

Intermediate Middle School Band

Syllabus

1:05-1:50 p.m., A-Days

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

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

Please check the website often 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: Middle School Band at Saint Thomas Academy is open to any student with at least one year of experience playing a wind or percussion instrument. The band rehearses 2-3 times per week in preparation for concerts and other school and community functions. Band is a great way to become more proficient on a musical instrument and to enjoy the participation and teamwork of ensemble playing

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.

***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 Ms. Powers and Mrs. Neddermeyer.

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 (Approx. 20%):

*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 (30 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:

Add them to your calendar! Please communicate any known conflicts to Ms. Powers ASAP!

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

Monday, Oct. 25, 2010, 2:00 p.m.-STA Middle School Grandparents’ Day Assembly

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)

Middle School Pep Band Night: TBD for winter pep band

Friday, May 6, 2011: VISTA Band Concert, 7pm VIS Auditorium (Grades 7-12)

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:

Add them to your calendar! Please communicate any known conflicts to Ms. Powers ASAP!

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

Monday, Oct. 25, 2010, 2:00 p.m.-STA Middle School Grandparents' Day Assembly

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)

Middle School Pep Band Night: TBD for winter pep band

Friday, May 6, 2011: VISTA Band Concert, 7pm VIS Auditorium (Grades 7-12)

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

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

Student Name (please print): _____