

Hephzibah Middle School Band/Chorus

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Course Description

The Hephzibah Middle School Band/Chorus Program focuses on developing the necessary musicianship abilities to learn their instrument. The music, which this organization performs, does not require any previous experience singing or playing an instrument. Students within the HMS Band/Chorus Program will perform many concerts throughout the year, football games, community events, and participate in at least one festival. The ensemble meets as separate classes (6th grade, 7th grade, 8th grade) during the school day and after school. All rehearsals and performances are mandatory for ALL students enrolled in this class.

Vision of the Band/Chorus Program

- The Hephzibah Middle School Band/Chorus Program will provide a conduit for the students to move through high school into collegiate and professional performing arts programs as well as provide students with the intercultural understanding and respect to interact with others on a global scale.

Expected Behavior for ALL Band/Chorus Students

- Band/Chorus is a privilege. Students must always act in a professional manner. The band/chorus program follows the guidelines set by Richmond County School System Code of Conduct and Hephzibah Middle School Code of Conduct. **IF STUDENTS DO NOT COMPLY, STUDENTS WILL NOT PERFORM.**

Grading Scale

Students will be tested periodically to assess their rehearsal progress on any given music. The students will also perform in class and outside of class regularly to receive grades. 70% is the highest grade that a student can receive on any late assignment.

- 60% Assessments
 - Performances, Quizzes, Test
- 40% Classwork
 - Class Participation, Classwork

Classroom Expectations

- Walk into the classroom and set up quietly in the first 3 minutes of class
- **It is your responsibility to show proof that you have purchased or rented an instrument within the first two weeks of school.**
- During class work, raise your hand and I will come to you and if I am with another student, wait patiently and I will get to your question.
- If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check with me to see which assignments you missed.
- Do not stand up, pack your book bag, clear off your desk or leave the classroom until instructed to do so.
- During a fire or tornado drill, remain calm and walk quietly to our designated areas.

Classroom Rules and Procedures

- Handle all instruments and class materials with care
- No profanity or vulgar language
- No eating or drinking
- No cell phones
- No hats or hoods
- Please clean up around your area before you leave class

Classroom Consequences

- All consequences will be aligned with the HMS school wide discipline plan.

Materials

- Instrument
- Accessories (Reeds, Oil, Mallets, etc.)
- 1 Inch Binder & Sheet Protectors
- Music
- Paper
- Pencil
- Black dress pants
- Black dress shoes

Instruments & Accessories

<u>Instrument</u>	<u>Student Must Obtain</u>	<u>Accessories</u>
Flute	Student Must Obtain	-
Clarinet	Student Must Obtain	Rovner Ligature, Vandoren Reed Size 3
Bass Clarinet	Provided By School	Rovner Ligature, Vandoren Reed Size 3, Neck strap
Alto Saxophone	Student Must Obtain	Rovner Ligature, Vandoren Reed Size 3, Neck strap
Tenor Saxophone	Provided By School	Rovner Ligature, Vandoren Reed Size 3, Neck strap
Trumpet	Student Must Obtain	1.5C Mouthpiece, Valve Oil
French Horn	Student Must Obtain	Medium Deep French Horn Mouthpiece, Rotary Oil
Trombone	Student Must Obtain	6 ½ AL Small Shank Mouthpiece, Slide Oil
Baritone	Provided By School	6 ½ AL Small Shank Mouthpiece, Valve Oil
Tuba	Provided By School	Bach 18 Tuba Mouthpiece, Valve Oil
Percussion	Student Must Obtain	Vic Firth 5A Snare Drum Sticks, Timpani Mallets, Xylophone Mallets, Marimba Mallets, Stick Bag

Vendors (Stores to get instruments & Supplies)

- Kirkland's Music Store, Music and Arts, Portman's Music Store

Avoid the following brands (These instruments will break and cannot be fixed)

- Medini, Etude, Ravel, York, Le'Voz, Jean Paul

After School Rehearsals

- Students must have transportation home. Students must be picked up within 15 minutes of rehearsal ending. If student is not picked up in a timely manner, he/she will not be able to stay for any afterschool rehearsals.

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT RUBRIC

Student Name: _____ Date: _____
Instrument: _____ Test Material: _____

Domains	Score	Suggestions For Improvement
TONE 25 Excellent, mature, and characteristic sound 20 Good sound, but lacking in maturity 15 Mediocre sound; not very full and focused 5 Weak tone; unfocused		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breathing Exercises • Brass – Siren Buzzes • Long Tones • Daily Studies
Posture 15 Posture is correct in all aspects 13 Posture is inconsistent or needs minor attention 10 Posture needs serious attention 5 Posture is inappropriate or poor		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice in front of a full length mirror • Practice standing, then sitting • Refer to your method book to review posture
Hand Position 15 Hands are soft and natural, placed appropriately 13 Hands are slightly tense, fingers may be misplaced 10 Hand position needs serious attention 5 Hand position is inappropriate or poor		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice in front of a full length mirror • Practice “dead hand” exercise • Refer to your method book to review hand positions
Technique 15 All or nearly all notes played correctly 13 Minor mistakes slightly affected performance 10 Numerous wrong notes affected performance 5 Serious errors, performance significantly affected		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice scales • Brass – Lip Slurs • Daily Studies
Rhythm 15 No discernible rhythm errors 13 Minor rhythm errors slightly affected performance 10 Numerous rhythm errors affected performance 5 Rhythm very inconsistent; almost or wholly unrecognizable		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count and clap • Analyze the counting • Use a metronome
Tempo 15 Tempo was steady and appropriate 13 Tempo was appropriate: but with some variance 10 Tempo was noticeably incorrect or varied 5 Tempo was uncharacteristic for this selection		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a metronome • Tap your foot while you play

TOTAL:

Overall Grade: _____

Other Comments:

Parent Signature Required if Grade is Below 70: _____

HMS Band/Chorus Course Syllabus

After you have reviewed the preceding packet of information with your parent(s) or guardian(s), please sign this sheet and return it to me so that I can verify you understand what I expect out of each and every one of my students.

Student Name (please print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____