

Sixth Grade Beginning Band Syllabus

Instructors: Ms. Melinda Sarver and Mr. Brian Quakenbush

Course Description

Prerequisite: none

The purpose of this course is to introduce and develop techniques of instrument playing and music reading.

Goals

1. The students will advance in the playing of their instrument to a grade I - II level by the end of this school year.
2. Students will be able to perform, from memory, five major scales and arpeggios.
3. Students will be able to perform a chromatic scale from memory one octave.

Course Outline

Based on the Virginia Music Standards of Learning.

For a complete list of the 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

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.

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 1
- c. Black ½' binder for music storage with clear protector sheets
- d. Name and Identification tags on each case. (Tape is not acceptable)**
- e. FORMAL CONCERT DRESS:**
 - a. Ladies – black knee length skirt or dress slacks (please no black jeans, skirts or shorts), white blouse and black dress shoes.
 - b. Gentlemen – black dress slacks (please not black jeans or shorts, docker style pants are fine), white long-sleeved button down shirt, black dress shoes, black socks and black bow-tie. You may purchase the black tow-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, or 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 Mrs. 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 our belief that all children can experience success in music. We will operate our classroom in a positive and supportive manner focusing on the student at all times. We are excited to offer your child an opportunity that we 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

The discipline policy for band will be as follows:

Procedure

1. warning
2. individual conference with teacher and student/silent lunch
3. written/verbal communication with parents/silent lunch
4. detention
5. referral to grade level administrator

* * Behavior that is belligerent or may threaten the safety of a student will result in an immediate referral to the appropriate grade level administrator.

Tardy Policy

Excused Tardy: A student will receive an excused tardy if he/she brings a signed tardy note from an authorized person. (teacher, administrator, guidance or attendance staff) This note should be timed and dated.

Unexcused Tardy:

- Tardy 1 – Quiet Table
- Tardy 2 – Quiet Table
- Tardy 3 – One hour of detention

Should a student receive In-School Detention (for any reason) at any time during the school year, he/she will be unable to participate in the Spring Band Trip

Band Trips are the reward for hard work and dedication throughout the school year. A student must be passing band at the end of the third nine weeks in order to participate in the Spring Band Trip as approved by the school administration

*** Should a student receive an excessive amount of discipline referrals, the referrals will be reviewed by the band director and administration and may affect the student's eligibility for participation in the Spring Band Trip.**

Sixth Grade Beginning Band

I have read and understand the manner in which my son/daughter will be graded. I have received and reviewed the discipline procedure, practice card guidelines and yearly band calendar.

Student Name _____

Parent Signature _____

Parent email address _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Please sign and return by August 27th, 2010 Thank you!

During the current school year, Roanoke County Public Schools has my permission to use my child's name, picture, voice, opinion and school related work in public media, exhibits, and/or publications in professional educational training materials used by RCPS. Yes _____ No _____

Parent Signature _____
