****MOTION**

Barb Elbracht made the motion to change the snare drum Auditions to be the three excerpts of Sousa and Dawson. Vesta Jo Still seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Barb will get them uploaded..

- B. Discussion on percussion auditions for High School. Concern was brought up regarding audition for snare, audition for mallets, audition for timpani, and audition for cymbals. That's \$60 for one(1) student. Question was asked can somehow get it so it's all on one scoring rubric? Instead of \$60 can it be \$15 for a full percussion audition like winds? Mallets one audition then battery one audition.

VI. High School Jazz Band-Julianne Samuelson and Kristi Vetter-Co-chairs

- A. Clinician-Dr. Jack Cassidy-
- B. Students auditioned 13
- C. Paper auditions-3
- D. Schools-6
- E. All slots were filled except for three. They were filled through recommendations. Jenny Tally (Decatur) filled in for the keyboard. Clinician worked a lot with beginning improvisation and the students really enjoyed this work and the clinician. District received a super nice note from

the clinician thanking the district for allowing him to be the clinician and to our district for what it is doing.

- VII. Dr. Aunna Marzen-New associate director of bands at FHSU introduced herself and welcomed everyone to the campus.

*****MOTION**

Vesta Jo Still made the motion to adjourn. Talley Morrow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

.

Respectfully submitted.
Connie Reishus
NW Executive Director

SPECIAL NOTE:

A special thank you to Vesta Jo Still for taking the minutes of this meeting.

**JUNIOR HIGH HONOR BAND AUDITION EXCERPTS
DECEMBER 2025**

Essential Technigue 2000-Hal Leonard Book 3

Cycle 1-Even Years
(2026, 2028, 2030..)

Cycle 2-Odd Years
(2027, 2029, 2031..)

Chromatic Scale-

Range-2 octave minimum requirement. Can do more and/or full
Range of instrument.

Excerpts:

Cycle 1

Winds and Mallets: #159 (through the downbeat of Measure 16)
#160 (all)

Snare #132 (all)
#160 (all)

Timpani-#123 TABLED Barb Elbracht will send suggestions.

New audition material ready for 2026-2027 school year. It would be EVEN
year –Cycle 1

Festival scores should be set up like this:

Winds/Mallets

Slot for chromatic scale

Slot for Excerpt 159

Slot for Excerpt 160

Percussion

Slot for snare

Slot for timpani

*Snare is required for percussion. The snare can be uploaded into the
timpani slot if only auditioning on snare.

**Mallets are a separate audition upload.