



Fall 2019

RE: Band Syllabus and Grading

Students in the Reidsville Band Program will be held to high standards and are expected to conduct themselves as ambassadors of the program at all times. While following the Student Code Of Conduct, four essential behaviors are mandatory for participation in the Band program: participation, respect, trust, and honesty. These are expectations not only for the classroom, but anytime on school grounds or at school or band sponsored events.

In the Reidsville High School Band, students will learn and perform music from across the globe. They will also learn and develop the foundational skills of any musician. Students will be evaluated in the following eight areas: 1) Rhythmic Comprehension; 2) Pitch Identification; 3) Dynamics; 4) Articulation and Style; 5) Musical/Marching Terminology/use; 6) Musical Sight Reading; 7) Dictation; and 8) Proper Playing and Marching Techniques. To successfully meet these standards, students must be fully engaged in the learning process. There will be some individual work, group work and assignments on Canvas.

Assessments will be in the following formats: 1) Individual/Group Playing Test; 2) Individual/Group Projects; 3) Exam/Quiz; 4) Written Reflections/Journal; 5) Classroom Informances/Participation; 6) Performances/Concerts.

### **Grading Policy**

There are two, 9 week grading periods this year that will be worth 37.5% of the final course grade and a final exam that will be 25% of the final course grade. There will be a written final exam along with the concerts that will combine for the final exam grade. The 9 weeks breakdown will be as follows:

- Concerts/Performances (required) - 35%
- Classroom Informances/Participation - 30%
- Performance-based Assessments - 20%
- Written Assessments - 15%

Any student who has 10 or more unexcused absences within a 9 week period will not be allowed to perform at the concert/festival for that quarter and will have to complete an alternative assignment in place of their concert grade. It is very important that everyone is here doing their job to learn how their part fits with the others so that we can build a balanced and blended ensemble.

**Students must maintain a "C" average in order to participate in events where the ensembles travel.**

### **Classroom Basics**

It is expected that our classroom will be organized and well maintained. We are to respect each other and their property (including school property). **To help maintain our learning environment, only water may be brought in the Band room. ALL food must be eaten before entering the classroom.** Students are expected to be in the classroom before the tardy bell rings. After auditions for seating, there will be an assigned seating arrangement during class; this is to help create a balanced and blended ensemble and all students should follow it. In order to show respect for this class, myself, and fellow band mates and to help the band program reach its fullest potential, students will not work on any other assignments for other classes during class time unless given permission.

### **Music & Folders**

Students will be assigned folders and music with an identifying number. Students are responsible for the care of these items until they are turned in at the end of a concert/course. **No** music or folders should be left on the music stands at the end of the class period. It should be placed in its proper storage area and the music stand should be pushed all the way down. Students will be responsible to pay for any lost or damaged

music (including any tax and shipping fees). A **Pencil** is the only writing instrument for marking in music (with the exception of Marching Music). All students are expected to bring a pencil to class daily to make notes and changes to music. If you cannot bring a pencil, I will have some that you can use. If any permanent writing utensil is used, replacement fees will be enforced. Any fees incurred and not paid by the end of the semester will result in a final grade of Incomplete. Once fees are paid, the grade will be changed accordingly.

### **Instrument Basics**

All students are expected to be prepared and have their instruments/reeds/mouthpieces/music/drill ready to go unless otherwise noted. **No student should be touching or playing with an instrument that does not belong to them. Students who are not drumline members/percussionists will be expected to stay off the percussion equipment unless given express permission. The Timpani/Kettle Drums are not tables** and should not be treated as such; nothing should be laid or set on top of them. At the end of the class, all instruments should be either taken home or in the students' assigned lockers; no instruments should be left at the front of the room or along the sides. Percussion Mallet instruments should be covered daily. Treat your instruments with respect, care, and responsibility.

