

Hello 8th Grade Band Families,

Below is the second installment of the South Bands 8th grade FAQ enrollment emails. We hope these have been helpful as you complete the registration process!

Today's Topic: Making room for Band in your schedule

No matter what you plan to pursue after high school, there is time in your schedule for music. While only a small percentage of band students will pursue music as a career, they will all benefit from their music education. Our goal is not to create professional musicians. Here are a few key points to keep in mind if you have concerns about scheduling band at South.

I am thinking about taking a rigorous academic schedule, can I still be in band?

Of course! Students should absolutely get the most out of their education with a rigorous course load...including music! Most of our band students are in honors and AP classes and have been recognized as National Merit Scholars, as well as Hornet Scholars.

Can I get Honor Credit?

YES! All levels of band (Concert, Symphonic, Percussion, Jazz) can be taking for honors credit. There is additional coursework and requirements you can find on our website:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cABOnqnl-R3yvJl7YcxmDX5hIZ5okjPDINjyI7GRKt8/edit>

Can I still take other electives if I'm in band?

Yes. Although elective choices can be limited during freshman year, those choices do open up as graduation requirements are met. Students may need to wait for a particular elective, but music students may still experience a wide variety of other classes before graduation.

Do I have to take four years of foreign language and core subjects?

Not necessarily. College entrance requirements have changed in recent years. Many colleges and universities require only 2 years of a foreign language and only three years of other core subjects. Please check with your guidance counselor and/or a specific college admissions office to receive the most accurate information for your plans.

What are some creative ways to add flexibility to a high school schedule?

Summer school is a very popular option. Several required courses can be taken in the summer to gain time during the school year. Also, online courses & Hybrid courses are becoming increasingly more prominent.

Can I continue to play in sports if I take band?

Yes! Many South Band students also participate in sports during every season. The music department works very closely with athletics so that talented students can take advantage of many different opportunities.

Thank you for taking time to read our information! You can access more information about band at South on our website <https://www.hinsdalesouthband.com/class-of-2024.html>
We're looking forward to sharing a fantastic four years of music with your family!