

8th grade Band Syllabus
2011-2012

Prerequisite: Two years of band experience. Exceptions can be made with private tutoring and proper instrument selection.

Course description:

The course continues to develop basic playing skills including good tone, good pulse, and a good understanding and practical applications of counting. Playing with musical dynamic variation and matching pitch should continue to develop. There are two major performances during the school year.

Learning benchmarks:

Playing with a strong sense of pulse and rhythm

Developing a soloistic vibrato to enhance the quality of overall sound

Being more aware of matching pitch as music is played both within sections and in upper and lower octaves in other sections

Playing with nice gradations of loud to soft and soft to loud to enhance musical lines

Becoming more aware and responsive to attacks and releases in a musical way

making articulation an integral part of every musical phrase

Preparation for Class/Course Materials:

There will continue to be some review from the *Essential Elements 2000* but most instruction will come from handouts of scales, arpeggios, and counting exercises. Music chosen for semester programs will also be part of the instructional materials.

Method of Instruction:

Full ensemble and small group instruction will be the method of instruction.

Assessment:

Chair tests will be given on a bi-weekly basis to evaluate individual playing skills.

Projected Course Schedule:

Students meet on an every other day schedule. M-W-F one week. T-Th the next