

Ensembles of the West Springfield High School Band

2021-2022

Marching Band

The Marching Spartans is designed to perform modern field shows at the highest level possible. The Marching Spartans compete at marching competitions and parades and perform at home football games. Emphasis is placed equally on musical and visual excellence. **Membership in the Marching Spartans is open to ALL band students.**

Color Guard/Indoor Guard

The WSHS color guard is the visual representation of the marching band. Color guard members are trained in movement, dance and the manipulation of equipment such as flags, rifle and sabre. Color guard is open to any student who qualifies through audition; the guard also competes during the winter season.

Wind Symphony (Course #923416)

The premier concert band at West Springfield, the Wind Symphony exclusively performs literature deemed of the highest quality from the repertory of both traditional and contemporary compositional styles at the grade V-VI level. Students will develop a deeper sensitivity not only toward outstanding musicianship, but with regard to historical style, performance practices, and aesthetics. Students are highly encouraged to take private lessons. **Membership in the Wind Symphony is open to any student who qualifies through audition; all members of the Wind Symphony participate in the Marching Spartans.**

Symphonic Band (Course #923415)

The Symphonic Band is one of our two advanced concert bands. This class is designed to develop the student musician through the rehearsal and performance of quality wind band literature typically at the grade IV-V level. It is also designed to prepare the musician for performance at the most advanced level. Musical, historical and theoretical concepts are discussed and applied appropriately to every piece of music. **Membership in the Symphonic Band is open to any student who qualifies through audition; all members of the Symphonic Band participate in the Marching Spartans.**

Concert Band (Course #923315)

Concert Band is open to all students at West Springfield High School and will focus on basic skills such as tone production, rhythm, scales and sight-reading. Students with no previous band experience may start an instrument but only at the discretion of the director; this is also a great class for those students interested in switching instruments. The first semester will focus on foundational performance concepts and techniques while the second semester will provide performance opportunities. **Members of this group are HIGHLY encouraged to participate in marching band.**

Advanced Percussion Ensemble (Course #923417)

The Advanced Percussion Ensemble class is designed to meet specific needs of percussionists through a survey of advanced techniques and concepts. Content includes study of the appropriate ensemble literature, and rehearsal and performance techniques from the various areas of musical composition. Instrumentation of the group is at the discretion of the instructor. Marching band techniques and performances are included. Students must meet both the school day and outside of the school day participation requirements to receive credit for the course. **Marching Band is required for all percussion students.**

Concert Percussion Ensemble (Course #925015)

The Concert Percussion Ensemble class is designed to meet the specific needs of percussionists through a survey of fundamental techniques and concepts. Content includes study of the appropriate ensemble literature, and rehearsal and performance techniques from the various areas of musical composition. Instrumentation of the group is at the discretion of the instructor. Marching band techniques and performances may be included. Students must meet both the school day and outside of the school day participation requirements to receive credit for the course. **Marching Band is required for all percussion students.**

Jazz Band

The Jazz Band is an extra-curricular ensemble that rehearses once a week after school from November until June and performs at concerts, school functions and community events. The Jazz Band performs literature from swing, latin, funk and rock genres. Membership in the Jazz Band is open to any student who qualifies through audition.