

Varsity Band Syllabus 2018-2019

The Stratford Varsity Band is designed to provide a positive, enriching musical experience through practice and performance of quality instrumental literature. Students are expected to have a fundamental grasp of musical concepts and standard performance practice. The ensemble performs in concert, marching and pep band settings throughout the school year. Some performances take place outside the school day, requiring careful planning and time management.

Prerequisites for Varsity Band:

- 1) Previous membership and participation in a Stratford Instrumental Ensemble (i.e. Middle School Band, Varsity Band).
- 2) Barring previous membership, instructor approval is required to participate in this class.
- 3) In the case of a transfer, membership in a comparable instrumental music program at a different school will be accepted as basis for membership in the Stratford Varsity Band.

Required Supplies:

- 1) Students are required to have an instrument to play for this class.
 - a. **Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone** - You are required to own/rent your instrument.
 - b. **Oboe, Bassoon, Bass Clarinet, Contrabass Clarinet, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Baritone Horn, French Horn, Tuba** - You are required to have your own mouthpiece. Instruments will be provided by the school based upon eligibility, availability and ensemble need.
 - c. **Percussion:** You are required to own the following sticks –
 - i. 2B wood or nylon tip sticks (5B/7B nylon tip for drum set)
- 2) If at any time your instrument becomes unplayable for any reason, it is your responsibility to arrange for prompt repair. If you need help getting your instrument to Northern Music Service for repair, Mr. Rickinger will be able to drop off instruments with prior arrangement.
- 3) If your school-owned instrument becomes unplayable for any reason, it is your responsibility to inform Mr. Rickinger as soon as the problem is evident. Students & parents will be liable for any and all repair costs incurred if Mr. Rickinger determines that the damage is the result of abuse, misuse or other negligence above and beyond normal wear and tear or accident.
- 4) Exceptions may be made in the case of financial hardship or other extenuating circumstance as determined by Mr. Rickinger. Parents/guardians with any concerns must contact Mr. Rickinger for assistance. No student will be excluded from this class if need for assistance with securing an instrument is communicated to Mr. Rickinger.
- 5) Each student is expected to have a pencil with them at all times during rehearsal.
- 6) Students in the Varsity Band will wear concert black dress for all concerts and competitions.
 - a. Women: Black dresses/skirts must be knee length or longer. Tops must conform to dress code regulations regarding strap width and coverage. Shoes must be black.
 - b. Men: Black pants (black jeans are acceptable with no holes, rips, frays, etc.), black shirt with buttons (golf style shirts are acceptable), black shoes. No writing, logos, etc. on shirts.

Required Performances:

Participation in these events **is required** for participation in the Varsity Band.

- September 21 – Homecoming Fieldshow, 5:30pm HS Band Room (Varsity football players exempt)
- December 16 – Winter Concert, 1 pm HS Band Room
- April 11 – WSMA Large Group Band Contest, 3 – 9 pm at Spencer
- May 5 – Spring Concert, 12:30 pm HS Band Room
- May 18 – Graduation, 10:00 am HS Band Room
- May 27 – Memorial Day parade/service, 9:00 am HS Band Room
- Stratford Community Days - TBD

Essential Learning Outcomes: Based on Wisconsin's Model Academic Standards for Music

I can and I am working towards...

- B.12.6 Perform, with expression and technical accuracy, a large and varied repertoire of instrumental literature with a level of difficulty of four on a scale of one to six
- B.12.7 Perform an appropriate part in an ensemble, demonstrating well-developed ensemble skills
- B.12.8 Perform in small ensembles
- B.12.9 Perform with expression and technical accuracy a large and varied repertoire of instrumental literature with a level of difficulty of five, on a scale of one to six
- C.12.9 Improvise rhythmic and melodic variations on given pentatonic melodies and melodies in major and minor keys
- C.12.10 Improvise original melodies over given chord progressions, each in a consistent style, meter, and tonality
- C.12.11 Improvise original melodies in a variety of styles, over given chord progressions, each in a consistent style, meter, and tonality
- D.12.9 Compose music in several distinct styles, demonstrating creativity in using the elements of music for expressive effect
- D.12.10 Arrange pieces for instruments other than those for which the pieces were written in ways that preserve or enhance the expressive effect of the music
- D.12.11 Compose and arrange music for instruments other than their own, demonstrating knowledge of the ranges and traditional uses of the sound sources
- D.12.12 Compose music, demonstrating imagination and technical skill in applying the principles of composition
- D.12.13 Demonstrate proficiency in the use of computer technology notation and sequencing programs to compose and arrange music for instruments
- E.12.9 Demonstrate the ability to read an instrumental score of up to four staves by describing how the elements of music are used
- E.12.10 Sight-read, accurately and expressively, music with a level of difficulty of three on a scale of one to six
- E.12.11 Interpret nonstandard notation symbols used by some 20th century composers
- E.12.12 Demonstrate the ability to read a full instrumental score by describing how the elements of music are used and explaining all transpositions and clefs
- E.12.13 Sight-read, accurately and expressively, music with a level of difficulty of four on a scale of one to six*
- F.12.11 Listen to and analyze examples of a varied repertoire of music, representing diverse genres and cultures, by describing the uses of the elements of music and expressive devices
- F.12.12 Demonstrate extensive knowledge of the technical vocabulary of music
- F.12.13 Identify and explain compositional devices and techniques used to provide unity and variety and tension and release in a musical work and give examples of other works that make similar uses of these devices and techniques
- F.12.14 Demonstrate the ability to perceive and remember music events by describing in detail significant events occurring in a given example
- F.12.15 Compare how musical materials are used in a given example relative to how they are used in other works of the same genre or style
- F.12.16 Analyze and describe uses of the elements of music in a given work that make it unique, interesting, and expressive
- G.12.7 Apply and refine specific criteria for making informed, critical evaluations of the quality and effectiveness of performances, compositions, arrangements, and improvisations and apply the criteria in their participation in music
- G.12.8 Evaluate a performance, composition, arrangement, or improvisation by

