

Morgantown High School Band

Mr. Lorne Hyskell - Director
Mr. Brian Reed - Assistant Director

Co-Curricular

What we do happens in the classroom during school as well as outside on parking lots, on a field, and in other towns and cities beyond the school day.

Activities outside of the classroom will be graded- everything crosses over at some point.

All members must participate in marching band.

All wind members must be enrolled in **either** Concert Band, Symphonic Band, or Wind Ensemble, at a minimum.

All percussionists **must** be enrolled in Intermediate or Advanced Percussion, at a minimum.

The Red and Blue Marching Band

- Where all 160+ members come together
- Football Games, Parades, Pep Bands
- 2 weeks of Summer Band @ Band Room
- 1 week of Away Band Camp
- Practices on Monday and Thursday evenings at the Morgantown (Westover) Mall 5:30 - 8:00 pm until mid-October
 - Cleaning field show
- Practices Monday and Thursday after school until 4:00 pm
 - Preparing for Homecoming Parades, Veteran's Day Parades, Out of Town Parades, and Christmas Parade
- Must participate fully in Marching Band to be eligible for Concert Band

The Concert Bands

Non-Auditioned

Concert Band - Co-Taught

- Medium difficulty music (3-4)
- Holiday Concert and Spring Concert
- Performs in band uniform for concert
- Reinforcing fundamentals and expanding on Middle School content.

Auditioned

Symphonic Band - Mr. Brian Reed

- Higher difficulty of music (5-6)
- Full instrumentation
- Higher level of proficiency
- Performs in band uniform for concerts
- Intro to Advanced Techniques
- “Honors Level”

Wind Ensemble - Mr. Lorne Hyskell

- Difficult music (6)
- Full instrumentation
- Frequent performances
- Collaborations with orchestra / choir
- Advanced Techniques regularly
- Performs in formal black / white
- “AP Band”

The Percussion Program

(Auditions through clinics and “The Packet”)

Intermediate Percussion

- Will focus on developing percussion skills beyond Battery (Marching) Percussion
 - Mallet Percussion, Auxiliary Percussion, etc.
- Builds upon proper technique, developing consistent sense of beat, accurate subdivisions, etc.
- Accompanies Concert Band classes for performances

Advanced Percussion

- Will focus on advancing skills beyond Battery (Marching) Percussion
 - Mallet Percussion, Auxiliary Percussion, Atypical Percussion
- Expands advanced techniques, more complex meters, rhythms, subdivisions
- Will feature small ensembles within the class
- Accompanies Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble

The Jazz Program (not tied to Concert or Marching)

Jazz Band

- Learns fundamental Jazz Standards
- Focuses on Big Band style performance
- Expands upon Solo construction
- Introduces Jazz Theory
- Saxophones, trumpets, trombones, guitar, piano, bass, and drums are standard
 - Other instruments may join, but must speak with Mr. Hyskell prior

Advanced Jazz Ensemble

- Learns more complex standards
- Auditioned, 1-per-part Big Band
- Willingness to solo is expected
- Expands upon Jazz Theory
- Instrumentation: optional 1 flute, 2 altos, 2 tenors, 1 bari, 4-5 trombones, 4-5 trumpets, guitar OR piano, bass, and drum set.

Trying Out for Symphonic, Wind, or AJE

Thursday, February 6, 2025

2:30 PM - 6:00 PM in the MHS Band Room

**Come in, check in at the door, warm up,
come play for Mr. Reed or Mr. Hyskell**

- **If auditioning for AJE, please audition for Mr. Hyskell**

You can do your Concert and Jazz auditions together OR separate; whatever makes you comfortable!

Friday, February 7, 2025

2:30 PM - 6:00 PM in the MHS Band Room

**Come in, check in at the door, warm up,
come play for Mr. Reed or Mr. Hyskell**

- **If auditioning for AJE, please audition for Mr. Hyskell**

You can do your Concert and Jazz auditions together OR separate; whatever makes you comfortable!

