

New Trier High School Wind Ensemble Placements

All students wishing to be placed in Concert Wind Ensemble or Symphonic Wind Ensemble must complete an audition. There is no audition required for placement in Varsity Wind Ensemble. Auditions will occur in early March, and sign-ups for times will be posted approximately one week prior to the auditions.

A number of factors will be taken into consideration when a student is assigned to a particular ensemble following the audition. They are:

- Attitude in an ensemble this year,
- Dependability,
- Evidence of home practice and continuing musical growth,
- Rehearsal and performance attendance record, **and most importantly,**
- Their actual ability in relation to others seeking positions in the ensembles.

The audition is considered a “snapshot” of a student’s overall progress. It is one of many things (per above) that contributes toward the student’s final placement. The audition adds validity to the observable work that the student has been demonstrating every day in class. In essence, students audition every day of the year toward their placement for the following year.

Your audition will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Tone quality (*beauty, control*)
- Intonation (*pitch, tuning*)
- Technical facility (*articulation, precision*)
- Rhythmic accuracy (*sub-division, internal pulse*)
- Expressivity (*interpretation, phrasing, style, tempo*)

A Concert Wind Ensemble Audition consists of the following:

1. Two octave concert F chromatic scale
 2. 2 Major scales to be selected from concert Db, Ab, Eb, Bb, F, C, G, D, or A
 3. A lyrical (slow) excerpt of approximately 8-12 measures in length
 4. A technical (fast) excerpt of approximately 12-16 measures in length
- **Excerpts can be selected from an etude, solo piece, or the current band literature

A Symphonic Wind Ensemble Audition consists of the following:

1. The ILMEA Scale sheet – all notes must be tongued and the entire sheet must be completed in two minutes or less (quarter note = a minimum of 50)
2. Two ILMEA etude excerpts as printed on the New Trier audition sheet

Please note that the requirements for percussion auditions are determined by the New Trier percussion instructor annually and will be distributed during weekly percussion sectionals. Similar to the wind auditions, there are two audition sets: one for Concert Wind Ensemble and the other for Symphonic Wind Ensemble (based on the ILMEA etudes).

Lastly, schedule conflicts occasionally occur due to the unique combination of a student’s course selections for the following year. Students are typically notified about schedule conflicts in May or June through the Assistant Principal’s office. Please contact Mr. Temple directly via email if a schedule conflict should occur, so that an appropriate adjustment in your band schedule can be made.