

## Band Syllabus – 2024-25

### Content Objective for All Band Classes – (Grades 4 – 12)

All Band Classes are designed to teach and enhance Music Reading and Performance for the appropriate Grade Level and Musicianship Ability.

Students will interpret note names, fingerings, rhythm names, rhythm counting/recognition, dynamics, balance levels, and correct articulation for the purpose of performing each element of music at sight in real time while performing.

Performance is the ultimate goal in Mastery of Music Content. Students are constantly monitored and observed to assess their progression and improvement.

### Classroom Rules

1. Be On Time for Class
  - a. Instrument assembled, ready to play, music in order, instrument maintenance completed (come into class quietly and orderly – prepare for band class quickly)
  - b. Failure to do this quickly will result in a lower class participation grade
2. Pay Attention
  - a. When the band director steps in front of the band, it is time to get quiet immediately without being told
  - b. Listen for directions and announcements from the band director
  - c. Talking to someone while the band director is speaking is NOT paying attention
  - d. Failure to listen attentively in class will result in a lower class participation grade and possible disciplinary action.
  - e. No disruptive behavior can be tolerated. Band Classes are much larger than regular academic classes, students must be respectful of their fellow students' time and that of the band director's time to teach all the students.
  - f. Stay in your seat at all times.
3. Do your very best at all times.
  - a. Have your music ready to play.
  - b. Always play your very best at all times.
  - c. Your instrument should be up when the band director says "horns up".
4. Take Care of the Equipment
  - a. No food or drink in the band hall with the exception of bottled water.
  - b. Carefully take your instrument out of the case when you enter the band.
  - c. Always hold your instrument correctly.
  - d. Do not use your instrument for any other purpose but performance. Do NOT use it as a "toy". These are very expensive instruments.
  - e. Do NOT play someone else's instrument at any time!
  - f. Properly put your instrument back in its case at the end of class. Latch the case and place it back in its assigned storage area.
  - g. Clean up after yourself! Do not leave trash out in storage bins or on the floor! Put all trash in the trash cans in the band hall.

## **Grading Policies**

Band Students will receive at least two weekly grades. One for class participation and one for performance.

**Class Participation (50%).** Students must fully participate in band class without any admonishment to do so. They must correctly sit up as they have been taught. They must follow instructions without having to be individually told to do so.

**Performance (50%).** Students are graded on how well they play their instruments and how they are understanding the music being taught to them. If a student does not participate, they are not performing either. Both grades can suffer if this is the case.

Band Class can be very rewarding if students are paying attention and performing at their very best ability. If students are following class rules and giving a 100% effort, they will receive a good grade.

## **Scope and Sequence**

### **High School/Junior High Band**

Students at this level will participate in marching band and work toward the ultimate goal of competing at UIL Marching Contest on October 19<sup>th</sup> with the possibility to advance to the State Marching Contest on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Panther Band will perform a halftime marching show at each varsity football game both at home and out of town. Each week, the band will add to the show more drills and memorized music that they have been rehearsing since the spring of 2024.

The band will also participate in performing music in the stands at all football games to include National Anthem, Alma Mater, and Fight Song as well as other pop tunes.

After marching season, the band will transition to concert band and prepare for the annual Christmas Extravaganza.

Starting in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, the Panther Band will prepare for UIL Concert and Sightreading Evaluation to take place on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025. They will prepare two pieces of music from the UIL Prescribed List and a Concert March of the Director's choice. They must also sightread music daily in preparation for that event as well.

After this contest, the band will work on spring concert music as well as the 2025 marching show music that will be debuted at the spring concert in May 2025.

Grades for this class are assigned for weekly class participation, football game performances, and contest performances along with public concerts.

Please refer to the Panther Band Calendar of Events on the school website to see exact dates and times of upcoming events and Monday Night Practices. All Monday Night Marching Practices are required and will be graded according to attendances. These rehearsals are vital to make the Panther Band Competitive at UIL.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band**

Students at this level are 3<sup>rd</sup> year musicians. They have learned the high school music and will participate on a voluntary basis at pep rallies and at home football games.

They will also learn music for the annual Christmas and Spring Concerts to perform in a combined band with the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade.

They will also learn basic marching band techniques to better prepare them for their 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Year in 2025-2026.

This group of students are also eligible to audition for the ATSSB Junior High All Region Band. The audition material will be provided to all 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students who want to pursue this activity.

Weekly grades are assessed for class participation and individual performance.

The 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Combined Band (Cub Band) will work to compete at an area Junior Music Festival as the School Calendar and Festival Date might allow.

### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band**

Students at this level are starting their second year as musicians. They will begin to learn the high school music that is played at football games and participate on a voluntary basis as warranted according to ability and availability.

They will also learn music for the annual Christmas and Spring Concerts to perform in a combined band with the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade.

Weekly grades are assessed for class participation and individual performance.

The 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Combined Band (Cub Band) will work to compete at an area Junior Music Festival as the School Calendar and Festival Date might allow.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Grade Band**

These students will be in the beginning band. They will be introduced to 5 basic band instruments: Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, and Trombone. Using “Essential Elements Book #1”, they will learn all music and band fundamentals.

The first week introduces them to music symbols, notes, rhythms, counting, instruments, and proper breathing techniques. The second or third week will be for producing characteristic sounds on their instruments and proper breath control as well as posture and hand position.

Supplemental musical selections are assigned commensurate with students’ progression and improvement. Such pieces of music introduce new elements of music such as more complex rhythms, chromatic alterations of notes, and extensions of the students’ range of notes. They can also vary in musical style and independence of lines.

Weekly grades will be given for class participation and weekly playing tests.

Beginning Band Students will participate in the Christmas Extravaganza as a performing group in addition to the Spring Band Concert.

### **Contact Information:**

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