



BEHS Symphonic Band

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Class Materials

Instrument, Folder & Music, Pencils
Performance Dress: All Concert Black

Beginning of Class Procedures

We will begin fundamentals 3 minutes after the tardy bell has rung.
Please be in your seat with your instrument and music by 7:53am.
Your music should be in order and you should be ready to begin fundamentals.

What constitutes a good rehearsal?

Focus on Fundamentals
Excellent Posture and Playing Positions
Listening and Being Attentive
Rehearsals should be Quiet and Focused
Commitment to Quick and Constant Improvement
Developing and Perfecting Individual & Ensemble Skills
Reacting to Self and Instructor Feedback
Being Analytical and Reflective Musicians
Participating and Contributing Positively to the Musical Product

End of Class Procedure

When the instructor dismisses class, please put your instrument and music in its proper storage area, and remain inside the band room until the bell rings.



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ENSEMBLE DESCRIPTION & GOALS

The Symphonic Band meets during first period and begins after the marching season and continues through the 2nd semester. The goal of this ensemble is to develop individual and ensemble skills through a focus on learning and applying fundamentals, scales, listening, and technique. This ensemble is a listening-focused, process-oriented group that provides an opportunity for students to develop and emphasize interactive musical skills in a large ensemble setting. The Symphonic Band will perform in several concerts and will generally not travel outside the school district except for one metro area festival in the spring. Students are also expected to perform with the Basketball Pep Band games in the winter.

SKILLS (individual and ensemble)

- Tuning: horizontal and vertical
- Tone: appropriate and characteristic
- Rhythm: accuracy and clarity
- Pulse: internal and external
- Breathing: quality and control
- Style: range and appropriateness
- Articulation: variety and consistency
- Phrasing: shape and note grouping
- Posture: Body carriage and hand positions
- Sight-reading: building good habits

ENSEMBLE PLAYING

- Developing sensitivity and understanding to the whole picture
- Recognizing primary and secondary roles musically
- Silent communication through breath and sight
- Encouraging flexibility and adaptability
- Working as a team, Being prepared and dependable

THE “IN” PRINCIPALS

- **IN TONE** – producing characteristic quality sound
- **IN TIME** – internalizing pulse and traveling together in time
- **IN TUNE** – matching pitch and being aware of ensemble tuning
- **IN TOUCH** – perceiving and communicating emotion and meaning

LISTENING SKILLS

- **Level 1** – Listen to yourself. Resonate where you are. Your main job is to make a characteristic sound at all times.
- **Level 2** – Listen to your voice. Listen to your part (2nd Trumpet, 1st Horn, Tuba) and match sound, energy, articulation, balance, precision, timing, etc.
- **Level 3** – Listen to the ensemble. Match around the room. Listen and match energy, articulation, musical line, and sound with all voices in the ensemble.