- comparing it to similar or exemplary models
- G.12.9 Evaluate a given musical work in terms of its aesthetic qualities and explain the musical means it uses to evoke feelings and emotions
- H.12.10 Explain how elements, artistic processes, and organizational principles are used in similar and distinctive ways in the various arts
- H.12.11 Compare characteristics of two or more arts within a particular historical period or style and cite examples from various cultures
- H.12.12 Explain ways in which the principles and subject matter of various disciplines outside the arts interrelate with those of music
- H.12.13 Compare the characteristic elements, artistic processes, and organizational principles among the arts in different historical periods and cultures
- I.12.9 Classify music by culture and historical period based on characteristic styles or genres and justify their classification
- I.12.10 Identify sources of American music genres, trace the evolution of those genres, and name well-known musicians associated with them
- I.12.11 Identify various roles that musicians perform, name representative individuals who have functioned in each role, and describe their activities and achievements
- I.12.12 Identify and explain the stylistic features of a given musical work that define its aesthetic tradition and its historical or cultural context
- I.12.13 Identify and describe music genres or styles that show the influence of two or more cultural traditions, identify the cultural source of each influence, and trace the historical connections that produced the synthesis of influences

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory at each rehearsal and scheduled performance. Failure to appear will result in forfeiture of all points associated with that event. If a student will be absent *for any reason*, a signed parent/guardian note must be submitted to Mr. Rickinger at least 2 weeks prior to the event. Failure to notify Mr. Rickinger within this timeframe will result in the forfeiture of all points associated with the event in question. **Signed notes do not automatically release the students from all responsibility, and point deductions may be assigned at the director's discretion.** Repeated absences from key performances, regardless of excuse, may result in the student's removal from the ensemble. Emergency situations are exempt from this rule, though a parent/guardian note may be required after the event at the director's discretion.

This ensemble's continued success depends on the full participation of every member. It is expected that each member will be present at every required performance throughout the year.

If you choose to participate in an optional ensemble (Jazz, S/E events, etc), you are expected to meet all performance requirements for that ensemble.

Grading:

Grading is based upon total points earned for successful participation in daily rehearsal, required performances and optional enrichment activities. Standard Stratford School District grade scale will be applied.

Semester Grade Calculations:

90% - Daily rehearsal, class activities, performances

10% - Semester Exam

Extra credit will be provided for participation in the jazz program. Students who successfully prepare and compete in the spring Solo/Ensemble event will be exempted from the semester two final. In the event of a known, approved absence from a required performance, the student will be assigned work to make up the points. The assignment will be determined on a per-case basis depending on the length of absence, the student's needs and the discretion of the director.

Pep Band:

Varsity Band students are expected to participate in the pep band's scheduled activities throughout the year. Dates are provided to allow you time to rearrange work schedules as needed. Band students attending a game are expected to participate unless you are playing in the game.

Food & Drink:

Only plain, unflavored water is permitted in the band room except under special pre-arranged circumstances. In order to keep the room & instruments clean, there will be no food, gum or candy permitted at any time during rehearsal.

Extra Help/Practice Rooms:

The band room is open from 7:00 am – 3:30 pm daily with extended hours available upon request with at least 24 hours' notice. The practice rooms are available at any time the room is open, although in some cases I may ask that you refrain from using them (i.e. special presentations, recording sessions). Extra help is available at any time. Please ask Mr. Rickinger for scheduling and arrangements.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty is plagiarism, submitting falsified or invented information as fact, unauthorized use of tools, notes, textbooks or electronic devices on assessments, being complicit in the act of allowing another student to copy work or copying another student's work and submitting as your own. Failure to uphold the Stratford School District's policy as outlined regarding academic integrity will result in one or more, at the director's discretion, of the following: forfeiture of points, credit or recognition for the activity or assessment in question, a need to retake or redo the assessment or assignment in question, a conference with school administration and/or parents of the student(s) in question, or additional repercussions as deemed appropriate to the situation by and as required by the director and/or the school district.

Tiger PRIDE

The band follows all behavioral expectations as outlined in the student handbook, postings throughout the building and in the student planner.

Electronics:

All Chromebooks, cell phones and other electronic devices are to be turned off (not on silent/vibrate) and left in your locker or band locker. If you do not have a band locker, you may store devices in my office for the class period. **At no time are phones or other electronics to be out during class, including (but not limited to) sitting on the edge of your music stand.** If you are expecting an important call, you may make arrangements with me before class. If you need your device for a class activity, I will let you know in advance.

Parents:

Please feel free to contact me at any time. If you have any questions, concerns or other need to contact me, please call 715-687-4311 ext.2140. Email is also available, jorickinger@gapps.stratford.k12.wi.us. Due to our email system's tendency to occasionally filter out important emails, if I do not respond within 24 hours, please follow-up with a phone call.

PLEASE SIGN, DETACH THIS PORTION AND RETURN BY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th

I have received and reviewed the class expectations as outlined in the 2018-2019 Varsity Band syllabus:

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date