



# 8th Grade Band

## Course Description

**Students will demonstrate strong instrument technique as well as listen to music to determine basic and increasingly complex music components of melody, counter-melody, harmony, rhythm, dynamic contrast and phrasing, and apply basic skills of improvisation, reading and writing of music. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the role of music in various cultures and history, and will explore careers in the arts. Students will develop leadership skills within the ensemble and take on the role of independent learners.**

## Instructor:

Sonya Rohde

Classroom #36

Email: [sonya.rohde@central301.net](mailto:sonya.rohde@central301.net)

Phone: 847-464-6000

Website: [www.cms8band.weebly.com](http://www.cms8band.weebly.com) - Concert Schedule, Group Lessons Schedule, and More!

## Course Materials Required:

- (A student owned or rented band instrument and any materials necessary for that specific instrument (reeds, mouthpiece, swabs, valve oil, slide grease, mallets, snare drum sticks, drum pad, stick bag, etc).
- 1" - 3 ring binder
- pencil
- Materials provided by the district include concert band music, and instructor-made worksheets and packets.

## Learning Activities

- Concerts
- Group Lessons
- Improvisation/Composition
- Varied Music Repertoire
- Rehearsals

## Learning Outcomes

- Students will demonstrate understanding through performance the concepts of tone and intonation, balance and blend, phrasing, style, and dynamic contrast to the appropriate level of a third year band student.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of note values.



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- Students will demonstrate an understanding of simple and complex rhythms, as well as their derivations.
- Students will demonstrate and understanding of how to count rhythms in various time signatures.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding and application of major key signatures within the context of scales, music performance, and composition.
- Students will define, understand, and apply standard notation symbols within the context of performance.
- Students will identify, define, and apply knowledge of time signatures.
- Students will demonstrate understanding of pitches that are matching, sharper, or flatter than any given note.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the length of their instruments in relation to matching pitch.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of their instrument pitch tendencies.
- Students will apply understanding of pitch in real time and make adjustment toward tuning within the ensemble.

### Course Outline

Unit	Approximate Dates	Topics	Student Activities
November Concert	8/23-11/13	Improvisation - Rhythm Composition - Rhythm, Basic Melody, Basic Harmony Scales - Bb, Eb, F, Ab concert Intonation Ensemble Playing - Balance and Blend Instrument Reading Music Notation	November Concert Selected Musical Repertoire Rhythmic and Major melodic Composition Rhythmic and Major melodic Improvisation Tuning with drones Scales - assigned by ability Balance and Blend Instrument Care and techniques tailored to specific instruments Music Theory as applies to Musical Repertoire
February Concert	11/17-2/8	Improvisation Composition Minor Scales - g, c, d, and f concert, 3 part harmony Intonation Ensemble Playing -	February Concert Selected Musical Repertoire Rhythmic and minor melodic Composition Rhythmic and minor melodic Improvisation Tuning with tuner Science of Sound



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		Balance and Blend Instrument Reading Music Notation	Scales - assigned by ability Balance and Blend Instrument Care and techniques tailored to specific instruments Music Theory as applies to Musical Repertoire November Concert Reflection
May Concert	2/9-3/15	3 part Harmony Improvisation and Composition Intonation Ensemble Playing Balance and Blend Instrument Techniques Reading Music Notation	May Concert Advanced Musical Repertoire 3 part Composition in Groups 3 part melodic Improvisation Tuning with drones Balance and Blend Instrument Care and techniques tailored to specific instruments Music Theory as applies to Musical Repertoire February Concert Reflection
Composition and Sight Reading	3/15-3/31	Sight Reading Skills Composition - Final Project	Sight Reading Websites Selected Repertoire Composition Performances May Concert Reflection

### Major Course Assignments/Assessments with Approximate Dates:

- Major Scale Improvisation/Composition - September 21st
- Music Proficiency - October 12
- November Concert -
  - Monday, 11/13 - 7:30pm - CMS Gym
- Minor Scale Improvisation/Composition - December 21st
- February Concert
  - Thursday, 2/8 - 7:30pm - CMS Gym
- Improvisation/Composition - March 22nd
- Music Proficiency - April 26th
- May Concert
  - Tuesday, 5/15 - 7:00pm - PKMS Gym
- Final Composition Project - May 24

### Grading Procedures:

1. **Playing Tests/Compositions**



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- Students will have playing tests and composition assignments throughout the school year. Students will use in class time and at home practice time to prepare.

### 2. Daily Conduct and Participation

- Students will receive 25 points per quarter. Students can keep their points by bringing all materials to class such as their instrument, books, music, and pencils, and exhibiting good classroom behavior during rehearsal. Students will lose one point on days they forget to bring their materials to class or exhibit behavior that is not appropriate for rehearsal. Band is a performance-based class. Proper materials and proper behavior are necessary for the success of the entire group.

