

High School Band-Syllabus

1:55-2:40 T-W-Th (Visitation meets M-T-W-Th-F)

Mrs. Jerri Neddermeyer jneddermeyer@cadets.com 651-683-1569

Ms. Amy Powers apowers@cadets.com VM:651-683-1555 ext. 314

Please check the website for updates and information: <http://www.cadets.com/page/519>
Students will also be using www.moodle.cadets.com this year. They may log in with their same info as they use for PowerSchool. Assignments and grades will be posted on PowerSchool.

Course Description: VISTA Concert Band/STA Military Band meets during the school day and is open to students from both STA and Visitation. Students are encouraged to grow together as people, instrumentalists, musicians, artists, and thinkers through the study of music in band. VISTA Concert Band gives 3 formal concerts. Pep Band performs at a variety of athletic events, and Marching band makes half time and parade appearances. STA students in band form their own military company within the school and provide music for many military ceremonies. Select wind and percussion players are used for supporting VISTA string ensemble in full orchestra concerts. Through private lessons, sectionals, and full ensemble players, students enjoy musical growth within a unique social atmosphere.

Objective:

To grow together as people, instrumentalists, musicians, artists, and thinkers through the study of music in band

Goals for 2010-2011:

- ***Individual skill development on a wind or percussion instrument:** Tone, Technique, Music Literacy
- ***Ensemble skill development:** Balance, Intonation, and Rhythmic Accuracy
- ***Explore Music as Expression:** Music as Service, Music as Worship, Music as Ministry of Faith, Music as Discipline

Supplies:

***Instrument**

All students participating in band must have their own instrument and accessories (reeds, valve oil, etc). Order forms for reeds and supplies are available in the band room. Please have your instrument in good working order for every rehearsal! Absence of a working instrument will result in a lowered participation grade for the day. Percussionists are expected to have a stick bag with a basic set of sticks in it. Please see a band director for the percussionist stick bag list.

***Music**

Music and folders will be issued to each student. Students are responsible any music that is lost or damaged and will be fined accordingly. Please bring your

music to every rehearsal. Drill charts and pep band flip folders are essential to all marching band and pep band rehearsals and events.

***Pencil**

Always have a pencil for marking music or notating music on staff paper.
NEVER USE A PEN ON MUSIC!

Expectations:

***Students will have respect for all people and things in the band room at all times!**

***Be early, so that you are on time to everything!**

***No talking during rehearsals.**

***Absence from class or performance must be communicated in advance in writing.**

The bottom line is, just do what you say that you will do. Make a commitment and fulfill it. Written work or playing tests must be completed and submitted prior to any absence for a school sanctioned event. Work due on the first date of an absence due to illness will be due immediately upon return to school. In the event that students are ill from school for several days, a schedule for turning in make-up work must be negotiated with Mrs. Neddermeyer and Ms. Powers

Grading Policy: (Grading Scale is standard for all classes)

Grading is based on a total points system. Approximate percentages are reflected below. The academic integrity policy is stated in the STA Handbook.

Lessons (Approx. 40%):

*Small group lessons are provided after school and are part of the curriculum for every band student. Students will be working on an individualized plan towards developing musical skill on an instrument. The grade will be based on their performance of warm-ups, scales, and selected exercises from a lesson book.

Class Participation/Sectionals (Approx. 20%):

*Sectionals will be pulled out of full group rehearsal on band days and will be run by a band director.

*Class attendance, active participation, instrument in working order with music at all rehearsals

*Students who miss class due to school excused absences will be permitted to make up the points through extra lessons or supplementary assignments.

Unexcused absences will result in a loss of points for participation.

Performances (Approx. 20%):

*You must attend all concert band performances!

*Absences from pep band performances must be communicated 24 hours before the event or it is unexcused. **Absences due to school sanctioned events must be communicated IN WRITING or they are not excused!** Emergencies will be dealt with individually.

*Service to the band may be accepted hourly for extenuating circumstances as a substitution for pep band service or concert performance. Acceptance of hourly service is at the directors' discretion. Completion of supplementary assignments may also be accepted.

*Each student will receive a point pass to use towards making up points from an excused pep absence. Students who do not use the pass and have perfect pep attendance will receive a bonus towards lettering.

Playing Evaluations/Written Assignments (Approx. 20%):

*Scale tests, technique tests, band music spot checks through use of Smart Music.

*In class journals, notes, tests, theory, appreciation, etc.

Discipline-

A “Band Minute” may be assigned as detention (60 minutes) and is service paid to the band. These are most often assigned due to wasting time in class through talking or other behavioral issues that are disruptive. Unpaid service assigned due to behavioral issues will result in a lowered semester grade by 5%. Paid band detention will have no impact on grade at all. Students have 5 school days to serve their time.

Extra Credit

Performance at Mass or other events may be accepted as extra credit at the directors’ discretion. Performances used for extra credit do not count toward lettering.

Important Dates:

VISTA Band will perform at a variety of events over the course of the year. We will not be participating in the Autumn Daze parade this year as we are committing to two competitions for field show marching. Add them to your calendar! Please communicate any known conflicts ASAP!

Fall Marching Band/Pep Band Performances:

♪ Thursday, September 2, 2010: STA Home Football Game

♪ Friday, September 17, 2010: STA Home Football Game

♪ Saturday, September 25, 2010: Rehearsal/Competition Details TBA

“Music of the Night” Irondale Marching Band Competition

FYI: These are our first competition events, EVER and it is very important that all students participate. Please ensure that this is part of your family schedule for Fall. We cannot perform well without every student. If there is a conflict with another performance/meet/event, please email right away! **They will both be ALL DAY EVENTS!**

♪ Saturday, October 2, 2010: Champlin Park “Rebel Classic”
Marching Band Competition, Rehearsal Details TBA

♪ Friday, October 8, 2010: Homecoming Football Game

♪ Wednesday, October 20, 2010: STA Home Football Game: We will not march half-time but we will play pep band for this event.

*There will be a couple more fall pep band events for non-football sports. These will be added to the calendar for the start of the school year.

*Also, STA Football and Soccer State Tournaments will be attended by pep band should either/both of those teams qualify. We also will support VIS Volleyball should it enter play-offs.

Concert Band Performances: (These are the CONFIRMED dates for the calendar)

Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2010: VISTA Band Concert, 7pm VIS Auditorium (Grades 7-12)
Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2011: VISTA Band Concert ,7pm VIS Auditorium (Grades 7-12)
March 11-16, 2011: VISTA Concert Band Tour: Chicago (NOT BRAZIL*)
Friday, May 6, 2011: VISTA Band Concert, 7pm VIS Auditorium (Grades 7-12)
Saturday, May 14, 2011: VISTA High School Band Banquet, 6pm, STA Cafeteria
Thursday, June 2, 2011: STA Graduation, St. Paul Cathedral 7:30pm

*Due to fundraising policy and Mrs. Nedd's health in the 2009-2010 school year, the previously planned tour to Brazil in March of 2011 has been changed to the wonderfully musical destination of Chicago. Tour itinerary and details will be presented in the Fall.

Please add these performances to your family calendar! Sign and return this page of the syllabus so that we know families are aware of these important events. Important Dates:

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I have seen the syllabus and have committed to the performances associated with band.

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

Student Name (please print): _____