



Mark Godwin
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Union Area Middle/High School
2106 Camden Ave
New Castle, PA 16101

Instrumental Music Department

Union Area 7th & 8th Grade Band Syllabus 2012-2013

I. Course Description

This course provides opportunities for students in grades 7 and 8 to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through performance of a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. Students will rehearse and perform pieces at the Grade 2 to 2 ½ levels. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music fluently, the building of technical skills, and responsible rehearsal habits. Attention will also be given to relating their musical experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study. Students will participate in two concerts throughout the year, usually held in December and May.

This year there will be three concerts

2. Grading

Daily Understanding – 50% of total final grade

Daily participation in band rehearsal will be worth 10 points each day. If the student attends rehearsal and is prepared (has music, instrument, pencil, and other materials) they will receive full credit. The total participation score will be averaged with other grades to account for 50% of the total final grade for the grading period. Students will be excused from rehearsal only **at the discretion of the Band Director** for other activities (gifted, yearbook, etc.).

Instrument – 5 pts.

Music – 3 pts.

Pencil/other materials – 2 pts.

Playing Tests – 25% of total final grade

Playing tests will be given periodically throughout the course of the grading period. Each test will be worth a maximum of 50 points (or 40 points for recorded percussion exams). Rubrics will be distributed before each playing test. The total playing test score will be averaged with other grades to account for 25% of the total final grade for the grading period.

3. Performances

Attendance at all scheduled performances (concerts) is mandatory for students participating in 7th & 8th Grade Band. Participation in band class is unique in that after school performances are considered **co-curricular** and not extra-curricular activities. As such, these performances are included as part of the student's grade despite the fact that they occur during the evening. Participation in these concerts will be treated like a final exam during the 2nd and 4th grading periods, and will be averaged after the grading procedure described in step 2 to be worth a total of **25% of the grade**. The concerts are currently scheduled for the following dates:

Winter Concert – December 20, 2012	7:00pm
Mid-Winter Concert – March 21, 2013	7:00pm
Spring Concert – May 23, 2013	7:00pm

3. Homeroom

Students that are in 7th & 8th grade band will also be in homeroom together all six days. Students are to be on time to homeroom. If a student is late **three** times, they will receive a detention. After six, it will be an hour detention, and anything beyond that will be referred to the office. There is no talking while announcements are on. If talking persists, there will be no talking the entire homeroom period. If there is talking after that, detentions will be written. If a student is to miss homeroom to go to a scheduled club meeting, they will be excused. If they need to see another teacher, a pass must be obtained from that teacher before homeroom.

Homeroom time may be used for additional rehearsal time, or sectional time, upon the discretion of the Band Director. For this reason, all 7th and 8th grade band students should go to their locker and get their bookbags and coats **before** 8th period begins (on Days 1, 2, 3 – before the band period). Please note that we may rehearse during Homeroom on Days 4, 5, 6 as well.

4. Add/Drop Band

Any student(s) wishing to add or drop band from their class schedule will need to do so by **Tuesday, September 11, 2012**. After that date, schedules will not be changed.

Please sign, date and return the following contract to Mr. Godwin

I understand and agree to abide by the Union Area 7/8th Grade Band Syllabus for the 2012-2013 school year. I understand that I am responsible for attending all scheduled performances during the school year that will be included as part of my total grade. I agree to remain in good academic standing in all of my courses so as to permit the band director to excuse me from classes for individual or group lessons. I understand that if I do not sign and return this form that I may be ineligible to participate in 7/8th Grade Band.

Student's Printed Name

Student's Signature

Date

I understand and agree to abide by the Union Area 7/8th Grade Band Syllabus for the 2012-2013 school year. I understand that my child is responsible for attending all scheduled performances during the school year that will be included as part of my child's total grade. I understand that as long as my child is in good academic standing, he/she will be excused from an academic course one day per week to participate in individual or group instrumental lessons. I understand that if I do not sign and return this for that my child may be ineligible to participate in 7/8th Grade Band.

Parent's Printed Name

Parent's Signature

Date