

Ainger MS, Advanced Band Concert MPA



Dear Parents and Guardians,

MPA stands for “Music Performance Assessment”. Students in the Advanced Band and selected students from Percussion Ensemble will participate in this annual performance on Wednesday, March 11th at Venice High School. 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 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 earned a superior rating in sight-reading. Medals are awarded and worn at the final concert to each student for an overall superior performance.

Rehearsals and Performances

To prepare for this event, the students need to have some 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). Also, the MPA performance and rehearsals are a *large* part of the Advanced Band grade for the third and fourth quarters. Please attempt to schedule other events around the dates below.

- 1) Woodwind Sectional in the Ainger band room, Thursday February 13th from 4-6pm.
- 2) Brass and Percussion Sectional in the Ainger band room, Thursday February 20th from 4-6pm.
- 3) Full Band Rehearsal in the Ainger band room on Thursday, February 27th with a guest conductor and clinician. The rehearsal will take place from 4-6pm.
- 4) Full Band Rehearsal in the Ainger band room on Wednesday, March 4th from 4-6pm.
- 5) **MPA Performance on Wednesday, March 11th at the Venice HS Performing Arts Center.** The performance will likely take place in the evening. Buses to and from the performance will be provided. Students will receive a performance checklist and update newsletter as we near the performance and after the MPA organizers set the performance schedule for the district.

Check out the band website at www.aingerband.org