

Band Curriculum

Beginning Band – 6th Grade

A student chooses the band because of a desire to learn a musical instrument other than the piano. No piano or previous note reading experience is necessary for this class. 6th grade band class meets five days a week for 40 minutes a day in addition to individual practice at home. A student who completes the Beginning year of band will be able to do the following:

- Sing (Read) on note names or Play a simple 3-5 note melody of short (2-4 measures)
- Perform on a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument melodies and rhythms from the Beginning Band book with a level of difficulty of I-II on a scale of I-VI in large group or as a solo
- Perform as a member of band with proper tone quality and posture and respond to simple visual cues from conductor
- Perform independent instrumental parts while others play contrasting parts
- Notate rhythmic dictations of 2 measures
- Describe and analyze a piece of music using appropriate terminology
- Perform music from different historical periods and cultures.
*Understanding music in relation to history and culture

Concert Band – 7th/8th Grade

A student who has successfully completed the Beginning Band course, or who has been auditioned by director as a new 7th or 8th grader will choose Concert Band. The Concert Band meets five days a week for 40 minutes a day in addition to individual practice at home. A student who completes the Concert Band elective will be able to do the following:

- Sing (Read) on note names or Play a 5-8 note melody of 4-8 measures
- Perform on a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument melodies and rhythms from text and supplemental music with a difficulty of Grade II-III (on I-VI scale) in large group, small ensemble or solo
- Perform 5 major scales and a 2 octave chromatic scale
- Perform various genres, i.e. Traditional overture, march, waltz, jazz, latin, with appropriate expression and articulation
- Perform music in Meters of 2, 3, and 4/4, 6/8 and 2/2 Alla Breve and rhythms through sixteenths and dotted eighth sixteenth and corresponding rests
- Compose a short melody for their instrument over an assigned accompaniment
- Evaluate (using relevant terminology) their own performance or that of another group after hearing recording of various pieces of music.
*Develop criteria for these evaluations
- Classify by genre and style various pieces of band and solo literature from Western music