

Concert Band Syllabus 2015 - 2016

Contact Information

Please contact me if you have questions or concerns! I'm looking forward to a great school year!

Emily Christensen, Band Director

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Course Description

Concert Band is offered to all students in grades 9 -12 with previous experience on a traditional band instrument. Continued emphasis is given to the development of musicianship, instrument technique, ensemble performance skills, music theory, music reading, and listening skills.

Concert Band is a performance-based course. Student involvement in rehearsals and performance activities will be part of the grading process for this class. There are frequently performances during non-school hours, and students are expected to participate as a member of the Concert Band. This class is a lot of fun, but not just an 'easy A.' Concert Band takes work and commitment, resulting in a strong ensemble and a meaningful musical experience.

You Will Need:

- 1) instrument (in good, working condition)
- 2) music / folder (This is like your textbook.)
- 3) pencil
- 4) iPad
- 5) a positive attitude and commitment to our band ☺

Classroom Expectations:

- 1) Come to class on time, and be ready to actively participate and learn.
- 2) Get your instrument and music out quickly and quietly, and sit in your assigned seat.
- 3) You are responsible for your instrument and your music.
- 4) Respect yourself, your peers, and your teacher. Raise your hand!
- 5) Set your iPad under your chair until we begin an iPad activity.
- 6) NO gum, food, or beverages. Bottled water is okay.

Consequences for Misbehavior:

- 1) Verbal Warning
- 2) Daily Point taken away
- 3) Detention
- 4) Contact parent / guardian

Grades

Grades will be based on the following:

- 1) Daily Point - 1 point per rehearsal - based on effort, attitude, and participation; point is permanently lost if a student is tardy, chewing gum, not participating, or off-task after redirection
 - *lost if absent - the student has lost a day of instruction, and can make up the point as designated by Mrs. C.
- 2) Sectionals - 2 points each - Concert Band students attend one sectional per week. These sectionals are 15 minutes long, and the students are dismissed from another class or 8th Hour to attend. Students must actively participate during the sectional to receive the points.
 - *If the sectional is missed, the student can earn back the points by scheduling a makeup sectional with Mrs. C. Multiple sectionals cannot be made up the last week of the Quarter.
 - 2 **point make-up**: student missed sectional due to school absence or teacher did not allow student to leave that day (quiz, test, lab)
 - 1 **point make-up**: student missed sectional due to forgetting or choosing to stay in class (teacher didn't require the absence)
 - *One missed sectional will be allowed each quarter, and will not affect the student's grade.
 - *If a student is misbehaving during a sectional, he/she will be asked to return to class and will be unable to make up the sectional points.
- 3) Playing Quizzes - At least once per quarter, students will be assessed playing a piece of music on their instrument. The point value will vary. Students will receive sufficient notice before the quiz in order to practice individually if desired.
- 4) Assignments - Additional assignments will be given throughout the year, to be determined by Mrs. C. The point value will vary. These assignments will include Practice Records documenting individual practice time by the student.
- 5) Pep Band - 5 points per performance - Pep Band performances are required. A schedule with all Pep Band dates, including tournaments, will be handed out the first week of school - mark your calendars! You are expected to perform with the pep band unless Mrs. C. has confirmed your absence before the performance.
- 6) Solo and Ensemble - 50 points - Performing in the Regional / State Solo and Ensemble Contest is strongly encouraged, but not required. If a student chooses not to participate, they will be given another assignment.
 - *To receive all 50 points, the student must actively participate and learn his or her part.
 - *Students will rehearse Solo and Ensemble music regularly during class time from December to March; this is a very important aspect of Concert Band.
- 7) Performances - 25 points per performance - Our performances include: Concerts, Homecoming Events and Coronation, Veteran's Day Program, Large Group Contest, Graduation, Memorial Day Parade

Missed Performances

Band is a performance course. Therefore, **performance attendance is required!** Students are responsible for keeping our performance dates free. A list of performance dates will be handed out the first week of school, posted on Schoology, and can also be found on the Activities Calendar on the Barnesville school district website.

Students with an excused absence (illness, funeral, school event) will be eligible to make up the full point value of the missed performance. Student with an excused absence will have one week to complete a makeup assignment, as determined by Mrs. C.

