



## COURSE SYLLABUS:

High School Band (grades 9-12)

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**Instructor's Name:** Mr. Craig Vogl

Email Address: cvogl@isd726.org

Academic Assistance Time: by appt before or after school.

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### Course Description

#### Students will have:

- Opportunities to enjoy various musical experiences by learning to express the language of music through playing a musical instrument in a group and individually, listening, and learning about music history and theory.
- Opportunities to represent the school in public performances and other community related functions.
- A chance to experience individual improvement, growth, and refinement of one's musical ability
- An understanding of team-focused success through self-guided discipline and individual contribution to a cooperative effort.

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### Course Prerequisites

Participation in band the previous year and ability to play at grade level.

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### Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

#### Students will improve:

- Embouchure and tone development
- Counting, timing, and rhythmic development
- Reading and notation skills, including sight-reading
- Selected major scales plus chromatic
- Music as applicable for concert preparation
- Development and reinforcement of an extensive vocabulary of musical terms and symbols
- Equipment care and maintenance
- Effective practice habits

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### Students must provide for themselves:

**Reed Players:** Must buy their own reeds, mouthpieces, ligatures, neck straps, and keep their instrument clean and in good working order.

**Brass Players:** Must buy their own valve oil, slide grease, slide oil and keep their instrument clean and in good working order.

**Percussionists:** Must provide their own sticks and mallets. It is recommended that each percussionist has a mallet bag with the following: 2 pairs of concert snare drum sticks (SD1 General by Vic Firth is a good stick), Drumset sticks if needed (5B or 5A is a good drumset stick), 2 pairs of medium yarn wound keyboard mallets, one pair of hard plastic bell mallets, one pair of medium cord wound Vibraphone mallets, and one pair of medium timpani mallets.

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All large percussion equipment will be provided by the school.

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### **School-owned instruments:**

School-Owned instruments can be rented for \$120 per year and the rental fee needs to be paid before the instrument will be issued to the student in the Fall. Students are expected to take care of school-owned instruments. Damage due to negligence will be paid by the student. Normally we rent out large, expensive instruments like tubas, baritones, bari saxes, bass clarinets, French Horns, and Bassoon. The school will provide a mouthpiece and a neck strap for woodwinds, low brass players need to provide their own mouthpiece.

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### **Method Books and Music**

Students will be required to have the book Foundations for Superior Performance. It can be purchased off of the internet or through Eckroth Music for about \$7 (Percussion books are slightly higher). I will put in an order at the beginning of the school year. Students who lose their book will be required to buy a replacement at their expense. We will use this book for all 4 years of High School Band. Original lost music will be assessed a fee of \$5.00 per piece. I will provide a folder to each student.

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### **Suggested Course Materials**

Every student needs a fully functional instrument and materials to play and maintain that instrument. Materials (reeds, valve oil, cork grease, mouthpieces, ligatures, etc.) are the student's responsibility and can be ordered through Eckroth Music, Schmitt Music, Al's Music, as well as a variety of online retailers. It is the student's responsibility to ensure they have what they need for their individual instrument. Please contact Mr. Vogl with questions.

#### **Daily Materials:**

Pencil

Band Folder, book and music

Have you iPad available for use as a tuner/metronome and a recording device. They will also be used for some class work.

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### **Grading Scale and Information**

#### BHS Unified Grading Scale

A	100-93%	C	76-73%
A-	92-90%	C-	72-70%
B+	89-87%	D+	69-67%
B	86-83%	D	66-63%
B-	82-80%	D-	62-60%
C+	79-77%	F	59% and below.

#### **Other grading information:**

Student grades in band will be based on the following:

50% Performance and written assignments

35% Concerts/Rehearsals

15% Tests and Quizzes

#### **Skyward**

Grades are available online at any time during the year. Grades and scores will be updated weekly but some assignments will be entered by quarter. If the individual score for an assignment is not entered by the due date assigned by the instructor, Skyward marks the grade as missing but it stays as an asterisk. **If the score is an asterisk (\*) for an assignment, it is not missing.** Scores that are truly missing will be entered as a zero.

