

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band 2013-14

Instructor: Andrew Emerson Phone: 715-247-3355 ext. 139 email: aemerson@somerset.k12.wi.us

**Course Overview:** The 8<sup>th</sup> grade band performs at numerous concerts, contests and other events throughout the school year. Daily rehearsal focuses on the development of playing skills to present the best possible performance. Chair/Part placement will be determined by skill assessments in lessons. Students will be evaluated based on in-class, lesson and out-of-class performance assessments. Band members are required to attend performances that occur outside of the regular school day. These include evening concerts and contests. Each of these performances will be assessed and included as part of the student's summative grade.

**Standards:** Students in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band will develop and demonstrate proficiency in the NAFME National Standards of Music Education. <http://nccas.wikispaces.com/Music+Standards>

**Evaluation:** This year, the School District of Somerset will be using a grading model that bases the final grade entirely on summative assessments. Formative assessments will be used to help guide student progress through practice and feedback.

Formative Assessments: These include feedback in rehearsal, lesson assignments that focus on skill development and any other opportunity to practice a skill prior to demonstrating mastery. Formative assessments will not be counted towards the final grade, but need to be completed in order to master the skills necessary for summative assessments.

Summative Assessments: These measure what a student knows and can do. In band, these include all performances, group skill assessments in class, individual skill assessments in lessons, and knowledge based assessments in both rehearsal and lessons (written or verbal).

## **Re-Evaluation:**

- **Lesson/Knowledge Based Re-Evaluation:** Students who would like to be re-assessed may do so after documenting 1 week of at home, or at school practice. Re-Evaluations will take place by appointment/lesson time and must be arranged with Mr. Emerson.
- **Performance Make-Up:** It is impossible to re-create the environment of a performance. Performances can only be made up if an absence is UNAVOIDABLE. This would include:
  - Extreme illness and personal or family emergencies
  - In certain cases, a pre-arranged absence can be made up. Mr. Emerson must be notified of a pre-arranged (unavoidable) conflict a minimum of two weeks before an absence from any performance.

**Performance Make-Up Procedure:** Students who miss a performance for an approved reason will be able to make up the performance by completing the following. This must be done OUTSIDE of the school day. Make-up assignments will be eligible to receive up to the same assessment score as the group performance.

- **Watch a video of the performance**
- **Complete a WSMA rubric-evaluating each ensemble on the concert**
- **Write a 1 page paper (double spaced/12 pt. font) justifying your ratings on the rubric**
- **Demonstrate your part for each selection in a lesson or by creating a video**

## **Grading Breakdown:**

- 40%-Performance Assessments (Concerts/Field Shows/Parades/Contests)
- 40%-Lesson Based Skill Assessments (Scale Exercises, Sight Reading, Prepared Band Music, Prepared Lesson Assignments)
- 20%-Music Knowledge/Skills and Rehearsal Skills (Music Vocabulary, Music Theory, Music History, Rehearsal Skills)

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## 4.0 Summative Scoring

	<b><u>Performance</u></b> Uses adapted WSMA scoring rubrics	<b><u>Knowledge/Skills</u></b>	Letter Grade
4	<b>Exemplary</b> An outstanding performance, would receive a 1 at contest.	I know/can do it well enough to apply it independently.	A
3.5	<b>Advanced</b> A “high” two. Would receive only 1-3 points below a 1 at contest.	I know/can do it well enough to apply it to some situations on my own.	A-
3	<b>Proficient</b> Would receive a 2 at contest	I have a full understanding of what was taught.	B
2.5	<b>Partially proficient</b> A “high” 3. Would receive 1-3 points below a 2 at contest.	I understand a majority of what is taught	B-
2	<b>Basic</b> Would receive a 3 at contest.	I know/can do simpler content that was taught, but need additional time or help for complex content.	C
1.5		I struggle to understand what is taught	C-
1	<b>Minimal</b> Would receive a 4 at contest	With help, I know/can do simpler content that was explicitly taught, but need additional time to be independent with the content.	D
0.5		I do not understand what is being taught	D-
0	<b>No Evidence</b>	I do not know/cannot do any of it.	F

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## Lesson Schedule

Lessons will be scheduled at the following times. A complete lesson schedule will be available by the end of week 1. Lessons will begin on Monday 9/9/2013

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
MS Band Room	1st 7:55-8:46	7-8 Lessons	7-8 Lessons	7-8 Lessons	7-8 Lessons	7-8 Lessons
	8:00-8:15					
	8:15-8:30					
	8:30-8:45					
MS Band Room	2nd 8:49-9:39	7-8 Lessons	7-8 Lessons	7-8 Lessons	7-8 Lessons	7-8 Lessons
	8:50-9:05					
	9:05-9:20					
	9:20-9:35					
MS Band Room	RTI 9:42-10:07	7-8 Lessons/Jazz	7-8 Lessons/Jazz	7-8 Lessons/Jazz	7-8 Lessons/Jazz	7-8 Lessons/Jazz
MS Band Room	11:42-12:21	7th/8th Band	7th/8th Band	7th/8th Band	7th/8th Band	7th/8th Band

