

6th, 7th, 8th Grade Band
COURSE SYLLABUS 2021-2022



Teacher: Wendy Wilson

Band Website: www.ammsband.org
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Teacher Office House: Monday – Friday by appt. (8:00 – 8:25AM / 4:10 – 4:45PM)

Rehearsals:

8:00AM – 8:45AM As Scheduled Full Band Rehearsals
8:00AM – 8:45AM Thursdays Jazz Band

Opportunities for ensembles, solos, and special events will be announced and posted to our AMMS Band Calendar. Announcements of changes will be made in advance.

METHOD BOOK: *All books can be purchased through the school.**

6th grade Band*: *Habits of a Successful Beginning Band Musician (Rush and Moon)* *** (Green Cover)
-To be purchased **AFTER** instrument testing***
7th grade Band*: *Habits of a Successful Middle School Musician (Rush and Moon)* (Yellow Cover)
8th grade Band*: *Habits of a Successful Middle School Musician (Rush and Moon)* (Yellow Cover)
*Various musical selections in the form of sheet music and warm-up/technique books.

SUPPLIES:

Supplies are needed daily and include items such as instrument, black binder, method book, music, pencil, agenda, iPad, etc. Please see [supply list](#) in Band Handbook for a full description of necessary and specific classroom supplies and fees for each grade level and instrument.

More information about supplies will be provided during the first couple of weeks of class. Physical method books (orders will be placed) as well as digital resources (through Band website and/or TEAMS / One Note Notebook) will be used.

Technology: iPad, Smartmusic, Breezin' Thru Theory, Tonal Energy, YouTube, and other online resources will be used.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a performance-oriented class. Each student works on the development of general music skills and specific technical aspects of his/her instrument through a variety of varied, quality music selections based on the level of difficulty for each grade level. Skills such as sight-reading, breathing techniques, tone, articulation, and posture will also be stressed. This class, along with rehearsals outside of school, helps prepare each student and the class for concerts and performance evaluations. Students will be challenged to progress as an individual on their instrument mastering skills and techniques throughout the course.

This course is a year-long class that meets daily. If changes need to be made to a schedule, those changes may only be made at the end of the year after conference with the director. When students are joining Band, he/she is joining and committing to the entire school year – August 2021 to May 2022. Schedule changes will not be made during the year.

COURSE OUTLINE:

"Accommodations and modifications will be made according to the student's needs."

Classes will be structured using the *Fulton County Standards Mastery Framework Curriculum and Georgia Performance Standards for Music* as our focus:

1. Singing alone, and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
2. Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
3. Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments.
4. Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines.
5. Reading and notating music.
6. Listening to, analyzing, and describing music.
7. Evaluating music and music performances.
8. Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.
9. Understanding music in relation to history and culture.

**The Fulton County Standards Mastery Framework Curriculum also supports the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards.*

This course is further designed to support statewide literacy standards and challenge students to become more effective communicators and consumers of information by applying skills and vocabulary learned to other subject areas and real-life scenarios.

OBJECTIVES:

*Exhibit a thorough knowledge of performance practices by showing continuing improvement in tone production, intonation, balance and blend, articulation, techniques, interpretation, scales, and scale patterns, as well as ensemble awareness (both musically and socially).

ELIGIBILITY:

All participants must meet pre-requisite, local, county, and state eligibility requirements to participate. Any student not meeting these requirements may not be able to participate.

REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES:

Students are expected to practice at home. Practice is necessary for improvement on their instrument and in completing class assignments/performances to the best of their abilities and to the standards required to demonstrate mastery. Performance events and activities will be published on the AMMS Band Calendar and as opportunities arise.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES/ASSIGNMENTS:

Opportunities for participation in honor ensembles, solo/ensemble festival, and other such activities are encouraged and supported by the director and are often rewarded with medals, plaques, or trophies. (See band handbook for more information.) These opportunities can occur at the school, district, or state levels. These opportunities will be announced as available.

