

MS Beginning Band

Course Description:

Beginning Band is designed to introduce incoming musicians to the rehearsal and performance requirements of a Middle School Band. It is open to 7th & 8th Grade students who are interested in playing a band instrument or are switching to a different instrument for band. Emphasis is placed on developing basic musical skills and the techniques required for advancement to their grade level band at semester. Participation in concerts will be required.

Standards and Benchmarks:

ACS numbers correspond to Alaska Content Standards for the Arts

The student will demonstrate technical skills on his/her instrument appropriate to experience level.

Standard 1 (ACS: A1-A5)

The student will:

- ♪ 1.1 Play major scales in the concert keys of Bb, Eb, F
- ♪ 1.2 Play exercises and band literature in the keys of Concert Bb, Eb, F,
- ♪ 1.3 Articulate cleanly while playing eighth note patterns at a tempo of quarter note = 80
- ♪ 1.4 Play technical etudes comparable in difficulty to those found in the Standards of Excellence Book 1
- ♪ 1.5 Play lyric/melodic etudes comparable to those found in the Standards of Excellence Book 1
- ♪ 1.6 Play simple rhythm combinations using eighth, quarter, half, whole and dotted notes or rests
- ♪ 1.7 Demonstrate the ability to sight read music at a level comparable to exercises found in a 1st year method book

The student will play band music from a variety of styles/periods/cultures.

Standard 2 (ACS: B1-B8; C1-C2)

The student will:

- ♪ 2.1 Play band literature in variety of styles (march, overture, homophonic, contemporary, etc.)
- ♪ 2.2 Play band music from a variety of musical periods (Renaissance, Classical, Romantic, 20th century, etc.)
- ♪ 2.3 Play and/or listen to music from a variety of cultures (as available)
- ♪ 2.4 Understand basic historical and thematic context of literature

The student will demonstrate basic understanding of the musical terms and symbols used in the music they are studying.

Standard 3 (ACS: A1-A5; C2)

The student will:

- ♪ 3.1 Perform music with appropriate dynamic and stylistic interpretation
- ♪ 3.2 Perform music according to indicated tempi
- ♪ 3.3 Identify and use appropriate terms, symbols and meters for literature being studied
- ♪ 3.5 Identify and use duple, triple meter where appropriate

The student will demonstrate proper sound production skills for his/her instrument(s), appropriate to experience level.

Standard 4 (ACS: A1-A5)

The student will:

- ♪ 4.1 Demonstrate understanding of proper breathing/stick techniques
- ♪ 4.2 Plays long tones of 10 seconds duration with varying dynamics with no change in pitch center or tone quality (winds only)
- ♪ 4.3 Play long rolls of 10 seconds duration with varying dynamics with maintaining an evenness between hands (percussion only)
- ♪ 4.4 Demonstrate the ability to play with proper posture and/or playing position

The student will demonstrate basic critical listening skills

Standard 5 (ACS:C1-C5; D1-D4)

The student will:

- ♪ 5.1 Reflectively listen and adjust during performances
- ♪ 5.2 Give a written/verbal evaluation of performances

The student will acquire tools for life-long learning through musical participation

Standard 6 (ACS: A4-A7; B9; C6; D1-D8)

The student will:

- ♪ 6.1 Identify the multiple presence of music in society
- ♪ 6.2 Identify areas and methods of musical influence in societies/cultures

- ♪ 6.3 Recognize and identify the following specific tools developed through participation in musical performance: teamwork, self-expression, initiative, self-discipline, language, mathematical principles, problem solving, analytical thinking, reading skills and acquiring and using information
- ♪ 6.4 Identify career options in music education, performance, critique, production and technology

Major Activities:

- ♪ Large group rehearsal
- ♪ Individual and small group practice
- ♪ Critical listening
- ♪ Lecture and written work in theory and terminology

Instructional Materials:

- ♪ Appropriate instruments
- ♪ Band Music
- ♪ Method Books
- ♪ Instrumental care materials

Technology Resources

- ♪ Audio and Video recording and playback equipment
- ♪ Appropriate computer programs, equipment and software

Audio-Visual Resources

- ♪ Recorded music
- ♪ Instructional and Performance Audio/Video Recordings