



Instrumental Music Wahoo Middle School



Meets every 3rd period. 6th Grade Band alternates days with 7th/8th Grade Band

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Welcome to the 2011-2012 Middle School Band program! Our goal in the Middle School Band is to become more proficient musicians through practice and performance as an individual and in ensembles.

Expectations

In order to become better musicians, different roles and expectations for each grade level have been devised.

6th grade band expectations will be that of mastering their instrument and learning how to be part of a group through learning the fundamentals such as tone, intonation, scales, rudiments and how to play as an ensemble. Band is a participation activity and everyone gets to participate. It is the responsibility of each member to know his or her part and how it fits into the overall performance.

7th grade expectations will be, to continue to master their instrument, be able to play the parts assigned and lead by example. The director will be looking for some leaders in this grade and expect each individual to become an important part of the band. Seventh graders might be asked to play some solos or to lead a sectional.

8th grade expectations will be the highest. Eighth graders will continue to master their instrument in preparation for high school. These students are the ones the director will look to for leadership and musicianship. They are also expected to help the younger band members during rehearsals, concerts or contests when they have questions or concerns.

Every band or team needs good, experienced leaders.

Band Opportunities

Concert Band (Required) – This is the main category of music that we take the majority of the time. We will work on music that is challenging and will emphasize high expectations in musicianship. Each concert will feature the concert band and will be a year round ensemble. The concert band will travel to the District Music Contest to perform for a rating.

Pep Band (Optional for 8th Grade) – The pep band is to play at football, volleyball, and basketball games. Pep Band will be playing more in the “pop music” genre to perform at games. Our music usually has about 20 songs to choose from and will provide a music folder to play from. Traveling will most likely be involved for post-season games as well. Please see the pep band policy in the syllabus.

Jazz Band (Optional) – Jazz Band will give students who play traditional jazz instruments an opportunity to perform in this genre. This group won’t start until November and continue until the end of the school year. Jazz Band will play at concerts and may travel to Districts and Jazz Festivals.

Solo/Small Ensemble (Optional) – Students may perform solos or small ensembles at concerts and at Bishop Neumann Contest.

Concert Wardrobe

Before each performance, information will be sent early about what to wear for the concert if there is a change. Middle School music students will need to purchase a Wahoo Music T-Shirt which will be used for both Band and Choir. Here are the basics for each group:

Concert Band – Wahoo Music Shirt with Black Pants and Shoes.

Pep Band (optional) – School Appropriate Clothing

Jazz Band – Same as Concert Band.

Music Boosters

Music Boosters is consisted of any parent that has a student enrolled in any K-12 music class. Each month, this group meets on Monday evenings at 7:00 PM in the WHS Library/Media Center. These meetings are meant to involve music parents to give input and receive information about the Wahoo Public School music program.

Music Fundraising

Music Boosters and Band will fundraise each year to help support the music boosters, student accounts, and for any band trips. Each fundraiser will have information to be sent out. Our main fundraiser is our Soup Supper that will take place in the second quarter each year. Please see the calendar to get the date.

Music Student Accounts – Any 6-12 student enrolled in Band and/or Choir will have an account set up automatically by our music boosters. Any fundraiser that they make money on will be deposited to their music student account. This will be active as long as the student is enrolled in a music class. This money will only be available for music events.

Middle School Performance Dates

7:00 PM – Thursday, October 20th – Middle School and High School Band Concert
Report @ 6:30 PM

7:00 PM – Monday, December 19th – Middle School and High School Band Concert
Report @ 6:30 PM

TBA – Saturday, January 28th – Middle School Jazz Band Performance/Soup Supper
Report Time TBA

7:00 PM – Tuesday, March 20th – Middle School and High School Band Concert
Report @ 6:30 PM

TBA – Saturday, March 24th – Bishop Neumann Contest (Just Solos or Small Groups)

7:00 PM – Tuesday, May 8th – Pops Concert – All Choir and Band Groups
Reports @ 6:30 PM

Band Lessons

Each section has one lesson during each week. It is important that you attend the lessons so we can work on specific needs in your section and as an individual. Lesson will be 30 minutes long. They will start 15 minutes into the period you have your lesson. Please make sure that you know what work you will have to do during the 30 minute lesson. It is up to the teacher if you need to miss a lesson if they need you to stay in class. They should email me if the student will be excused. On days of testing, there will be no lessons.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st Period 8:15-9:00	HS Band	HS Band	HS Band	HS Band	HS Band
Warrior Period 9:00-9:20	WP	WP	WP	WP	WP
2nd Period Lesson 9:35-10:05	6 th Tuba	7 th /8 th Drum	7 th French Horn	6 th Trumpet	6 th Saxophone
3rd Period 10:05-10:55	MS Band	MS Band	MS Band	MS Band	MS Band
4th Period Lesson 11:45-12:15	6 th Clarinet	6 th French Horn	6 th Flute	6 th Low Brass	6 th Drum
5th Period Lesson 12-:30-1:00	7 th Clarinet	7 th Sax	7 th Flute	7 th Low Brass	Make Up Lesson
6th Period Lesson 1:20-1:50	8 th Clarinet	7 th Grade Trumpet	8 th Flute	8 th Trumpet / Sax / Trombone	Make Up Lesson
Elementary 2:00-2:30	5 th Clarinet	5 th Baritone	5 th Flute	5 th Drum	5 th Woodwind
Elementary 2:30-3:00	5 th Trumpet	5 th Sax	5 th Trumpet	5 th Trombone	5 th Brass/Drum