GRADING PROCEDURE:

Grades are weighted based on the assignment type/category:

MAJOR (Concerts/Performances, Tests, Playing Assessments that allow for demonstration of mastery of priority standards/skills)	60%
MINOR (quizzes, rehearsal/class performance, written assignments, theory, demonstration of individual skill sets and instrumental development, music checks, music related projects)	30%
PRACTICE (scales, technique, rhythm, practice sheets, skill videos, check-ins, rehearsal strategies, reflections, daily assignments, classwork, homework, observations, engagement activities, skill builders/remediation activities)	10%

A grade will be given for work completed in class AND outside of class. Grades are reported every 4 1/2 weeks and are a culmination of the following:

- Concerts and Playing Performances
- Participation in daily class activities.
- Demonstration of musician etiquette in class, rehearsals, and performances.
- Formative assessments to evaluate skills such as rhythm reading, sight-reading, progress on musical skills and to evaluate if progress is being made on music/skill challenges being practiced and learned.
- Assessments – Live/Written/Audio/Video/Smart Music/Theory/Pass Offs
- ELO's: Evening Learning Opportunities (Homework/Practice Sheets)
- Completion of Fine Arts Activity Logs and/or Music Projects

*See handbook for more information

LATE WORK:

Students are expected to turn in all work on time. Assignments not turned in will be marked Not Handed In (NHI = 0) until the assignment is completed and turned in. Assignments must be turned in within 10 school days from the original due date but will receive 10 points off for every day it is late. Any make-up work must be completed at least 10 days prior to the end of the grading period.

RECOVERY on ASSESSMENTS:

- All students will have one (1) opportunity each nine weeks to redo/retake one (1) major assignment/assessment.
- Eligibility for a redo/retake is for students who receive a 79 or below on a specific major assignment/assessment.
- Students are eligible to earn a replacement grade on a redo/retake no higher than 79.
- Student redo/retakes must be completed before the next major assignment/assessment is given or 5 school days before the end of a marking period if there is not another major assignment/assessment given (exceptions can be made for students who have excused absences during this five-day window).

Recovery is a “gradeable” experience that allows a student to demonstrate mastery of standards to “recover” his/her grade.

ABSENCES:

If a student is absent, it is his/her responsibility to get the information missed. Attendance will be taken daily during each class period. Absences and/or being unprepared will affect a student's performance and overall grade.

HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS:

Homework occurs daily for Band. It is expected that students practice his/her instrument each night to build embouchure, endurance, demonstrate individual responsibility of music and ensemble skills, and demonstrate mastery of concepts learned in class. Performance assessments (written and playing) will occur on a regular basis and extra practice time may be needed. Band students should expect a minimum of 20 minutes of homework every night – practice, practice, practice, therefore; instruments should always be with students. Students are expected to take instruments home every day. There will also be occasional studying for tests or written assignments/projects and these should be noted in the students' agenda.

BASIC CLASSROOM PROCEDURES AND EXPECTATIONS:

SEE HANDBOOK FOR FUTURE PROCEDURES AND EXPECTATIONS

Prompt - Prepared - Polite - Present – Positive
RIGOR -RELEVANCE-RELATIONSHIPS-RESPECTFUL-RESPONSIBLE

1. Bring agendas, pencils, instruments, music, iPad, and supplies to class daily.
2. Participate in all classroom activities and attend all after and before school rehearsals and concerts.
3. Maintain an open, positive attitude about all types of band literature and learning activities.
4. Be on time to class, rehearsals, events, and performances.
5. Strict adherence to all rules as they appear in the student and band handbook.
6. Be an active participant in your section and class.
7. Do your own work, your best quality work, be thorough, and turn it in on time and complete.
8. Show respect to your fellow classmates, band director, and band materials/instruments/equipment.
9. Proper concert attire must be worn during a performance.



DISCIPLINE GUIDELINES:

To maintain an environment conducive to learning, students must follow behavior guidelines. At AMMS students are expected to adhere the Fulton County Code of Conduct, the schoolwide P.B.I.S. expectations and online/technology expectations. Should a student not follow these expectations/rules, teachers will use the school-wide classroom discipline cycle. As situations arise, parents and designated school personnel may be used to resolve the situation. (Guidance counselor, administrator, social worker, etc.)

ADDITIONAL BAND RELATED HANDOUTS:

*Additional important band related documents will be made available on the AMMS Band website (www.ammsband.org) or through email/newsletters/handouts. Please read all information in its entirety and return any required forms according to the due dates as indicated on the documents.

Order forms for band student band kits (books/supplies) and instrument rentals will be made available in the first few weeks.

A parent/student confirmation form will also be shared.

The Music Connection Band Newsletter will also contain important announcements and information regarding Band Classes. These will be sent by email through contacts listed in Infinite Campus. Please make sure the school has your correct contact information so you can receive important school information.