Westside High School Band & Percussion Syllabus

2024-2025

**Brandi Colón**

[](https://www.remind.com/join/whsband02)

Contact: 706-868-4030 (Office Hours 7:25-8:15) colonbr@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us

Class Remind: <https://www.remind.com/join/whsband02> OR Text @whsband02 to 81010

**Course Description and Objectives**

The Westside Band & Percussion classes offer instruction on woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments with a focus on the skills necessary for long-term student success. Fundamentals stressed include proper posture and playing position, development of characteristic tone quality and training in music literacy. The school is able to provide many of the larger and/or more expensive instruments. These include the oboe, bassoon, French horn, euphonium, and tuba. Other instruments (i.e. flute, clarinet, saxophone, trombone and trumpet) should be provided for the student by their parents if at all possible. Please feel free to contact me for recommendations regarding instrument purchase or rental suggestions. Students of any grade level are welcome. Each class will perform in a Winter and Spring Band Concerts. No audition is required for placement in Band - all that is necessary is the desire and motivation to study a musical instrument!

**Materials:**

Instrument: Either personally owned, rented from a local music store or checked out from the Westside High School Instrument Inventory.

* There is a $50 fee for borrowing instruments from Westside High School Band (Per instrument). This is a yearly fee that helps to maintain the instrument and clean it at the end of the year. This must be paid before a student can bring the instrument home.
* Required items that are necessary to perform on each instrument (reeds, valve oil, neck straps etc.)
* Pencil (NO PENS)

**Unit /Concept Names**

* Unit 1 Marching Band
* Unit 2 Winter Concert
* Unit 3 LGPE
* Unit 4 Spring Concert

**Course Work/Classwork**

* Daily Performance **(Minor)**
	+ A weekly grade of 100 will be given for having all required materials and participating in class.
		- The following items are the makeup of this grade: Instrument, Music, Pencil
		- If a student doesn’t have their instrument and music, an alternate music theory assignment will be given. The assignment will be graded on completion within class time. A maximum grade of 50 will be given for the day for a complete assignment or a minimum grade of 0 will be assigned for no attempt to complete the assignment. It is the students responsibility to ask for this assignment and turn it in.
		- Band is a performance-based class. Without your instrument, music and a pencil you are not able to participate. This is like going to math class without your math book, pencil and paper.
* Performance Quizzes **(Minor)**
	+ In class pass off Grades
		- Scales and arpeggios
			* 9-10 Grade (F, Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb, C, G)
			* 11-12th Grade (F, Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb, C, G, D, A, E, B, F#)
		- Chromatic Scale
			* Full Range of Instrument
		- Sight Reading & Rhythm Exercises
		- Marching Band Music
		- Winter/Spring Concert Music Pass Offs (Each piece must be passed off...1 grade per piece)
		- LGPE Concert Music Pass Offs (3rd 9 weeks only) (Each piece must be passed off...1 grade per piece)
* Final Performances & Theory Tests **(Major)**
	+ I am not asking a lot by requiring attendance at concerts. We only have one concert per grading period. Concerts cannot be made up. As I am teaching your student to be a successful musician, this is what we are working towards. It is part of the discipline of being a musician and is crucial to helping your student achieve the goal of becoming a responsible musician. Please be respectful of this. Encourage your student to invite friends and family to the concert. ALL concerts will be free and open to the public. Students are required to attend the ENTIRE concert. Do NOT leave when your student is done performing unless they are in the last group. It is rude and breaks concert etiquette to the other bands for you to leave early. Leaving early will result in a lower grade for the concert unless prior approval has been given.
	+ ALL CONCERTS ARE REQUIRED AND MANDATORY TO ATTEND. THIS IS WHAT WE WORK TOWARD IN CLASS. GROUP PERFORMANCES ARE A PART OF THE GPS STANDARDS SET BY THE STATE.
		- The only excusable absence from a final performance is sickness excusable by school terms or death in the family. In the instance that either of these occur and documentation is provided to support it (a doctor’s excuse and funeral program). An alternate written assignment will be given.
		- If the student has not passed off concert music and is unprepared to perform with their group an alternate written assignment will be provided.
		- Unit Tests will be given on Music Theory

**Evaluation (Grading Policy)**

* **Minor Grades: 60% (Daily Participation, Performance Quizzes, Theory Assignments.)**
* **Major Grades: 40% (Final Performance & Theory Tests):**
* **Final Exam: 20%**

**Late Work (Grading Policy- See RCBOE IHA-R Grading Practices**

Students may have their scores reduced by 5% per school day for a 25% maximum reduction (five school days). ***Late work submitted after the fifth school day will only be accepted at the teacher’s discretion.***

**Make-Up Work (Grading Policy)**

Students are expected to make-up assignments and assessments that were missed due to absence from school. Students are responsible for asking teachers for the make-up work upon returning to class. Make-up work should be completed by the student within the time specified by the teacher

**Relearn and Reassess Plan**

For any major assessments, students will have the opportunity to submit a relearning plan for parent and teacher approval. Upon satisfactory completion of the plan, as determined by the teacher, students will be given a minimum of **ONE** opportunity to be reassessed. Only students scoring below 70 on a major assessment can complete a relearning plan unless exempted with parent approval.

Reassessments may be different from the original.

The reassessment score will replace the original score (the scores will not be averaged).

Reassessments should be completed **within 7 school days** of receiving the original grade. Teachers should have discretion to extend the timeline to address extenuating circumstances.

**Classroom Procedures & Expectations**

The overarching expectation in this class is to represent WAR (Wholehearted, Accountable, Respectful)

Below are the expectations for how to W.A.R. in class!

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Wholehearted** | * **Be on time, prepared, and positive**
 |
| **Accountable** | * **Always show respect**
* **No food, gum, candy, drinks**
 |
| **Respectful** | * **Do your best…success is the only option**
 |

**See Next Page for Student Contract**

**Student Contract**

I understand that all work should be completed on time. I understand that my teacher may deduct five points per day and communicate this in my Infinite Campus gradebook. I also understand that work turned in after the learning has occurred may not be graded (no more than 5 school days from the due date). I understand that using Artificial Intelligence to complete assignments where I am asked to produce original work will be considered Academic Dishonesty.

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

**Parent Contract:** I understand that my child is expected to complete assignments on time. I will

remain in communication with my child’s teacher and monitor missing and late work as noted in Infinite Campus Parent Portal. If my child continues to submit work late, I understand that a parent-teacher conference will be needed to co-develop a plan of action. I understand that my child should not use Artificial Intelligence to complete assignments where students are asked to produce original work.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AI Platform: copilot.microsoft.com