Middle School Jazz Band

Middle School Jazz Band will rehearse on after school on Wednesdays from 3:30-4:15 PM. This is a group to introduce playing jazz music/methods for anyone. The jazz band is a non-auditioned group and any band instrument will be allowed to join. This group won't begin until November and will perform in concert performances.

Band Grades

Each semester, the band grade will consist of four categories. Each category will be weighed to account for the semester grade. Majority of the grade is performing in concerts.

50% Concert/Performance
30% Practice Minutes
10% Lesson Grade
10% Playing Tests

50% Concert/Performance Grade

Being in attendance to perform at concerts determines the grade. With only about 4 concerts a year, students are required to attend all concerts to perform. They will fail if they miss a concert due to an unexcused absence.

Concert Absences

Concerts are planned as best as possible to avoid other school conflicts, so students shouldn't miss concerts due to other school activities. The concert/performance grade only consists of the student attending the concert to perform. If a student is sick or will be absent due to a family emergency, please inform the instructor as soon as possible. The instructor will then decide if the student will be excused and if there will be make up work. Please mark the concert dates on your calendar and attend all concerts. If you miss ONE concert, that can drop the student's grade considerably in the category.

30% Practice Minutes

Turning in practice minutes every quarter. Practice cards will need to be completely filled out and parents will need to sign them. Grades for practice minutes are as follows.

6th Grade Practic Minutes Scale 90 Minutes Each Week

Total Minutes Practiced in each Quarter

600-720 Minutes = 100 Points
550-599 Minutes = 90 Points
450-549 Minutes = 80 Points
400-449 Minutes = 70 Points
300-399 Minutes = 60 Points
250-299 Minutes = 50 Points
200-249 Minutes = 40 Points
150-199 Minutes = 30 Points
100-149 Minutes = 20 Points
50-99 Minutes = 10 Points
0-49 Minutes = 0 Points

7th Grade Practic Minutes Scale 70 Minutes Each Week

Total Minutes Practiced in each Quarter

500-560 Minutes = 100 Points
450-499 Minutes = 90 Points
400-449 Minutes = 80 Points
350-399 Minutes = 70 Points
300-349 Minutes = 60 Points
250-299 Minutes = 50 Points
200-249 Minutes = 40 Points
150-199 Minutes = 30 Points
100-149 Minutes = 20 Points
50-99 Minutes = 10 Points
0-49 Minutes = 0 Points

8th Grade Practic Minutes Scale 60 Minutes Each Week

Total Minutes Practiced in each Quarter

425-480 Minutes = 100 Points
375-424 Minutes = 90 Points
325-374 Minutes = 80 Points
250-324 Minutes = 70 Points
200-249 Minutes = 60 Points
175-199 Minutes = 50 Points
150-174 Minutes = 40 Points
125-149 Minutes = 30 Points
100-124 Minutes = 20 Points
50-99 Minutes = 10 Points
0-49 Minutes = 0 Points

10% Lesson Grade

Students will need to come to band lessons prepared with instruments and music. Students may be excused if the teacher needs them in class. Unexcused absences each quarter will determine their grade:

Unexcused Absences Per Quarter

0 Unexcused Absences = 100%
1 Unexcused Absence = 95%
2 Unexcused Absences = 90%
3 Unexcused Absences = 80%
4 Unexcused Absences = 70%
5 Unexcused Absences = 60%
6 Unexcused Absences = 50%
7 Unexcused Absences = 40%
8 Unexcused Absences = 30%
9 Unexcused Absences = 20%

10% Written and Playing Test Grade

Written tests will occur each semester for their band final. 100% Participation and Effort is required for the band finals and that will determine their written test grade . Playing Tests will consist of 25 points with each of the categories being worth 5 points each. Playing tests can consist of playing excerpts from our concert music or music scales.

5 Points - Style: Play with slurs, accents, dynamics, phrasing, expression, etc.

5 Points - Rhythm: Play with correct rhythms without stopping

5 Points - Notes: Play correct notes with correct fingerings and stickings

5 Points - Posture: Play with correct posture by sitting up, feet on the floor, and correct hand positions

5 Points – FREE: Automatic 5 points

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INSTRUCTOR

By signing, you are stating that you understand the requirements stated for Middle School Band in the Syllabus.

Print Students Name

Print Parent/Guardian Name

Students Signature

Parents/Guardian Signature

Date

Please provide an email address to receive information on concerts, pep band, other band events. Please print clearly

Parents Email Address

Additional Parents Email Address

Students Email Address