

BAND AND PERCUSSION SYLLABUS – FALL 2026

Scott Smith, Director

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Description: Band classes are designed for advanced and intermediate level musicians who play wind instruments. Percussion class is designed for advanced and intermediate level musicians who play percussion. Tone, intonation, rhythm, technique, and musicality will be our main areas of focus. During football season, students are part of the Titan Regiment Marching Band. The band also participates in concerts and parades. Students will have the opportunity to audition for District Honor Band and All-State Band. Attendance at band camp, after school rehearsals, and performances are expected. All classes meet in the band room. Students must have prior experience on their instrument to take band.

Topics: During the semester we will cover the following topics: tone production, intonation, technique, rhythm, balance, blend, expression, theory, and history. We will use the following methods to cover the topics: Marching band music (Aug.-Dec.), scales (ongoing), concert music (Nov.-Dec.), chamber music (ongoing), and music theory (ongoing).

Expectations:

1. Respect Everyone and Everything.
2. Always give your best effort.
3. There should be no talking during rehearsal.
4. Have a pencil on your stand every day.
5. Bring your instrument, music, and other materials to class every day.
6. There should be no gum, food, or drinks during class. (water bottles are okay)
7. You must be focused and ready to work at EVERY rehearsal.
8. Cell phones should not be out or in use during rehearsals.

Please see the band handbook for a more detailed description on policies and procedures for the band program.

Your participation grade will be made up according to how you meet the above expectations. Plan to be in class on time with all your materials and ready to work. You will receive a participation grade for every class day. During the semester there will be required events for everyone. Check your calendar of events or the band website for exact times and dates.

The director must know in advance if you will miss a performance of any kind. The director must also know in advance if you will miss a rehearsal (marching or concert). Unexcused absences will impact your grade. *Emergencies are always the exception.* If a student is sick, the director should be notified by a parent the day of the absence. Please see the handbook for more information on the attendance policy. ALL performances are a grade.

Supplies needed: Instrument in good playing condition, mouthpiece, 3 good reeds, ligature, valve oil, your folder and music, and a pencil.

Grading system: Performances/Assessments-60%, Participation/Daily-40%

Tardy policy: Tardies will be dealt with on the school level. You must be in the band room when the bell rings to be on time. Please allow enough time to be in class before the bell rings.

Discipline Plan

1. Verbal Warning
2. Student/teacher conference
3. Phone call to parent(s)
4. Teacher Detention
5. Parent Conference
6. Referral to counselor (academic/personal issues)
7. Referral to an administrator (discipline)

Important Dates:

9/15 – Marching Exhibition
9/26 & 10/24– Marching Contests
12/6 – Christmas Parade
12/1 & 12/8 – Concert Practice
12/10 – Christmas Concert
12/12 – District Band/All State Auditions

In extreme situations (fight, profanity towards a teacher, alcohol, drugs, etc), students will be referred immediately to an administrator. *Student participation in the band program could be jeopardized by continuing to fail to meet the desired expectations.*

THIS IS A TEAM EFFORT. WITH EVERYONE’S HARD WORK AND DEDICATION THIS WILL BE AN EXCITING, FUN, AND SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR OUR BAND AND EACH BAND MEMBER.

An electronic sign off sheet for parents and students will be emailed out.

EXAM EXEMPTIONS

Exam exemptions are a privilege provided that the student meets the following criteria:

1. Has a “90” average or above in the course.
2. Has no more than three (3) class absences in the course. Seniors and juniors are allowed an additional two (2) days each year for college visits. School-related field trips will not count toward the total absences.
3. Does not have any out-of-school suspensions or in-school suspensions (ISS) for the semester.
4. All fine/debts have been cleared.
5. The teacher has the option not to allow the exam exemption within his/her respective course.

**Number of exemptions allowed per grade level will be noted on Exam Exemption Forms.

Attendance for Extra-Curricular and Co-Curricular Participation

Students must be in attendance for at least a half day of school in order to participate in an extra-curricular or co-curricular activity, except for extenuating circumstances. A student may not participate in an extra-curricular or co-curricular activity on a day that he/she has served either out-of-school suspension (OSS) or in-school suspension (ISS), unless the in-school suspension is completed by 3:30 p.m. (Out-of-school suspension is effective from the time the disposition is assessed until the beginning of the first day that the student is back in school.) A student who goes on a field trip is not considered absent.

Tardy Policy

A student is marked tardy if he/she arrives after the start of class. Punctuality is expected. Repeated or excessive unexcused absences or tardies; including failure to report to class, skipping class, leaving school without authorization, or failure to comply with disciplinary sanctions may be referred to the school social worker and/or administrator for appropriate discipline. Tardies reset at the beginning of each semester.

1st Tardy- Warning

2nd Tardy- Warning

3rd Tardy- Warning

4th Tardy- Detention

5th Tardy- Detention

6th Tardy- Saturday School- parent notification, if a student does not attend Saturday School they will be assigned ISS.

7th Tardy- Saturday School-parent notification, if a student does not attend Saturday School they will be assigned ISS.

8th Tardy- Referral to administrator

9 or more tardies- In-School Suspension (ISS)

Personal Electronic Device Policy: In accordance with school policy, all cell phones, earbuds, smartwatches, and other personal electronic devices must be put away and out of sight during instructional time, including Homeroom/Titan Time, unless their use is specifically authorized by the teacher for instructional purposes.