PMEA District 1 Senior High Festivals Audition/Selection Procedures Summary

(all information pulled from the PMEA District 1 Governing Documents)

Wind/Percussion (9-12) – District-Wide Audition Day

Honors Band, District Band East/West, District Orchestra

- Grade 9 Students will participate in Honors Band and must complete the paper application process for a chance to participate in JH District Band Fest.
- Grade 10-12 Students that qualify for PMEA District One Honors Band will be notified by their director. Top students in each section (number dependent by instrument) will qualify as the Winds and Percussion students in PMEA District One Orchestra *as long as they selected this option at District Wide Audition Day Registration.* All members of the PMEA Honors Band will qualify for PMEA District One East or West Band (dependent on school location).

Ensemble Placement/Student Representation for District Band East/West

1. ROUND 1: All students who qualify and participate in Honors Band are auto bids into District Band East/West. *Please note - 9th-grade students are NOT auto bids into District Band East/West.
2. ROUND 2: Every school that did not get an auto-bid from honors band will have one student selected. That student will be their highest placing student (grades 10-12 ONLY) based on the D1 Band Audition Day results. This will be done according to ensemble instrumentation needs.
3. ROUND 3: The remainder of each section of District Band East/West will be filled according to the highest-scoring students (grades 10-12 ONLY) based on the D1 Band Audition Day results.
4. ROUND 4: Host school has the option to enter up to a total of 10% representation.
5. ROUND 5: In the event that a section still remains unfilled, the host director will reach out to the membership to fill the section through representation.

- **Auditions at the District Band East/West festivals determines seating and advancement to Region 1 Band**

Vocalists (10-12) - District Chorus Auditions

District Chorus

- If the director chooses to participate through representation, each school represented at the auditions will be guaranteed one student in the district chorus if they have brought a minimum of two different voice parts (i.e. Soprano 1 and Soprano 2) to the auditions.
- Once rankings are determined, the executive committee, consisting of the officers and the host will readjust the choir to guarantee representation of each school and also achieve choir section balance. In determining the student selected for representation, the executive committee will consider the rankings listed by the director on their director form.
- The size of the choir will be predetermined by the host. The host can receive student representation of 10% of the total choir. The students of the host school are not required to audition. It is recommended that this 10% be distributed evenly by section.

- **Auditions at the District Chorus festival determines seating and advancement to Region 1 Chorus**

Strings (9-12) – Honors Orchestra Auditions

Honors Orchestra, District Orchestra

- Grade 9 Students that qualify for PMEA District One Honors Orchestra will be notified by their director. and must complete the paper application process for a chance to participate in Junior High District Orchestra..
- Grade 10-12 Students that qualify for PMEA District One Honors Orchestra will be notified by their director and are also eligible to participate in the PMEA District Orchestra. **All students chosen for Honors Orchestra must still submit a paper application to their directors in order to be eligible to participate in PMEA District Orchestra.**

Ensemble Placement/Student Representation for Strings: Placement in D1 Orchestra shall proceed as follows:

1. ROUND 1: Representation of at least 1 string student from each school's application based on applications/director's recommendation.
2. ROUND 2: The size of the orchestra is at the discretion of the host director. The host director may additionally include up to 8% of the string section with their own students.
3. ROUND 3: Honors String Orchestra highest audition scores complete string sections as needed. (contingent upon participation in the Honors Orchestra Festival)

4. ROUND 4: The selection committee shall return to the application pool to complete all sections of the orchestra as needed.

- **Auditions at the District Orchestra festival determines seating and advancement to Western Region Orch.**

Jazz Auditions – (9-12)

Honors Jazz

- 9-12 students audition for the PMEA D1 Honors Jazz Ensembles – no advancement opportunity. All-State Jazz auditions is virtual and run through the state office.
- Strictly audition based
- No representation

Collaborative Pianist Auditions (10-12)

District Chorus

- If selected, students who are selected to accompany District Chorus will be expected to audition on piano for Region Chorus on the District Chorus repertoire at auditions. This committee should include the guest conductor so that he/she may suggest which student collaborative pianist should play which piece at the District Chorus Festival. Students will have to play an accompaniment and an open score (of no more than four parts over four staves) from the folder. They will audition for three judges. The top scoring student will move on to the Region level if Region Chorus is accepting student collaborative pianists.
- Strictly audition based
- No representation

(updated September 2026)