

# 7/8th Grade Band 2025-2026 Syllabus

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## Course Description:

7/8th grade band is a performance-based music class open to students who are proficient at reading music and playing a band instrument. The emphasis of the course is on instrumental skill development and study of the core band repertoire at the grading scale level 2.0 or higher.

Required playing exams of scales and concert repertoire are part of this course. 7/8th grade band is a class that requires performances outside of the school day for achievement of our goals and satisfactory grade completion. Participation in music department fundraisers is also required.

## Required Materials Every Day:

- Quality instrument in working condition
- Relevant supplies for your instrument (reeds, valve oil, cork grease, slide oil, cleaning swab/brushes, mutes, etc.) Ask me if you're unsure what you need.
- Music folder with our current music (assigned in class)
- Pencil

## Behavior Expectations:

- **Respect others**
  - Respect others' property, keep your hands, feet, and belongings to oneself. Clean up after yourself, use appropriate language, treat others how you want to be treated. Be a kind person.
- **Do your best**
  - Being part of a band means that everyone is accountable for the success of the group. Always put your best foot forward, not just for yourself or a grade, but for the pride you take in being a part of something meaningful that is bigger than any one person.
- **Have fun!**
  - Participating in the creation of music is a uniquely human experience. It is one built upon human expression and working together to find enjoyment and contribute to society.
- **Be prepared**
  - Come prepared with all necessary materials (listed above).
- **Participate, and ask questions**
  - Engage in what is going on in the classroom; be proactive about your learning and always ask for help when you need it!
- **Keep technology in check**
  - Technology is very useful to musicians as a tool. We will use it for things like a tuner, metronome, recording device, etc. (things that help us get better)...or...we

might submit assignments/surveys and follow along class presentations using google classroom.

- Use of technology (other than what is listed above) is extremely distracting to the individual, and the group, and is not acceptable during this class.
- **Follow all general school rules**
  - All school rules, as outlined in the student handbook, will be enforced.

### **Clear-Cut Classroom Rules**

- Phones must be placed in the wall holder when students walk in, and remain there for the duration of the class
- No earbuds are allowed during class
- Raise your hand before speaking during rehearsal
- Take care of school property (ex: folders, instruments, cubbies, stands, etc.)
- Keep your space clean
- Practice room lights must stay on while in use
- Students should begin setting up to play as soon as they walk in. Rehearsal starts 3 minutes after the bell. Any student not set up at that time will be marked tardy.

### **Attendance:**

Band is a performance and participation based course. **Attendance is mandatory at all rehearsals and performances unless otherwise stated.** A schedule of concert dates is available on the band website and will be posted on Google Classroom. Please be aware of these dates, and plan accordingly!

Any absence from a performance must be communicated in advance to be excused. Absences that are excused may be subject to a make-up assignment at the discretion of the director. Not all absences will be excused.

From the student handbook, absences that would be excused include:

- Illness
- Observance of a religious holiday
- Death in the immediate family
- Family emergency
- Family situations beyond the control of the student as determined by the Board of Education in each district
- Such other circumstances, which cause reasonable concern to the parent for the safety or health of the student.

If your absence does not fit any of the above description, make up work may not be available and your grade will be subject to the penalty outlined below. For everyone's sake, please use the performance schedule to plan ahead and avoid conflicts wherever possible.

## **Grading Policy:**

The student's grade will be based on Daily Participation Points, Performances, and Tests/Quizzes/Assignments.

Daily Participation Points: Students will receive 5 points per day (25 points/week) for everyday rehearsals. If the student is prepared for class, on time, and participates with a good attitude while following class expectations, the student will receive all 5 points. Not adhering to classroom expectations will result in loss of points for that day.

Performances: **All performances are mandatory!** The director will provide the students with performance dates with ample time to make adjustments in their schedule. An unexcused absence from a concert/performance or failure to complete make up work will result in a letter grade deduction at the end of the quarter (ex: A to a B, C- to a D-, etc.)

Assignments/Assessments: These can be either performance based or written, and will be homework for outside of class. Students will be given notice to prepare any test, quiz, or recorded playing assignment.

LATE WORK POLICY: Any late work will be penalized 5% for each school day that it is late. After the unit summative assessment or 5 days have passed (whichever comes first), the assignment can no longer be submitted and will be marked as 0 in the gradebook.

## **Performance Guidelines/Concert Etiquette:**

- Be 5-15 minutes early for call times in order to properly set up before we begin as a group
- Come prepared physically and mentally, with all equipment necessary
- To receive full credit, students must be wearing their appropriate concert attire
- Be attentive and respectful while other groups are performing. (They have put in just as much work as you)

Concert Attire: "Concert Black" - Any interpretation of concert black must follow school dress-code policy and students violating school dress code will not perform. Options for concert attire are listed below. (clothing choices not listed here must be communicated for approval)

- |                              |                                    |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| - Black collared shirt       | - Black skirt                      |
| - Black blouse               | - Black dress (short/long sleeves) |
| - Black dress pants (slacks) | - Black shoes and socks            |

## **Discipline Policy:**

- Students demonstrating poor classroom behavior may receive the following consequences
  1. Verbal reminder
  2. Verbal warning
  3. Office referral and discussion with the teacher after class (with a call home to discuss behavior with parents/guardian)

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I have read the course syllabus for **7/8th Grade Band** and understand the rules and expectations of the class:

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_