



# Advanced Band MPA

Dear Parents and Guardians,

MPA stands for “Music Performance Assessment”. Students in the Advanced Band and some 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in percussion ensemble will participate in this annual performance on Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at Venice High School in Venice, FL. Students will take busses to and from this performance. Parents, please mark your calendars now. At this event, middle school bands from multiple counties will perform three prepared pieces for a panel of judges in a large auditorium filled with their peers, family members, and professional musicians.

The judges at the event are vastly experienced professional musicians that grade the students’ performance. Using a music rubric, the judges grade separately and then afterwards average the scores for an overall rating. The ratings include “Superior” = A, “Excellent” = B, “Good” = C, “Fair” = D, and “Poor” = F. Last year, the band was awarded an overall superior rating for their performance. After the students perform the prepared pieces, they are ushered to the school’s band room to sight read two pieces of music they have never seen before. This is to assess the students’ sight-reading ability. Last year, the students also earned a superior rating in sight reading. Medals are awarded and worn at the final concert to each student for a superior performance.

## Rehearsals

To prepare for this event, the students need to have a few rehearsals after school to rehearse with professionals. This is also a GREAT learning experience!

Please check the dates below. Students that don’t attend the rehearsals cannot perform for the MPA without a reasonable excuse submitted (see the band handbook online at [www.aingerband.org](http://www.aingerband.org)). Also, the MPA performance is a *large* part of the Advanced Band grade for the third quarter. Please attempt to schedule other events around the dates below as they have been posted since August.

- 1) Woodwind Sectional in the Ainger band room, Thursday February 25<sup>th</sup> from 4-6:00pm.
- 2) Brass and Percussion Sectional in the Ainger band room, Thursday March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4-6:00pm.
- 3) Full Band Rehearsal in the Ainger band room with instructors from around the state on Thursday March 10<sup>th</sup>, from 4-6:30pm with a dinner provided by the band boosters.
- 4) Full Band Rehearsal in the Ainger band room, Thursday March 24<sup>th</sup> from 4-6:30pm.
- 5) MPA Performance on Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at Venice HS. The AB will be on the stage at 7:30pm. Buses to and from the performance will be provided. Students will receive a performance checklist as we near the performance.

*Please stay informed by checking the band website, e-mail, and by speaking with your son or daughter. Weekly announcements are also posted on the board in the band room and discussed during class.*

Check out the band website at [www.aingerband.org](http://www.aingerband.org)