

## **POLICY FOR HIGH SCHOOL or MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT ELIGIBILITY**

**(Approved 1/2/2018)**

**All high school students enrolled in PSEO, online high school, or other similar programs must be full-time members in good standing with their school orchestra or band and must maintain membership in their school ensemble while in the WASO. Likewise, home school students who are enrolled in a school music program (or have been in the past year) must maintain membership in that ensemble while in WASO.**

**Students who are home schooled and have no connection with school activities, or students living in a school district that does not offer a high school performing ensemble, are eligible for membership in the WASO via personnel managers.**

**No student is guaranteed admittance to the orchestra.**

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### **Rationale:**

- 1) WASO is an enrichment opportunity for students. It serves to give additional performance opportunities for a student's musical development. Students given these experiences enrich their school program in return. This interdependent relationship between the two groups is what gives each ensemble added strength.
- 2) Students participating in PSEO, online high school, or other programming outside of a traditional high school do so by choice. Even students taking full-time PSEO are still eligible to participate in high school music activities.
- 3) Student musicians learn a different series of skills, lessons, and roles by participation in school ensembles and WASO. Each are crucial to the development of a well-rounded musician.
- 4) Willmar Public Schools, in particular, provides the WASO with rehearsal and performance space, as well access to instruments and percussion equipment. It is imperative that a copasetic relationship is maintained with the school, its music program, and its music directors.
- 5) In most cases, the school district and its music instructors, have also provided these students with their formative musical education.
- 6) This policy is consistent with eligibility guidelines for other high school musical enrichment programs, such as All-State Orchestra and Band.