

# ***Eighth Grade “SQUIRE” Band Syllabus***

**Instructor:** Ms. Melinda Sarver

## **Course Description**

This course is the intermediate level of group instruction. It will be a continuation of playing techniques learned in Beginning Band and Intermediate Band and will progress through level III - IV music. The Advanced Intermediate Band course is much like an advanced academic class in that the class will progress more rapidly and will further develop the same skills introduced in the Intermediate Band Course. *A minimal number of after school rehearsals and performances are required unless excused by the director.*

## **Goals**

1. The students will advance in the playing of their instrument to a grade III - IV level by the end of this school year.
2. Students will be able to perform, from memory, nine major scales and arpeggios the full range of their instrument.
3. Students will be able to perform a chromatic scale from memory two octaves.

## **Course Outline**

***Based on the Virginia Music Standards of Learning.***

For a complete list of Virginia Music SOL's, please go to the following website:

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/sol.html#art-music>

## **Special Requirements**

Each student will be responsible for providing his/her own instrument and supplies. Some school/county owned instruments are available on loan. Each student will be expected to participate in the concerts and relevant rehearsals planned for the year.

## **Class Meetings**

- a. daily music rehearsals, lecture-discussions on skills and terms
- b. performances (dates and times will be announced at the start of the school year).

## **Assigned Work**

- a. individual practice of music
- b. study of assigned materials on musical skills and terms
- c. completion of assigned drills and exercises
- d. participation in after school practices and performances
- e. participation in all district band and all-county band events

## **Homework (practice cards)**

Students will be expected to practice a minimum of 20 minutes per day for five days each week. The parent must verify the practice time with their signature. The practice cards will be turned in each Friday morning before school.

**Practice cards will only be accepted on the date they are due.** Please see attached practice card guidelines.

Students in this class have the option for practicing 4 days totaling 100 minutes.

## **Daily Effort and Cooperation/Classroom Work**

Students will be given a grade on the work which is done in class. The student will be evaluated on the following:

- a. being on time to class and seat
- b. having instrument (all parts including reeds), book, pencil and music
- c. refraining from chewing substances
- d. remaining quiet while the director is talking or the group is playing
- e. putting materials away at the end of class
- f. demonstrating proper posture
- g. being respectful
- h. participation in class discussion and activities

## **Grading**

Grades will be based on the following:

40% skills tests and written evaluations

30% daily effort and cooperation/classroom work

20% practice evaluation/practice card

10% performance participation (when applicable)

Practice sheets and skills tests will receive a letter grade and will be converted to a numerical grade as shown on the chart below:

A (94-100)	100
B (87-93)	93
C (78-86)	86
D (70-77)	77
F (69-below)	69 – 0

### Course Materials

#### Student Responsibility:

- a. Instrument and accessories (reeds, cork grease, valve oil, mutes, sticks, timpani mallets, bell mallets, etc.)
  - b. Books: Essential Elements 2000 Book 3
  - c. **Name and Identification tags on each case. (Tape is not acceptable)**
  - d. Black ½” binder with clear protector sheets for music storage
  - e. **Formal Concert Dress:**
    - a. **Ladies – black knee length skirt or dress slacks (please no black jeans, skorts or shorts), white blouse and black dress shoes.**
    - b. **Gentlemen – black dress slacks (please no black jeans or shorts, dockers style pants are fine), white long-sleeved button down shirt, black dress shoes, black socks and black bow-tie. You may purchase the black bow-tie from the school or on your own. Information to follow.**
  - f. **Casual Concert Dress:**
    - a. **Blue jeans and tennis shoes**
    - b. **We will be ordering band t-shirts at an approximate cost of \$5.00 per shirt. If you do not order a shirt, you may purchase a black short sleeved shirt at an area local retailer.**
- *should any of these be a cause for concern, please let Ms. Sarver know.*

#### PROVIDED:

- a. Sheet music (student is responsible for lost or damaged music)
- b. Some school owned instruments for certain sections. Student is responsible for lost or damaged instrument and will be required to take proper care of the instrument.

#### Teacher's Philosophy

It is my belief that all children can experience success in music. I will operate my classroom in a positive and supportive manner focusing on the student at all times. I am excited to offer your child an opportunity that I hope will be one of the most memorable experiences of his/her middle school career. Please call at anytime with questions or concerns.

School Phone 772-7560 Ext. 30043 [msarver@rcs.k12.va.us](mailto:msarver@rcs.k12.va.us)





