

Meeting to Set-up Rules for Sightreading for Honors Band.

Held Sunday, April 22, 2007 at Michael's Grill in New Castle.

The following were invited or volunteered to attend:

Jim Rizzo, Ron Steffanina, Jason Bonnor, Erin Sypien, Dave Withrow, Travis Weller, Nate Daubenspeck, Tom Zumpella, Varden Armstrong, Bob Matchett, Carl Newyear, Lori Luurtsema, Tom Madar and Gary Taylor.

The following were present:

Jim Rizzo, Gary Taylor, Ron Steffanina, Tom Madar, Lori Luurtsema, Tom Zumpella, Jason Bonnor.

The following policies were implemented for 2007 adding sightreading at Honors Band:

There will be 2 additional categories added to the 6 already on the score sheet. The new categories will be used for sightreading – they will be “**Pitch Accuracy**” and “**Rhythm Accuracy**”. These categories will be worth 10 points each and will be used for every wind instrument and for keyboard percussion. Snare drum will use the two categories of “**Rhythm Accuracy**” and “**Expression and Musicianship**” (also worth 10 points each) These two new categories added to the original 6 means sightreading will count ¼ of the players total score (2 out of 8 scores) The score sheet will have the 6 original columns – a subtotal column for the prepared part – the two new columns for sight reading. A sightreading sub-total and the final grand total of all 8 columns.

Tone	Tech	Inton	Rhythm	Articu	Phras	Prepared Sub-Total	Pitch Accuracy	Rhythm Accuracy	SR Subtotal	Total Score

We will employ someone to write a 30 second exercise for sightreading. This would be approximately 16 measures of 4/4 time at about a quarter note= 120-MM. The solo would be transcribed to every instrument including keyboard percussion (with rolls added). The first 4 beats of the solo will be quarter notes to establish tempo. The snare drum would have a different solo. The composer will deliver the solo to Tom Zumpella approximately 1 month before Honors Band so that the composer and Tom can discuss its appropriateness. Adjustments would then be made. **No one else** will see the exercise.

At the tryouts, the students will enter their tryout room and perform their prepared part of the tryout. Judges should endeavor to keep the prepared part around 3 minutes. The judges will score the first 6 categories as they always do. The sightreading paper will already be on the stand, facedown. The monitor will then tell the student to turn the paper over and begin the silent review of the music. At the end of the 30 second review period, he will tell the student to play the selection. The monitor will time the student. If the student is not finished at the end of 1 minute, the judge will call “time” and usher the student out of the room. The judges will score the final 2 categories of “Pitch Accuracy” and “Rhythm Accuracy” (“Pitch Accuracy” and “Expression-Musicianship” for snare drum)

Percussion additional material:

The percussionists will sightread after they finish all of their prepared material (snare, timpani, and keyboard). They will then choose either snare drum or keyboard percussion for their sightreading. The score for percussion sightreading will be adjusted so that it reflects $\frac{1}{4}$ of the final score. I.e. – if the prepared points are 300 – then the sightreading will be adjusted to a 100 point total to reflect $\frac{1}{4}$ of the total score.

Subtotals will only be used to help **us** study the impact of sightreading and/or to help the individual students realize weaknesses. The total score to determine if a student makes the band or not will be based on both prepared and sightreading. With three judges, a perfect score will now be 240 instead of 180. (Except for percussion)

Much discussion was also given to establishing a holding area for all instruments to keep them separated from the tryout rooms to lessen the effect of hearing the sightreading through the room doors. We will coordinate with Tom Zumpella and Tad Greig to try to set up a buffer area.