



Central Bucks HS South

Music Department

Brian Cox – Band - BrianCox@cbsd.org

Scott Hensil – Orchestra - SHensil@cbsd.org

Joe Stellino – Choir - JStellino@cbsd.org

Curricular Ensembles - All high school music courses are offered on an elective basis. Performance classes meet for ninety minutes on alternate days for the entire year. **Students must be enrolled in music performance classes to be eligible to audition for the PMEA District and BCMEA County Music Festival, or to participate in connected co-curricular music activities (see co-curricular ensembles).** Many of these groups also participate in exhibitions and competitions. MBIT students who have an interest in cocurricular music activities should speak to their music director.

Curricular Ensemble Selections

Symphonic Band Jazz Ensemble Concert Band Chorus 10 Choir 11/12 Orchestra

Music Electives – These courses are designed to occur on the opposite day of your performing ensemble. If possible, students should take Music Theory prior to most other music electives. Music electives meet every other day (A/B) for half of the year. Students earn 0.5 credits for completing these courses.

AP Music Theory – Students should plan to take Music Theory prior to taking AP Music Theory or will need to pass a placement exam. During the 2019-2020 school year, AP Music Theory is being offered as a full year course that meets every other day, or a semester course that meets every day. Please choose the option that best fits your scheduling needs.

Music Elective Selections

Music Theory Music Technology Music Creation/Production/Marketing Musical Theater/Tech AP Music Theory

Co-Curricular Ensembles – These ensembles occur after school hours and meet throughout the school year. Members of any co-curricular ensemble must be enrolled in a full year curricular ensemble in order to be eligible to participate. The co-curricular ensembles at CB South offer the most valuable experiences for a young musician. It is a tremendous opportunity to rapidly improve his or her skills as a musician and meet some of the people who will inevitably become their **closest friends** throughout high school. Some co-curricular ensembles are by audition such as Chamber Strings, and Chamber Choir, others ensembles are open to any music student, like the Marching Band.

Co-Curricular Ensemble Selections

Chamber Strings Mens Ensemble Womens Ensemble Chamber Choir Marching Band

Commitment to a music program is NOT seen as a weakness on a high school transcript. Graduates of the CB South Music Department have gone on to study at the finest institutions across the country. Colleges are looking for young adults who can positively contribute to the culture of their campus. On numerous occasions, it has been expressed by college admissions office that a student's dedication, commitment, and willingness to follow through with the study of music throughout high school is seen as a great character strength.

Music students in Central Bucks perform better academically than their peers in practically every statistical measurement. Music students earn a higher GPA (weighted and unweighted). They take more AP classes than their peers. Annually, students who have taken three years of Band, Choir, or Orchestra have attended some of the most prestigious Ivy League schools in the country.

The Central Bucks School District has recognized that musicians are some of the most exceptional members of our student population and again have made it their mission to add more AP courses to run in the alternate day A/B format. While it cannot be guaranteed that these courses will fit your unique schedule, guidance will make every effort to accommodate all schedule requests. Families of high-achieving students who plan to take the most rigorous schedule possible should sketch out their long-term plans.