

Mentor High School Bands Syllabus

Directors:

Steve Poremba
porembas@mentorschools.org
440.974.5342(MHS Music Office)

Ben McMurtrie
mcmurtrie@mentorschools.org
440.255.4770 (MMS)

Course Objectives

Students in the Mentor Bands will:

- *Experience and perform a variety of quality band music*
- *Continue to develop mature tone quality*
- *Continue to develop the technical skills necessary to perform quality literature*
- *Work toward superior levels in rehearsals and performances*
- *Demonstrate an understanding of all musical concepts explored in the performance literature*

Classroom Expectations

Time is our most precious resource. Productive rehearsals lead to superior performances and also help us to have a meaningful musical experience each day. The following expectations are put in place for all members of the Mentor Bands:

-School rules as outlined in the Mentor Schools Code of Student Conduct will be followed at all times.

-All band members will also follow the expectations outlined in the Mentor High School Bands Code of Conduct

-ATTENDANCE AND TARDIES: Students will be on time to class - in the music wing by the bell and in your seats ready to begin 3-4 minutes after the bell. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each rehearsal. Tardiness will not be accepted as it affects the progress of the entire group. Students that choose to “skip” class will be referred to their unit principal.

-REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE: Talking and distracting behavior in rehearsal will not be tolerated. Students should be on task and focused during rehearsals. When the director is not working with you or your section, please sit quietly and use that time to look over your part.

-Band members should be prepared with a properly working instrument, necessary supplies, music folder, all music, and a pencil at the start of each rehearsal.

-The rehearsal begins when the director steps to the podium.

-NO FOOD OR DRINK DURING REHEARSAL AND NO GUM!!

-NO CELL PHONES OR DEVICES OUT DURING REHEARSAL.

-Respect the other members of the band. We are all working together to achieve the same goals

-Treat ALL equipment in the Music Wing with respect.

Failure to follow the above expectations will result in the following:

1st offense – verbal warning

2nd offense – conference with student after class

3rd offense – CLC

Director Expectations

Students should be able to expect the following from their director:

- Enthusiasm for making music*
- Attention directed to the ensemble*
- Knowledge of the music and concepts being studied*
- Availability for questions, extra help, and enrichment*

Please let your director know if you are having any problems – most issues can be resolved through communication. The director's goal is for every student to succeed and have an enjoyable band experience. ALWAYS DO YOUR BEST!

Grading Policy

Rehearsal Skills 20%

Students are required to attend rehearsals daily. Some rehearsals may be scheduled after school during the year as well. Students are expected to attend these rehearsals. Members will be excused from after school rehearsals only if written reasons signed by parents are submitted to the director before the rehearsal. Students will be responsible to make up work missed from ANY rehearsal. Points are awarded for contributions to the rehearsal, positive participation and preparedness. Students should attend every rehearsal with appropriate supplies including instrument, accessories (reeds, valve oil), music, and a pencil. Students should participate and behave in an exemplary manner showing pride in their efforts and having respect for the entire band.

Performance Assessments 30%

Students will be given performance evaluations throughout the grading period. Possible evaluations include:

- playing individually in class*
- preparing assignments for recorded performances*

Evaluations will be graded based upon the rubric for instrumental music.

Daily performance within the large group setting is also evaluated.

Assignments 15%

Small scale written and computer-based assessments will be given occasionally to help students monitor their level of understanding as concepts are being taught.

Performances 35%

As a member of the MHS bands, you are required to participate in all performances.

Students will also complete a performance reflection as part of their grade.

All performances are mandatory. If an unforeseen circumstance results in an absence from a performance, the student should consult the band director.

Check the calendar for dates of performances and note that events are subject to change. Please resolve or communicate conflicts ahead of time.

Mentor High School Bands 2017-2018 Calendar of Events

Saturday September 9, 2017– 8 AM...MHS...

Music Mentors TAG DAY (ALL)

Tuesday October 10, 2017 – 7:00 PM..MHS FAC..

Fall HS Music Festival (VARSITY BAND)

Wednesday December 13, 2017 – 7:00 PM..MHS FAC....

Winter Band Concert (ALL BANDS)

Saturday January 27, 2018 – ALL DAY...MAYFIELD HS...

OMEA High School Solo and Ensemble Adjudicated Event

Tuesday January 30, 2018 – 7:00 PM.....MHS FAC...

Collage Concert (SELECTED PERFORMERS)

Tuesday March 6, 2018 – 7:00PM....MHS FAC...

Large Group Preview Concert (ALL BANDS)

Friday & Saturday March 9&10, 2018 –MENTOR HS...

OMEA Large Group Band Adjudicated Event

Thursday April 12, 2018– 7:00 PM..MHS FAC....

Mentor Jazz Festival (JAZZ)

Wednesday May 2, 2018 – 7:00PM...MHS FAC...

Spring Band Concert (ALL)

Monday May 14, 2018 - 7:00PM...MHS FAC...

MHS Bands Percussion Recital Concert

Saturday May 28, 2018 – 7:30AM..CSU WOLSTEIN CENTER

MHS Commencement Ceremony

****PLEASE KEEP THIS CALENDAR AND CLEAR ANY CONFLICTS BEFORE THEY MAY ARISE. ADDITIONAL DATES MAY BE ADDED TO THIS CALENDAR. CONTACT THE BAND DIRECTORS WITH ANY QUESTIONS**

SCHOOL INSTRUMENT REQUIREMENTS

School instruments are provided for use at no cost to the student. Students are expected to treat school instruments with care and respect. Any damage done to a school instrument through negligence or misuse will be the responsibility of the student. Students will fill out a School Instrument Loan Contract to go along with the instrument that they are assigned to use. Students should only use the instrument that they are assigned to and report any problems with the instrument to the directors immediately.

The following items need to be provided by the student:

BRASS INSTRUMENTS:

- valve oil***
- cleaning cloth***
- it is recommended that if a student is able to provide their own mouthpiece that they do***

WOODWIND INSTRUMENTS:

- reeds***
- cleaning swabs***
- key oil***
- neck strap***
- it is recommended that if a student is able to provide their own mouthpiece that they do***

PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS:

Percussion instruments that are owned by the school will be treated with respect and care. Any misuse of school owned equipment could be considered as vandalism.

*****percussionists will provide their own sticks and mallets***

STUDENT-OWNED INSTRUMENTS

Student-owned instruments should be maintained in good working condition. Every student will be supplied with a school locker and a lock. Instruments will be stored in lockers at all times when not in use. If a student's instrument needs repair it is the responsibility of the student to do so in a timely manner.

Students will also provide the following accessories:

BRASS INSTRUMENTS:

- valve oil
- cleaning cloth

WOODWIND INSTRUMENTS:

- reeds (at least 3 working at all times)
- cleaning swabs
- key oil
- neck strap

PERCUSSIONISTS:

- mallet bag
- snare drum sticks
- yarn mallets
- rubber mallets
- hard plastic bell mallets
- timpani mallets

CONCERT UNIFORMS

All band members will be issued a school-owned concert uniform for the school year. Ladies will wear a long black concert dress uniform for which they will need to provide flat black shoes. Boys will be issued a concert tuxedo that will include coat, pants, white tux shirt, and bow tie. Male students will need to provide their own black dress shoes and black socks. All band members will be responsible for the care of their concert uniform through the school year. All music students will be charged a fee for the use, maintenance, and cleaning of the uniform.