

Garfield Jazz Foundation Monthly Meeting
January 6, 2020

Welcome

Director Updates – Mr. Sessink

- This is a busy time of year, focusing on competitions and other performances.
- He's building a new set list for Band 2 for Clark College (Jan. 25th).
- End of 1st semester is coming. He will be listening to band 2 and 3 students in the coming weeks to evaluate them.
- Band 1 is in the middle of their Essentially Ellington recording prep. It's the 25th anniversary of the festival. 18 bands will be chosen this year and over 100 enter. There will be no regional cap this year so it will be interesting to see which bands are chosen.
- He is focusing on scheduling for next year. He is looking at feedback about the bands and is thinking about what's best for the whole student body. Here's hearing that Band 3 feels like a demotion as compared to students' middle school experiences. He's looking at ways to improve the experience of Band 3 students. He'll be looking to get feedback from students and families about Band 3 and will use it to make decisions about next year. One thing he's thinking about is which two jazz classes will be offered during the school day and which will be before school. He is also thinking about having Band 2 students participate in the Marching band.
- Jam Sessions – He's been hiring clinicians to help to run them, like Mark Taylor.
- Thursday, January 23rd is the all-bands winter concert at the Q.
- Saturday, January 25th Clark College Jazz Festival for Band 1 and 2.
- Saturday, January 25th UW Jazz Festival for Band 3.
- Saturday, February 1st Bellevue College Jazz Festival for Band 1.
- Band 1 was invited to play at Hot Java Cool Jazz at the Paramount on March 27th.

Band 3 update – Mr. Sundt

- The band is transitioning to the competitive time of year and the difficulty of their music is increasing.
- Winter concert at Garfield on Jan. 23rd and UW Jazz Festival on Jan. 25th.

GJF updates - Mark Cramer (Band-Rep, At Large)

- He talked about how Garfield jazz is in the middle of a transition year and there's a lot of great energy from the directors and students.

- There are volunteer opportunities that are big and small. John Holdcroft recently volunteered to be the Fundraising Chair. We're still in need of several key volunteers to step forward, including Communications Chair, Citrus fundraiser, Jazz Gala team members, etc. We'll be communicating ways for people to pitch in.

Bylaws revision updates – Elise Kim (Secretary)

- We all need families to vote on the proposed GJF bylaws. Be on the lookout for an email. Voting goes until the end of the month.

Next meeting: Monday, February 3rd at 7pm