

# *St. Louis Suburban Music Educators Association*

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## *MS Honor Band – Director and Student Info Letter*

**To: St. Louis Suburban Junior High/Middle School Band Directors and Students**  
**From: Angela Albrecht**  
**Re: 2009-2010 All-Suburban Junior High/Middle School Band Auditions**

Dear Colleagues and Students:

You will find all of the music and information for the All-Suburban Junior High/Middle School Honor Band auditions on the SLSMEA website. The website address is: [www2.csd.org/slsmea](http://www2.csd.org/slsmea).

**The auditions are scheduled for:**

**Tuesday, October 27 - 5:00 to 9:00 PM**  
**Rockwood South Middle School.**  
**1628 Hawkins Road**  
**Fenton, MO 63026 (map and directions enclosed)**

Please copy the audition music, audition application forms, map, and rehearsal/performance information sheets and distribute them to your students as soon as possible.

The St. Louis All-Suburban Junior High/Middle School Band is an honor band consisting of students in grades 7 and 8 from throughout the St. Louis area. Students selected to these groups have the distinction of representing their schools at the All-Suburban Honors Band Concert held in January 2010. All-Suburban Band members also have the opportunity to work with and learn from an outstanding guest conductor as well as with other talented student musicians from the St. Louis area. The honor band members are selected through auditions, which will be held on Tuesday, October 27, 2009.

You must attend all rehearsals and the performance in order to participate in either of these groups. **Please come to the audition with your music prepared.** Audition results will be sent to your director within 48 hours of the audition night.

We look forward to attracting many qualified and interested student musicians from grades 7 and 8 to audition for this year's honor band.

**The audition procedures are listed below:**

- ✓ Registration for middle school district honor band is online. Go to the SLSMEA website which is: [www2.csd.org/slsmea](http://www2.csd.org/slsmea). Find the Middle School Honor Band page and click on the "Online Registration Link." I will send the audition times in an e-mail prior to the auditions and each director will need to let his/her students know when their audition time is. **When the students arrive at Rockwood South, they will go to the registration desk and pick up their registration form that will be waiting for them. The students must have this form to audition.**
- ✓ **Plan to arrive at Rockwood South 30 minutes before your assigned audition time.**
- ✓ ***Students/directors must register on-line by Friday, October 9 at midnight.***

- ✓ **Scales (for Concert Band auditions) are listed in CONCERT PITCH** and do **not** need to be memorized. Concert C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, and Chromatic – 2 octaves if possible (no scales required for percussion).
- ✓ Concert Band audition etudes are from the rotating audition sets adopted in 1998. This year we will use **SET #2**.
- ✓ **Sight reading (4-8 measures)**
- ✓ There will be a directors' hospitality room where you will find food and soda provided by Rockwood South parents.
- ✓ Students will pick up registration form that will be ready at the front desk just as you enter the front of the building.
- ✓ Remember, students that do not register on-line by October 9 will **NOT** be allowed to audition.
- ✓ Audition Results will be e-mailed to directors within 48 hours.
- ❖ **REMINDER** – Students will be asked to perform a very short (4-8 measures) **SIGHTREADING** excerpt at their audition. In order to keep auditions flowing smoothly and quickly, students may only be asked to play sections of the etudes. Students should, however, prepare all etudes in their entirety. Sight reading examples will be at about the same difficulty level as the prepared etudes.

Auditions and rehearsals for the Honor Band will take place at Rockwood South Middle School in Fenton (map on the SLSMEA website). *Please remind auditioning students that it is important that they attend all rehearsals in order to participate in the performance.* The All-Suburban Band Concert site will be T.B.A.

Just a reminder that while Middle School Band is not covered under the MSHSAA rules requiring directors to be present at rehearsals where their schools are represented, you are welcome and encouraged to attend and assist with rehearsal supervision. Directors will be needed to run sectional rehearsals on some rehearsal nights. I will e-mail those dates at a later time. Please consider volunteering to help with these rehearsals so that we can have smaller, more productive sectional groups. Please contact me to volunteer for a sectional rehearsal or if you have any questions.

## ***Rehearsals and Concert Schedule***

Monday, November 9 – 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Full Rehearsal  
 Monday, November 16 – 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Full Rehearsal  
 Monday, November 23 – 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Full Rehearsal  
 Monday, December 14 – 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Full Rehearsal  
 Thursday, January 7 – 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Full Rehearsal  
 Saturday, January 9 – 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Full Rehearsal  
 Sunday, January 10 - 2:00 p.m.- CONCERT

# MS Honor Band – On-Line Registration Information

Registration for middle school honor band is online. Go to the SLSMEA website which is:

[www2.csd.org/slsmea](http://www2.csd.org/slsmea)

Find the Middle School Honor Band page and click on the “Online Registration Link”

## MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR GROUP AUDITION/PARTICIPATION FEE Band – Orchestra – Choir

All students auditioning or participating in a middle school honor group which includes the band, jazz band, orchestra, and choir will pay a fee of \$5.00 per student. If no audition is required, they will pay a \$5.00 participation fee per student.

The audition/participation fee is \$5.00 per student (not audition) and you must pay for all students that have been registered. If you register 10 students and only 5 actually come to the audition, you will still owe \$50.00 for all that have registered. (i.e. If a student decides to audition on Clarinet and Bass Clarinet for concert band and then Alto Sax for jazz band, he only owes \$5.00; he is considered one student.)

On October 27, directors/school representatives will need to check-in and pay the entire audition/participation fee for their school based on the number of students who registered. **ONE CHECK SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO SLSMEA** and brought with you. Schools that do not pay will cause their students to be **NOT ACCEPTED** to the middle school honor band. Please, no purchase orders.

### APPLICATION/REGISTRATION PROCESS:

- Registration for middle school district honor band is online. Go to the SLSMEA website which is: [www2.csd.org/slsmea](http://www2.csd.org/slsmea). Find the Middle School Honor Band page and click on the “Online Registration Link.” Fill out the online application and click “save record.” Students will receive a confirmation that their application has been received. It **WILL NOT** give them an audition time. Students will be assigned an audition time based on the order that they register. Audition times and room assignments will be emailed to directors the week of October 19.
- **REGISTRATION WILL BEGIN September 21 at 6:00 a.m. REGISTRATION will conclude Friday, October 9 at MIDNIGHT.**
- For students auditioning for more than one instrument they will need to register separately for each instrument. Once the registration process is completed and submitted, band directors will receive a mailing the week of October 19 with all of their students who have registered along with their audition times and rooms. Students will need to report 30 minutes prior to their audition time to pick

up their registration form. The registration area will be the lobby at Rockwood South Middle School. Their audition number will be their audition time.

- On October 27, directors/school representatives will need to check-in and certify that the registered students are members of your junior high/middle school band program and meets all requirements of the SLSMEA.
- Students will not be permitted to audition without an application on file.
- Remind your students that they will be assigned an audition time and that they are required to adhere to that time, or may forfeit their audition. Students that may have a conflict with after school activities should wait to register closer to the deadline to get a later audition time.

Thank You! Best wishes to your students who plan to audition!

*Angela Albrecht*

SLSMEA Vice President for MS Concert Band

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