

About Us

"We all have ability. The difference is how we use it."

-Stevie Wonder

Edison Bands

A Tradition of Excellence

The Band program at Edison Middle School serves over 160 students. There are three grade level concert bands, one Honor Band, a clarinet choir, a brass ensemble, one combo, and three Jazz Bands.

The EMS Jazz Program has participated in many music festivals including the New Trier Jazz Festival, Eastern Illinois University (EIU) Jazz Festival and the Purdue Jazz Festival where Edison has taken home the first place prize for many years. The Edison Jazz Ensemble has also performed for numerous locations including the Champaign Urbana (CU) Schools Foundation Benefit Gala, opening night for the Champaign Urbana Ballet at Krannert Center, as well as the Park District's Hessel Park Concerts. In 2016, the EMS Jazz Ensemble was invited to the 70th Annual Midwest Conference in Chicago, IL which is an international band and orchestra conference for educators and music lovers around the world. The EMS Concert Bands have traveled to various cities such as Chicago, IL, Charleston, IL, New Orleans, LA, and Bloomington, IL. Our 8th concert band has performed at the Illinois State University concert band festival and has also performed at the Crescent Classic in New Orleans where they placed first. In 2019, the EMS Honor band performed at the inaugural Large Ensemble Festival hosted by the Illinois Music Education Association (ILMEA) at EIU.



Education Equity Excellence
www.ems-bands.com



Edison Middle School
Band

Believe You Can
ACHIEVE



Why join Band?

The Edison Middle School Band Program prides itself on unity while maintaining student accountability. Through community involvement, student input, and experienced leadership, we are able to create a warm and welcoming learning environment that helps nurture critical thinkers, promote teamwork, and instill a growth mindset.

■ EDUCATION

Contrary to popular belief, Education is not just reading, writing, and arithmetic. A high-quality education prepares students for life outside the classroom. Arts education expands upon those core skills by promoting lateral and critical thinking through the use of creativity and expression. Because the structure of Band engages cross-curricular skills, students who play a musical instrument are statistically more likely to excel in all core subject areas when compared to their nonmusical peers.

■ COMMUNITY

Band is FUN and a great way to meet new people! In Band class, students have the opportunity to bond together unlike any other academic subject. By playing music together, students learn the joy of group accomplishments and how to effectively work together as a team while still understanding we are all individuals. The core diversity of Band allows contrasting perspectives and approaches to aid in building bridges of trust, respect, and understanding within the group as well as the community at large.

■ ACHIEVEMENT

The Edison Middle School Band Program has a long history and Legacy of Excellence that we continue to grow and expand on each and every day. We recognize that ability does not always equal potential but through steady and persistent practice, we can reach for the stars. Within the framework of a growth mindset, we believe everyone can achieve. At Edison, we strive for excellence in everything we do.

For more information on the benefits of Music Education, see:
<https://www.kaufmanmusiccenter.org/the-power-of-music-education/>

What to Expect...

Edison Band classes are divided by grade level and rehearse every day during school. In the 6th and 7th grade, classes are divided into two groups: Woodwinds, and Brass/Percussion.

As a perspective Edison Band Student, the expectation is to be prepared for rehearsals by practicing on a daily basis. There are performance exams and up to 4 concerts a year. Students in Concert Band or Strings can audition in the spring to be placed in one of the EMS Jazz Ensembles.



Making music is a process that requires hard work and dedication.

Whether you are in a concert band and/or jazz ensemble, you will be working together with other great student musicians to perform for various events. Students will also have the opportunity to work with world renowned guest artist and clinicians.

Edison Band Patrons

As part of our outstanding Band Program, we offer a great support system through our Band Patrons. The Edison Band Patrons is an organization that helps with various events throughout the year, including fundraisers, concerts, field trips, and other band events. Fundraising efforts by the Patrons allows the band to sponsor special guest speakers for the students as well as equipment needs and instrument repair. When your child joins band, you are also a part of this organization and you are an essential part of your child's musical experience.

Contact Us

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