**2016-2017 Blue Valley West Jazz Ensemble 1 Syllabus**

Attendance expectation: This ensemble is now an elite ensemble on campus. Prerequisite for membership is an audition or previous membership in a BVW jazz ensemble. This group will enjoy special performance privileges and therefore will have a higher expectation in regards to attendance and preparation. Members are to avoid missing rehearsal when at all possible. Points will be deducted from daily basics for tardies and unexcused absences. Two tardies in one week will result in a loss of all daily basics points for that week. (see grading policy below)

Rehearsal expectation: Students will have all materials for rehearsal including: instrument and supplies specific to their instrument, all of the music including the new text book, pencil, tuner, headphones when specified for listening assignments. Students should prepare for each rehearsal by listening and practicing on their own. They should be engaged for the entire rehearsal. Phones can be used as a tuner or for listening when specified. Any other use will result in a deduction of points from the daily basics grade.

Performance expectation: Members will attend the below performances as part of their letter grade for the course. This includes showing up on time and properly dressed (see below for dress code). Students are also highly encouraged to audition for the NEKMEA regional honor band in November (soph-senior are eligible). Ample class time will be spent on preparing the audition material.

Behavior expectation: Students are to be respectful and kind to every human they come in contact with including other students, master class teachers, administrators, parents, etc. Any issues should be handled in a courteous and professional manner. *Bullying of any kind will not be tolerated and could result in removal from the ensemble.*

Regular school schedule: Tuesday 9:24-11:04am, Thursday 11:04am-12:30pm, Friday 10:33-11:27am

Performance schedule: \*all listed events are required unless specified otherwise

FALL: October 25 Fall concert SPRING: February 28 Spring concert

November 17 combo concert March 4 KU Jazz Fest (could change)

December 9 Jingle Jazz April 14 Nacho Jazz

April 21-23 St. Louis Jazz Festival

April 27th KC Jazz Summit Basie Contest

Performance attire: For most performances, we will wear black slacks with our black BVW Jazz Polo (or an unmarked black dress shirt), black socks and shoes and a black belt (shirts must be tucked in). For combo performances, students may decide to add ties, etc. We aim to look professional at all times!

If these items are not in your closet you will need to make sure to purchase them prior to our first performance.

*Optional* concert/field trips: \*these will involve extra cost/time

FALL: October 9, 6pm UMKC Jazz BBQ

November 8 OR 15 , 7:30pm UMKC Jazz combos

November 29, 7:30pm UMKC Conservatory Jazz Bands

December 1 , 7:30pm Wynton Marsalis and JLC Big Band performing at the Midland in KC

SPRING: TBA

Attendance at one of the above performances is worth extra credit (5 points added on to daily basics or an assignment grade-whichever is lowest). Other performances will qualify for extra credit if students bring in a program or a note from a parent saying they attended.

Grading Policy: Student grades will be calculated as follows:

Performances 50% Daily Basics 10% album reviews 20% Projects 20%

Performances that are required are part of the students’ overall grade percentage similar to that of an exam. Daily Basics includes being on time and having all materials needed for class (see above for list under rehearsal expectations). Album reviews are due every two weeks. Students will be given a limited amount of class time to complete each review-the remainder of the tracks must be completed outside of class. Projects occur every quarter and are briefly described below. Each project will be worth 5% of students’ overall grade.

Project 1: artists profile-each student will select a performer on their instrument and do a 5 min presentation about their life/music

Project 2: transcription project-each student will complete 2 transcriptions (one to explain the process-everyone transcribes the same solo and the second transcription is one of their choice). Class time will be provided, but students should expect to work on this outside of class as well.

Project 3: combo project-each student will play in or coach a combo (small group-selected by teacher). This is all completed during class. See below for assigned groups.

Project 4: recording assessment-each student will complete a listening assessment of a rehearsal or performance of the class including a list of ideas on how we can improve. A rubric will be provided.

Combos (could change as needed)

Coach: Griffin Stout Coach: Michael Svoren Coach: Dante Decicco Coach: Alex Jashinski

Alex Renaut Nick Pfeiff Zac Cole Dom Decicco

Deacon Ridley Karl Miller Brady Gell Will Kossar

Kyle Miller Mason Farley Cameron Harris Connor O’Neill

Evan Stout Max Kurzban Cam Shaw Holden Haby

Harry Jones Mark Bowersock

Participation Fee: Each student in the Jazz 1 class will need to pay a fee to help offset cost of trips/clinicians/etc. The breakdown is:

Transportation/lodging and entry fees (St. Louis/KU/KC Jazz Summit): $100

BVW Jazz Polo (only new members need to purchase): $22

Checks can be turned in within the first quarter of the year (by October 27th) and should be made out to Blue Valley West High School Band.