



RADNOR TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
Course Overview



Band (Honors)
0810

General Information

Credits: 1.0

Weighted

Prerequisite: Middle School Band ability and above or teacher recommendation

Length: Full Year

Format: Meets Daily

Grade: 9 - 12

Course Description

The Band Honors course is designed for students who play a wind or percussion instrument. Students are expected to be able to play music within the standard music level range of grade 3 to 5. Students will rehearse and perform varied repertoire covering both the marching band and concert band idioms. Students are expected to attend a weeklong band camp before the start of school, march at football games, participate in two local parades and perform at up to four concerts and at graduation. In addition, students will be scheduled for sectionals each marking period during their non-scheduled class time. At home practice is an expected requirement of the course. This is an ensemble class and attendance is an important and vital part of assessment. Attendance at all concerts and performances is mandatory. Elements of music fundamentals and musicianship are progressively taught and developed throughout the year.

Course Objectives:

- To enable students to play in an ensemble setting.
- To develop students' listening skills in an ensemble setting.
- To develop students' performance skills in an ensemble setting.
- To develop each student's sense of intonation, rhythm, tone quality, balance, blend, dynamics and expression.
- To develop each student's individual instrumental playing technique.
- To develop sight-reading skills.
- To develop a "discriminating ear."

Common Assessments:

- **Ensemble Performance – Instrumental 1**
- **Ensemble Performance – Instrumental 2**
- **Individual Performance – Instrumental 3**
- **Ensemble Performance – Instrumental 4**

Major Units of Study:

- Marching
- Concert Ensemble
- Sectionals

Materials & Texts

MATERIALS

A variety of music will be utilized from contemporary wind band literature, which will include, but not be limited to, classical transcriptions, marches, overtures, popular selections, concert selections and marching band arrangements. Additionally, various chorales, scales, exercises and warm-ups will be utilized. Students are expected to provide their own instruments. Large woodwinds, brass and percussion instruments are available for students' use through the District rental/maintenance plan at a nominal cost. Also, a limited number of plastic clarinets, alto saxes, trumpets and trombones are available for rental during the marching season

TEXTS

- A Custom Band Warm Up "Technique Essentials" by Wayne R. Downey
- Band Handbook by Daniel Drew
- Exercises for Ensemble Drill by Raymond C. Fussell
- Fourteen Weeks to a Better Band (Book 2) by Roger Maxwell
- Habits of a Successful Musician by Scott Rush & Rich Moon
- I Recommend by James D. Ployhar
- Sectional Workbook compiled by Daniel Drew
- Superior Bands in Sixteen Weeks by Quincy C. Hilliard
- The Art of Expressive Playing for Winds and Percussion by Jerry Nowak
- Tone and Technique Through Chorales and Etudes by James D. Ployhar and George B. Zepp

Summer Assignment

Band Camp