### **Electronic devices**

While in class, **ALL** electronic devices (including, but not limited to: cell phones, tablets, headphones, etc..) must be in the silent/off position and placed in a secure location out of sight. Charging of personal electronics during class time is prohibited (with the exception of a Chromebook). Students will surrender all their electronic devices before class begins and they will be returned to them once the class dismissal bell has sounded; there will be a system for this. If this becomes a habitual concern, consequences will follow the student code of conduct.

While all thefts can't be stopped, precautions should be taken to minimize the chance of theft. As an added protection, students may volunteer to secure their devices in my office during class time only. **Please note that neither the Instructor, Arts Department, Reidsville HS or Rockingham County Schools are responsible for thefts.**

### **Concert Attire**

The Band has the role as ambassadors of Reidsville High School in the community and across the state. It is imperative that we represent the school, community and our families as professionals. Correct Concert Dress (known as "Concert Black") is our standard and the options are as follows:

Ladies –

- Black formal dress, black dress shoes.
- Black dress pants with either a white or black dress shirt and black dress shoes.
- Cardigans and other jacket style clothing is allowed as long as they meet the "Concert Black" code
- Jackets and Ties are optional unless otherwise stated, but they are encouraged.

Men –

- Black dress pants with either a white or black dress shirt and black dress shoes.
- Cardigans and other jacket style clothing is allowed as long as they meet the "Concert Black" code
- Jackets and Ties are optional unless otherwise stated, but they are encouraged.

There will be some performances in the Fall where we will wear the Marching Band uniform/tee shirt as our concert attire.

### **Fundraising**

The Band will hold several fundraising events to help subsidize the cost of activities where there are fees associated. We are also looking to raise funds to order new music and update the music library and for a host of other endeavors. In order to meet these goals, it will take all of us working as a family to move forward. Any ideas are greatly appreciated. The Band Boosters will continue to help plan and assist with trips, events, and other happenings.

### **Upcoming Events**

The Fall semester is filled with many events for the Band. Please ensure to mark your calendars to avoid any conflicts. **Students are required to report an hour early for any performance unless another call time is otherwise stated.** Please note that some dates may have to adjust due to unforeseen circumstances. Some concerts are not listed, but please know that there will be concerts for all ensembles that will be mandatory/required.

\* Indicates a Required, Full Band Event

\*Friday, August 30th - Away Football at McMichael High School

\*Friday, September 6th - Away Football at Morehead High School

\*Friday, September 13th - Home Football vs. Rockingham

\*Friday, September 20th - Home Football vs. Eastern Guilford

\*Friday, September 27th - Home Football vs. East Surry

**\*Saturday, September 28th - McMichael Phoenix Festival of Bands - All Day**

\*Friday, October 4th - Home Football vs. Mount Airy

**\*Saturday, October 5th - Mount Airy High School Marching Band Festival - All Day**

\*Friday, October 18th - Home Football vs. Carrboro

**\*Saturday, October 19th - Western Alamance "Central NC Band Festival" - All Day**

\*Friday, October 25th - Home Football vs. Graham

**\*Saturday, November 2nd - Pride Of Morehead Invitational Marching Band Festival - All Day**

\*Thursday, December 12th - Winter Holiday Band Concert

There will also be the Reidsville and Wentworth Christmas Parades. I will let you all know when I have more information about the dates.

Sincerely,

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Travis Pike, BM, Director of Bands

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Please complete and return this portion only to Mr. Pike by Wednesday, September 4th. Information you provide will allow us to disseminate information in a quicker, more efficient manner.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have received a copy of the Marching/Jazz Band class syllabus and reviewed the information with my child. We understand that each individual is important to the whole ensemble. It is understood that failure to fully participate in any Band concert, required performance, or required rehearsal will result in an incomplete grade for the grading period/final exam if an alternative assignment or exam is not completed. I (we) agree to complete the alternative assignments or exams if an unpredictable event should arise.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Parent/Guardian Name/Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian email: \_\_\_\_\_