## **Local Schools**

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## Seventeen Poplar Bluff band students earn All-District honors

DECEMBER 20TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

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The Southeast Missouri All-District Band featured a dozen students from Poplar Bluff Schools on Saturday, Nov. 16, at Cape Central High School.

PBHS students who successfully auditioned against districts across the region earlier in the month at Jackson High School included Preston Ethridge, Claire Funke, RJ Hester, Jackson Kennedy, Jazlynn LeGrand, Mylee McClintock, William Montgomery, Aubrea Morrow, Ma'Kayla Oses-Arviso and Bethany Winters. Junior High students selected were Addyson Henson and Kaitlyn Hillis.

"Each student is required to learn and perform a difficult set of musical excerpts in front of a judge and their overall score is pitted against all other students who audition," explained Stephen Winters, band director. "...They are placed in order by their audition score and then meet at Cape High School to learn an entire concert's worth of music during one day's rehearsal."

Also during the audition held on Tuesday, Nov. 5, the following High School students were chosen to perform in the Southeast Missouri District Jazz Band: Ian Gholson, Brayden Keeling, Wyatt Lindsey, Logan Simpson and Isaac Stork. These students will have the opportunity to showcase their talents during the Jazz Festival on Thursday, Feb. 6, at Three Rivers College.

Kaitlyn Hillis (left) and Addyson Henson, both flute players, recently performed as members of the Southeast Missouri All-District Junior High Band.

(From left) Ma'Kayla Oses-Arviso, William Montgomery, RJ Hester, Preston Ethridge, Mylee McClintock, Jackson Kennedy, Bethany Winters, Jazlynn LeGrand, Aubrea Morrow and Claire Funke performed as members of the All-District High School Band.

(Left to right) Logan Simpson, Ian Gholson, Brayden Keeling, Wyatt Lindsey and Isaac Stork are slated to perform with the All-District Jazz Band in February.

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