

Marcellus 7th and 8th Grade Band Syllabus

Director: Katy Essex

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MARCELLUS BAND ROOM RULES

Rules

1. Behave. Respect everyone and everything in this room.
2. Do not talk or play your instrument out of turn.
3. Be on time.
4. No food, gum, candy, pop, etc. are permitted in the band room.

Consequences

1. Verbal warning
2. Office/Referral
3. Call home and Office/Referral
4. Removal from band program

Expectations

1. Help Out! – Help clean, help move furniture, help each other.
2. Practice Your Music.
3. Be nice to everyone.

GRADING

The grading is divided into four areas:

1. **Musicianship** (25%) – based on observed student effort and progress through periodic quizzes and tests.
2. **Performance Requirement** (30%) – Provided we are able: the performance grade will be earned through concert/festival performance(s). During the first marking period, this grade will be earned through a performance test.
3. **Tests and Quizzes** (25%) – playing and performance as well as written theory tests.
4. **Participation** (20%) – based on daily attitude, effort, and preparedness. Each student receives a daily participation grade of 2, 1 or 0 points.

Grading Scale – located in the student handbook.

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Make sure you have accepted the invitation to Google Classroom. I post audio files, concert videos and schedule reminders here.

GRADE UPDATES

Grades will be updated on Powerschool each Friday.

CITIZENSHIP GRADE

Each marking period all students receive a citizenship grade that will be determined by observed student behavior and attitude. Each student will begin the marking period with a citizenship grade of

SATISFACTORY.

Some examples of behavior which will have a positive effect on the citizenship and participation grades:

- Coming to class fully prepared (instrument, book and pencil)
- Following directions from the teacher
- Warming up your instrument in a quiet and musical way
- Raising your hand when you have a question or something to say
- Showing respect for others

Some examples of behavior which will have a negative effect on the citizenship and participation grades:

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- Talking or playing your instrument out of turn
- Chewing gum or eating food in class
- Not having a pencil at your music stand
- Playing another person's instrument
- Warming up your instrument in a loud or unmusical way
- Throwing paper or other objects
- Any boisterous, disrespectful, or inappropriate behavior which causes disruption to the learning process

EXTRA CREDIT

Students may earn extra credit by taking private lessons, participating in solo and ensemble festival, or attending a concert (with prior approval from the instructor).

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is necessary and mandatory at all performances and rehearsals both during the school day and outside of school time. Absences mar the effectiveness of the entire band and will not be tolerated.

Personal illness or a family emergency are the only permitted excuses. Prior notification of an absence does not necessarily make it excused (consult the director). All band members are required to present a written excuse from a parent on the day after an absence. The following penalties will be incurred upon an unexcused absence:

1. Unexcused absence from performance - marking period grade lowered two letters for each occurrence.
2. Students accumulating three unexcused absences from performances during the school year will be dropped from the band program.

TARDIES - Refer to the Marcellus Middle School Handbook. Tardies will result in a lower participation grade for each occurrence.

REHEARSALS

Band members are required to observe the following rehearsal guidelines:

1. To each rehearsal, bring your instrument, music, and a pencil.
2. Upon arrival in the rehearsal room, promptly get to your seat and start warming up quietly. When you are not playing you are not talking.
3. When the director or another conductor steps onto the podium, all playing and talking must cease immediately.
4. At the close of rehearsal, return your instrument and music to their proper places.
5. Return the chairs and stands to their proper place.

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL

All middle school band members are encouraged to participate in Solo and Ensemble Festival. The director will be available for extra help before and after school. Students taking part in Solo and Ensemble earn extra credit.

MUSIC BOOKS AND SUPPLIES

All band students must provide the normal supplies needed to maintain their instrument properly. This includes, but is not limited to, the appropriate reeds, oil, cleaning supplies, swabs, etc. Students must also have the Essential Elements 2000 Book 1 and Book 2. These items may be purchased at Meyer Music, Amazon.com, or Woodwind and Brasswind (www.wbw.com).

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*Flutes - cleaning rod, rag, wind guard (provided)

*Clarinets - cleaning kit, cork grease, Reeds – Mitchell Lurie 2 ½ or 3

*Alto Saxophones – cleaning kit (should include swab and mouthpiece brush), pad saver (optional), cork grease, Reeds – Rico Royal 3 OR Vandoren 2 ½.

*Trumpets – cleaning kit, valve oil, slide grease or cream.

*Horns – cleaning kit, valve oil, tuning slide grease or cream.

*Trombones – cleaning kit, slide oil or slide grease, tuning slide grease or cream; spray bottle if using slide cream.

*Tubas – rags, tuning slide cream or grease, valve oil, mouthpiece scrub brush

*Percussion – snare sticks, bell mallets, yarn mallets, stick bag (optional), gloves (maybe, if you want)

CONCERT DRESS

MS students will need to provide their own black pants, black socks and black shoes. The shirts, bow-ties and scarves are provided through the Band Booster organization and are kept at school.

INSTRUMENTS

You are personally held responsible for your instrument whether school or privately owned. Never leave it unattended where it could get damaged or stolen. Take your instrument home regularly. It is essential to the welfare of the band that you keep the instrument in good playing condition (slides greased, reeds in good playing condition, valves working, etc.). If you are using a school instrument you will be responsible for paying for any damages that you cause to that instrument.

CELL PHONES

Need to be turned off and kept in your bags. No exceptions. If you are caught with your phone out during class or it goes off during class you will be serving lunch detention.

NEED EXTRA HELP?

You can always reach me via email which, honestly, is fastest: kathryn.essex@marcelluscs.org

You can text me questions on my Google Voice number which is 269-340-0678.

Or you can make an appointment to see me before or after school.