### **Rehearsal Contribution**

Students are expected to be engaged in the rehearsal process. There is potential for everyone to contribute in a positive and meaningful manner while still having fun. Students who continually disrupt the process will be given a warning, talked to individually, referred to the office, phone call home, and given detention or removed from the class if the behavior does not change. Be a part of the solution and support your fellow classmates through your actions and dedication.

### **Music Theory/Written Work**

There will be music theory exercises and some written work throughout the year. Typically one written assignment or project per trimester. These will change based on the repertoire that we are preparing and will be meaningful in the learning process.

### **Performance Tests**

Performance tests will be recorded using Smartmusic. Tests will include a variety of major scales, rhythm exercises, song excerpts, the chromatic scale and sight-reading each trimester. Class time will be provided for practice and recording, but students may wish to supplement by practicing at home.

### **Performances outside of school**

Performances are an integral part of the band department. As a member of a music group you have chosen to participate in a credited subject, not an activity. Attendance at rehearsals and performances are part of the course and are required. An unexcused absence from a performance will significantly affect the student's grade for that grading period, just as failure to take an exam in English would affect a grade for that course. In instances of personal illness, death in the family or other special circumstances at the discretion of the director, students may seek an excused absence prior to the event.

**Mr. Vogl must approve absences before the performance and students must work with him to agree upon a suitable make-up for the concert.** Working is not an excused absence. The band schedule is established at the beginning of the year and any changes will be promptly announced and posted to the website, [www.beckerbands.weebly.com](http://www.beckerbands.weebly.com), so please plan accordingly.

### **Pep Band**

Pep Band is an integral part of the high school band experience and provides students with an additional opportunity to support their peers, and their community by providing entertainment before and during sporting events. Students will play pregame and be done after halftime. Students get into the games free of charge and can re-enter after putting away their materials in the band room. Weather appropriate attire is acceptable within school dress code guidelines for outdoor events. Tournament events will require a Becker shirt of some kind as a uniform.

### **Football**

We are attending the homecoming football game and it is a required performance.

### **Other Fall Sports**

There are four games and students should attend these if at all possible. Students attending will be able to replace up to 2 scales recordings for going to Pep Band.

### **Winter Sports**

Three games are selected and students should attend these if at all possible. Students attending will be able to replace up to 2 scales recordings for going to Pep Band.

### **Tournament Season**

We will support the sports that we are able to at the Conference Championship level and beyond. We will do our best to not exceed 1 Pep Band per week during the Playoff Season. All Playoff Pep Band events earn students extra letter points.

### **Classroom Expectations**

- Respect yourself, others, and equipment
- Listen, both musically and intellectually
- Be prepared to learn and contribute your talents on a daily basis
- Proper use of iPads and cell phones will be expected. They are **tools**, not distractions. Students who get caught using them inappropriately will have them taken away for the remainder of the period. Continual infractions will result in losing them for the remainder of the day.

### **Concert Attire**

Concert attire will be concert black.

#### Possible Attire Ideas:

- Black button down shirt or polo, black dress pants, belt, socks and shoes for men
- Black shirt or sweater and black dress pants or long dresses/skirts for ladies

#### Guidelines:

- Black socks and dress shoes
- No sleeveless, sheer or spaghetti straps for women
- Ladies skirts and dresses must be at least knee length when seated (pants are preferred)
- Please be sure your clothes are generally wrinkle-free, that is part of the professional appearance.

\*Remember the stage is higher than the audience\*

Looking uniform will put the audience's focus on our music, not our clothes.

### **Homework Expectations:**

Most written work can be completed in class, if time is used wisely. It is the student's responsibility to ensure it gets finished on time.

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### **Additional Information:**

#### **Band Boosters**

The Band Boosters are a group of parents that give of their time and energy to create opportunities for students in the band program. Every parent is encouraged to become an active member of the group. Meetings are held every other month at 6:30 in the High School Band Room. Please refer to the high school band calendars for the exact meeting dates.