



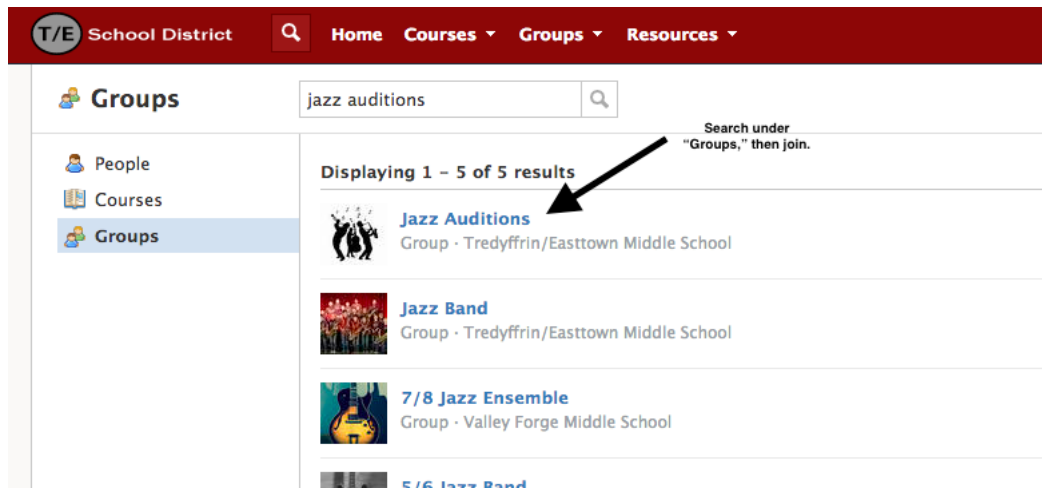
What is Jazz Band?

The Jazz Bands at TE Middle School are exciting ensembles that play a wide variety of songs in many styles (swing, Latin, funk, bossa nova, etc.). The music is more challenging, especially because many younger people are not as exposed to jazz music and the jazz style. Instrumentation includes saxes, trombones, trumpets, and a rhythm section (drum set, bass, piano, guitar, vibes). We also do our best to include instruments not often found in big bands such as clarinet, flute, tuba, french horn, etc. The jazz bands are only open to those students participating in our core instrumental ensembles (band or orchestra). The only exception is for piano, guitar, and bass, since they are not in our other ensembles.

There are two jazz ensembles here at TE; the Garnet Band (formally Jazz Ensemble) and the Gray Band (formally Jazz Band). The Garnet band plays more advanced music. Both ensembles meet at the same time on Thursdays after school until 4:10pm (no shuttle bus is provided).

How do you join the Jazz Bands at TEMS?

Towards the end of September or early October we will provide the audition materials using Schoology. Those interested in joining should join the group "Jazz Auditions" on Schoology. The group will be open when the materials are ready. We will assign an audition time to the student and they will have a week or two to prepare.



The auditions are only for placement; as long as you have some experience playing your instrument (not a beginner), we will place you in the appropriate band/seat. Saxophones audition for seat and not specific instrument so you may audition on alto sax but be placed on tenor/baritone sax. We also ask that pianists/drummers have an open mind with doubling instruments (it is very difficult to have 4 piano players playing on one tune!).

We hope you will consider joining our Jazz program here at TE Middle, and you have any further questions, please contact Mr. Seaton or Mr. Stefano.

Mr. Seaton – Director, Garnet Band
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Mr. Stefano – Director, Gray Band
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