A student will be given an unexcused absence unless a parent/guardian CALLS and talks to Mrs. Christensen to confirm the absence. Any student who misses a performance for an unexcused reason will receive a zero for that performance.

Students must attend school for the entire day of a performance in order to be eligible to participate. The exception to this rule is an absence due to a school event or doctor appointment with a note turned in to the high school office.

Concert Attire

Students should wear ALL BLACK for our concert performances, as well as the Veteran's Day performance and Large Group Contest. Please dress up and follow our school dress code.

Students wearing inappropriate dress may be asked to change or docked performance points.

Lettering

Concert Band members have the opportunity to earn a Barnesville High School varsity letter. The lettering points system is posted in the Band Room and can be found on Schoology.

Fundraising

Each year, BHS Band members have the opportunity to participate in fundraisers. The money the students raise goes into the Band Auxiliary Account under the student's name. The money a student fundraises can be used for the Senior Music Trip, the Valleyfair Marching Band Trip, band shirts, or the big Concert Band & Concert Choir trip (every four years).

Money is non-transferable to other school auxiliary accounts, including Choir. If a student leaves Band, the money the student raised stays in the Band Account. If the student returns to Band prior to graduation, they may still use that money. Otherwise the money can be transferred over to a younger sibling's Band Account with parental consent.

2015-2016 Fundraising Opportunities for Band Students:

- *Potato Days Parade - August
- *Concession Stand - throughout the school year
- *Calendar Sales - Fall
- *Rally Beans Sales - October
- *Chocolate Sales - November
- *Calendar Pre-Sales - Spring

Jazz Band

***ANY BAND MEMBER CAN JOIN - ANY INSTRUMENT!!!**

*Sign-up to join during the first four weeks of school

*Jazz Band rehearsals will begin Tuesday, September 29th

*Rehearsals will be held in the morning before 1st Hour

--- Tuesdays and Fridays from 7:15 - 8:00 AM ---

-CPT Friday rehearsals will be moved to the preceding Thursday morning.

***Rehearsal attendance and academic eligibility are extremely important for all Jazz Band members.**

*The Jazz Band performs a variety of jazz repertoire, learns about improvisation, and explores the creative genre of music known as JAZZ!

*The Jazz Band performs at the high school band concerts, Solo and Ensemble Contest, and additional fun gigs throughout the year ☺

Concert Band Officers

Students interested in being a Concert Band Officer for the 2015-2016 school year will be able to apply for a position with Mrs. C. Once all the applications have been received, the entire band will vote for the officers. Concert Band Officers will schedule meetings once per month, typically before school or during 8th hour. Please apply only if you have additional time to dedicate to the band program. Ten lettering points are awarded to students who fulfill their officer duties.

President - Junior or Senior, spokesperson for our band, communicates frequently with Mrs. C., positive role model for other students to emulate, oversees concert tear down, conducts meetings and votes when necessary, assists with band warm-ups when necessary, assist the substitute teacher (could mean running rehearsals), ensures all officer duties are being performed

Treasurer/Secretary (Treasurary? ☺) - assists with fundraising, deposits, counting money, takes daily attendance, helps keep track of performance attendance, takes notes during officer meetings

Librarian(s) - assists with filing, cataloging, copying, and handing out music

Historian / Photographer - takes pictures during performances throughout the school year, documents performance information for the Record Review

ALL OFFICERS - model excellent conduct of an ensemble member, be an advocate for our band, participate in periodic officer meetings, ask Mrs. C. if anything is needed the afternoon before a performance, and insure that the Band Room, Uniforms, Storage Rooms, and Practice Rooms are tidy after every performance

Concert Band Member Agreement

Please return this page to Mrs. Christensen by
Thursday, September 3, 2015.

Worth 10 Points

Parent / Guardian

By signing this agreement, I am stating that I understand the guidelines set out in the Concert Band Syllabus and the expectations of my son or daughter as a member of the Barnesville Concert Band.

Student

By signing this agreement, I am stating that I understand the guidelines set out in the Concert Band Syllabus and what is expected of me as a member of the Barnesville Concert Band.
