

# Beginner Band Syllabus

## Brandon Kofahl – Lake Dallas Middle School

### Semester 2, Spring 26

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Beginning Band class is designed for students with little to no prior experience in playing a band instrument. Students will learn fundamental music concepts, instrument technique, and develop the skills necessary to perform as part of a group. This class is an introduction to instrumental music, focusing on rhythm, pitch, tone quality, and ensemble playing. By the end of the course, students will be prepared to progress to more advanced levels of band instruction.

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### Contact Information

- **Teacher:** Brandon Kofahl, Felicia May, and Keil Kimmons
- **Email:** bkofahl@ldisd.net, fmay@ldisd.net, and kkimmons@ldisd.net
- **Phone:** MS: 940-497-4037 HS: 940-497-4031
- **Conference Time:** 8:20AM - 9:05AM, Monday–Friday, at High School
- **Best Way to Reach Me:** Email. I'll respond within 24 hours on school days.

### Course Overview:

#### Unit 4: Rhythmic Complexity and Ensemble Awareness

- Basic rhythm practice: eighth rests, ties, and dotted quarter notes
- Continue practicing and refining scales
- Basic rhythm practice: syncopation
- Emphasis on dynamics, phrasing, and articulation
- Introduce chamber music concepts (solos/small group ensembles)
- TEKS: TEKS 117:100 (1) Foundations: Music Literacy

## **Unit 5: End of Year Contests and Placement**

- More complex rhythm concepts: 16th notes, dotted 8th and 16th rhythms, syncopation
- Extended ranges on the instrument
- Chromatic scales
- Festival Performance at Pride of Texas
- Spring Festival at LDHS
- End of year assessment: 3 prepared etudes

Thank you for supporting your child's education! Feel free to contact us with questions.

Sincerely,

Brandon Kofahl, Felicia May, Keil Kimmons