Symphonic or Wind Ensemble Tryouts

- 1) Will be asked to play a couple of scales appropriate for grade level (Concert Bb, Eb, F, 2 octaves where applicable)
- 2) Will be asked to play an excerpt of music from their current repertoire
 - a) Ask your Middle School Director for suggestions: Honor Band songs? Festival songs? Private Lessons songs?
 - b) It should showcase skills
 - c) Pick something that highlights why you think you're ready for the next step!
 - d) We'll take notes to help us with placing you; results may take until schedules get released due to making schedules work / fit specific classes
 - e) You ABSOLUTELY should have music in the audition

Advanced Jazz Ensemble Tryouts

- 1) Will be asked to play the head to Blue Monk.
 - a) I can provide a backing track
 - b) You can choose the tempo; please be reasonable
 - c) This has been recorded numerous times; track down a recording (I suggest YouTube so that you can slow down the playback speed) and try to learn the melody aurally
- 2) Will be asked to the improvise a solo over Blue Monk (12 Bar Bb Blues)
 - a) Again, I'll provide a backing track
- 3) Will be asked to play an excerpt of music from their current repertoire
 - a) It should showcase skills (articulation, notes, dynamics, etc.)
 - b) Pick something that highlights why you think you're ready for the next step!
 - c) We'll take notes to help us with placing you; results may take until schedules get released due to making schedules work / fit specific classes
 - d) You ABSOLUTELY are allowed to have music in the audition

Recording: [Blue Monk](#)

The Band Auxiliary

President: Jennifer Thompson (returning)

- Coordinates with Committees, Coordinates Meetings, etc.

Vice President: Jill Fogelman (returning)

- Coordinates Concession Needs

Secretary: Angela Carver (graduating)

- Meeting Minutes, Website Maintenance, Sends Correspondence

Treasurer: Sarah Yokum (returning)

- All Things Financial

Important Contact Info

Lorne Hyskell - lorne.hyskell@k12.wv.us

Brian Reed - brian.reed@k12.wv.us

Website - www.redbluemhsband.com

- Calendar, general information

Band Auxiliary Email - info@mohiganband.com

- Sign up for weekly email, direct auxiliary questions here

Auxiliary Treasurer - treasurer@mohiganband.com

- Direct financial questions here

Schedule and Form Pack

7/7/2025	M	Incoming Freshmen	12:00 PM	3:00 PM	*Eat lunch before arriving!
	M	Full Band Rehearsal	3:00 PM	8:00 PM	
	M	Band Auxiliary Meeting (In the MHS Cafeteria)	7:00 PM	8:30 PM	
7/8/2025	T	Flute Sectional	8:00 AM	8:45 AM	
	T	Woodwind Sectional	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	
	T	Tuba Sectional	12:00 PM	12:45 PM	
	T	Brass Sectional	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	
7/9/2025	T	M&M Practice	3:30 PM	7:30 PM	
	W	Clarinet Sectional	8:00 AM	8:45 AM	
	W	Woodwind Sectional	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	
	W	Low Brass (Trombone, Baritone, Tenor Sax) Sectional	12:00 PM	12:45 PM	
	W	Brass Sectional	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	
7/10/2025	W	M&M Practice	3:30 PM	7:30 PM	
	R	Alto Sax / Mellophone Sectional	8:00 AM	8:45 AM	
	R	Woodwind Sectional	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	
7/11/2025	R	Trumpet Sectional	12:00 PM	12:45 PM	
	R	Brass Sectional	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	
	F	Full Band Rehearsal	3:00 PM	8:00 PM	
7/14/2025	M	Full Band Rehearsal	4:00 PM	9:00 PM	*NOTE THE TIME
7/15/2025	T	Flute Sectional	8:00 AM	8:45 AM	
	T	Woodwind Sectional	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	
	T	Tuba Sectional	12:00 PM	12:45 PM	
	T	Brass Sectional	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	
	T	M&M Practice	3:30 PM	7:30 PM	
7/16/2025	W	Clarinet Sectional	8:00 AM	8:45 AM	
	W	Woodwind Sectional	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	
	W	Low Brass (Trombone, Baritone, Tenor Sax) Sectional	12:00 PM	12:45 PM	
	W	Brass Sectional	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	
7/17/2025	W	M&M Practice	3:30 PM	7:30 PM	
	R	Alto Sax / Mellophone Sectional	8:00 AM	8:45 AM	
	R	Woodwind Sectional	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	
7/18/2025	R	Trumpet Sectional	12:00 PM	12:45 PM	
	R	Brass Sectional	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	
	F	Band Photos	8:00 AM	12:00 PM	
7/21/2025	M	Away Camp	7:00 AM	Overnight	
7/22/2025	T	Away Camp	Overnight	Overnight	
7/23/2025	W	Away Camp	Overnight	Overnight	
7/24/2025	R	Away Camp	Overnight	Overnight	
7/25/2025	F	Away Camp	Overnight	Overnight	
7/26/2025	Sa	Away Camp	Overnight	11:30 AM	
7/28/2025	M	Mall Practice #1*	5:45 PM	8:00 PM	

**Form Packet Must Be Completed Before
Summer Band - Must Have All Information to
Submit**

Form Packet 2025