### 3. Attendance

#### ○ Concerts

- It is mandatory that students attend all performances, have appropriate materials for the performance, and behave in a manner worthy of membership. Any absences (except for school day excused absences) need to be communicated to the director prior to the absence. An absence from a performance without prior consent will have a considerable effect on the quarter grade.

#### ○ Group Lessons

- Attendance at group lessons and rehearsals is very important to the band. Lesson times are determined by the band director and will be communicated to the students at the beginning of the year. Students are responsible for attending lessons at the scheduled times. Any absences (except for school day excused absences) need to be communicated to the director prior to the absence.

### 4. \*Extra Credit

- Students can very easily make up any missed points by attending concerts performed by students of the same age or older. This includes CHS band, orchestra or choir concerts, as well as, musicals, Elgin Symphony Orchestra concerts, or other professional band, choir, or orchestra performances. Students will receive 3 points for any outside concert they attend.

**Grades will be determined  
by the following category weights:**

Category	Percentage
Playing Test/Composition	25%
Daily Conduct	25%
Attendance Group Lessons	25%

**Grading Scale:**

Letter Grade	Range
A	100-90
B	89.99-80
C	79.99-70



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Attendance Concerts	25%
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D	69.99-60
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### **Absences/Make-up Work:**

Students who are absent from school will be allowed to make up work for equivalent academic credit. The time allowed to makeup work will generally be one school day for every school day missed, starting with the first day the student returns to school. In extenuating circumstances a student may ask his/her teacher for additional time to make up work. It is the responsibility of the student (and his/her parent/guardian), not the teachers, to get the assignments, complete them, and turn them in, and to arrange a time with the teacher to make up any missed quizzes or tests. Incomplete work or failure to do the work may result in a lowering of grades.

### **Timeframe for makeup work:**

Students have 1 week to complete and submit work starting date student returns from absence.

### **Procedure to follow to receive and submit makeup work:**

1. Student will log into Canvas and go to date of missed group lesson
2. Student will review the information covered for the day
3. Student will complete assignment stated in Canvas
4. Student will submit assignment as stated in Canvas

### **Technology Policy**

The District’s electronic networks, including the Internet, are part of the District’s instructional program and serve to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. Use of all electronic devices allowed as part of the District’s Bring Your Own Device (“BYOD”) program and the District issued Chromebook must be consistent with District policies and procedures. Such electronic devices may be used during instructional time only for educational purposes as approved by the Administration or teacher. Personal devices may be used by students during non-instructional time, such as during passing periods, and before or after school. Students may not place or receive phone calls during school day hours (8:12am to 2:50pm). Use is a privilege, not a right. Students and staff members have no expectation of privacy in any material that is stored, transmitted, accessed via the District’s electronic networks. The District’s rules for behavior and communications apply when using the electronic networks. Refer to the Chromebook Handbook issued by the district.

### **Specific technology guidelines for band:**



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The use of cell phones while in the band classroom is strictly prohibited without teacher permission.

### **Academic Integrity:**

Students engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards, and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores will be held to the standards of the 17-18 CMS Plagiarism Policy.

#### **Plagiarism/Cheating**

Using someone else's ideas, phrasing or words and representing those as your own, either on purpose or through carelessness, is plagiarism. This is the same as "copying" the ideas of someone else. This includes, but is not limited to: copying from the Internet, copying from a reference source, copying from a friend, etc. Plagiarism can encompass an entire paper, a paragraph, a sentence, or even just one word. Any work that is turned in and is found to have been plagiarized will be disciplined as follows:

- All daily work, classwork, homework, and quizzes will result in a zero
- For large/unit assessments and projects:
  - 1st offense-Conference with the teacher with the option to redo the project/assessment for 50% off
  - 2nd offense- Conference with the teacher, parental contact, and a zero on the project/assessment

All subsequent offenses will result in a mandatory conference with the student, teacher, principal or student service coordinator. Consequences will be handled on a case by case basis.

### **Resources:**

Online Music Writing Software - [www.noteflight.com](http://www.noteflight.com)

Concert Schedule, Group Lessons Schedule, and More! - [www.cms8band.weebly.com](http://www.cms8band.weebly.com)

Tuning drones - [http://www.slushpump.com/Tuning\\_Drones.htm](http://www.slushpump.com/Tuning_Drones.htm)

Scale Sheet- [https://www.ilmea.org/site\\_media/filer\\_public/2015/04/29/ilmea\\_junior\\_scales.pdf](https://www.ilmea.org/site_media/filer_public/2015/04/29/ilmea_junior_scales.pdf)

Find recordings the music we are playing in band on this site - [www.jwpepper.com](http://www.jwpepper.com)