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## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Guidelines-

### **BE...**

- Prompt
  - Arrive early so rehearsal, lessons and performances can begin on time
- Prepared
  - Practice ahead of time
  - Bring pencils
  - Make sure your instrument is ready to play and in good working order
  - Have all music and materials ready
  - Keep your locker and folder organized
- Positive
  - Keep all comments positive-Leave negativity outside the classroom
  - Be supportive and encouraging to others
  - Be helpful
  - Show your pride for the Spartan Band
- Productive
  - Contribute to the best of your ability
  - Help maintain focus and avoid distraction
- Polite
  - Be respectful to other teachers, students and equipment
  - ALWAYS project the BEST possible impression of the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band

### **Consequences**

- Verbal Warning
- Discuss with Mr. Emerson after class
- After School Detention + You will call your parents to let them know which guideline was not followed...and why
- Detention + Conference with parents/Mr. Emerson
- Conference with parents/Mr. Emerson/Mrs. Eichten

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## ORGANIZATIONAL DETAILS

- 1. Lockers-**Band room lockers will be assigned during the first week of school. Lockers must be kept clean and organized. Instruments must be properly stored in cases and music must be stored in folders.
  
- 2. Attire-**
  - Concert Performances:
    - Guys-black dress pants, white collared shirts (Black tie-Optional), black dress shoes and black socks.
    - Girls-black skirts/slacks and white tops. Skirts **MUST** be at least knee length. Both guys and girls must provide their own black shoes.
  - Solo/Ensemble: Attire for Solo/Ensemble contest should be considered dressy. A collared shirt and tie with dress slacks would be appropriate for guys. Girls could wear a dress or blouse and slacks.
  
- 3. Instrument Rentals**
  - Students who use school instruments must fill out an instrument rental form and pay a fee of \$25/year. Those who “double” on an instrument will be charged \$10/year.
  
- 4. Accessories**
  - Accessories like reeds, mouthpieces, and valve/slide oils can be purchased from any reputable vendor.
  - Somerset Middle School works directly with Eckroth Music (Roseville, MN) to provide on-site service. Order forms are available to purchase accessories from Eckroth Music. Orders will be placed when completed forms are turned in with payment. An Eckroth Music representative will generally deliver orders once/week.

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## **OTHER PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES**

**SOLO ENSEMBLE** is a perfect opportunity for young musicians to challenge their musical skills. Based on this performance/critique the judge will award the students involved a rating which is based on set criteria.

**JAZZ BAND** is an extra-curricular aspect of band. Jazz Band will meet during the RTI time 2x/week. This group studies the different styles of jazz music and performs at most concerts. See Mr. Emerson to sign up.

**SUMMER MARCHING BAND** prepares 1-2 marching tunes (the same ones we use for our field show) and marches in 2-3 parades in June and at the Minnesota State Fair in August. Marching band is a great way to showcase our band in other communities and show our Spartan Pride! We are in the process of purchasing NEW marching band uniforms! This year we are purchasing new pants and helmets...YES SPARTAN HELMETS! Next year we will add the jackets.

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## 7-8 Band Performance Calendar

Month:	Date:	Day:	Event:	Time:	Place:
November	11	Mon.	Veterans Day School Assembly	TBA	MS Gym
December	12th	Thurs.	5-8 Winter Concert	5/6 - 6:30 PM 7/8 - 7:45 PM	MS Gym
February	13th	Thurs.	MS Solo/Ensemble Festival	4:00-8:00 PM	St. Croix Falls HS/MS
	27th	Thurs.	5-12 Fine Arts Festival	6:30-8:30 PM	Middle School
March	25th	Tues.	Large Group Festival	4:00-8:00 PM	St. Croix Falls HS/MS
May	13th	Tues.	7-12 Spring Band Concert	7:00 PM	HS MPR
<b><u>Marching Band</u></b>					
June	14	Sat.	Pea Soup Days Parade	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Somerset
** Tentative	28	Sat.	Clear Lake Parade	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Clear Lake, WI

Additional spring parade  
TBA.

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## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE MUSICIAN CONTRACT

- I have read and understand the 2013-14 band handbook.
- I agree to abide by all rules and expectations outlined in this handbook.
- I agree to make the necessary arrangements to attend and participate in all required performances as outlined in the handbook and performance calendar.

Student Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Contact Information**

Parents: Please include the following contact information-we will be using email and text messages to send occasional news and announcements about band.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

### **Optional Text Reminders**

Student Cell# For Text Reminders \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Cell# For Text Reminders/Updates \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone carrier (t-mobile, Verizon, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
(necessary to send text messages through school email)

By providing a cell number for text reminders, you agree to receive text messages sent through the Somerset Schools Music Dept. Normal text messaging charges apply through your carrier. Let Mr. Emerson know if at any time you wish to unsubscribe to text message reminders/updates.