

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Sixth Grade Band - (Full Year)

Students whose skills are exceptional may be placed in Advanced Band with the band director's approval.

This course provides opportunities for incoming sixth graders to begin or continue the study of a band instrument. Instruction covers tone production, note reading, music terms, vocabulary, and the development of performance skills required in an ensemble setting. Instruments include: flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet (cornet), French horn, trombone, baritone horn, tuba and percussion. Some instruments are available for loan to students who cannot provide their own. Parents are required to sign a form signifying that they will be financially responsible for any damage to a loaned instrument. There is a "uniform" dress requirement of black pants/skirt and white shirt/blouse for performances.

Intermediate Band - Grades 7 & 8 (Full Year)

Students continue to develop musical skills required to further develop skills on their band instrument. In addition, they learn to maintain an independent part in a large ensemble while following a conductor. Emphasis is on the development of performance concepts. All students with some experience and the ability to read music are welcome. This course also provides the opportunity to begin the study of a band instrument for 7th and 8th grade students. There is a "uniform" dress requirement of black pants/skirt and white shirt/blouse for performances.

Advanced Band - Grades 7 & 8 (Full Year)

Prerequisite: Approval of Director

In this course, students have further opportunities to develop technical proficiency and improve rehearsal techniques. Wider ranges of dynamics are developed, and the study of harmony and ear training are introduced. Students learn the characteristics of musical style and begin to acquire a repertoire of band literature. Students start to assume leadership roles within the large performing ensemble. Exploratory experiences may be offered in orchestra, stage band, and in solo/ensemble performance. This band represents the school at public performances. There is a "uniform" dress requirement of black pants/skirt and white shirt/blouse for performances.

Strings - Grades 6, 7 & 8 (Full Year)

This course provides opportunities to begin or continue the study of an orchestral string instrument (violin, viola, cello, or bass). Instruction covers basic tone production, music reading, and the development of performance skills. Emphasis is on the development of musical concepts, the production of a characteristic tone, and the acquisition of effective practice habits. Some students use this course to learn a second instrument. Some instruments are available for loan to students who cannot provide their own. Parents are required to sign a form signifying that they will be financially responsible for any damage to a loaned instrument. There is a "uniform" dress requirement of black pants/skirt and white shirt/blouse for performances.

Orchestra – Grades 7 & 8 (Full Year)

Prerequisites: Approval of Director

This course is open to all students who are proficient at the Intermediate level on the violin, viola, cello, or string bass. In Orchestra, students have further opportunities to develop technical proficiency and improve rehearsal techniques. Wider ranges of dynamics are developed and various orchestra bowings are introduced. The study of harmony and ear training are introduced, and students continue to develop improved rehearsal techniques. Students learn the characteristics of musical style and begin to acquire a repertoire of orchestral music. Exploratory experiences may be offered in solo/ensemble performance. This Orchestra class is organized as a string orchestra, with provisions for the occasional addition of winds and percussion. This orchestra represents the school in public performances. There is a “uniform” dress requirement of black pants/skirt and white shirt/blouse for performances.

CHORAL MUSIC

Chorus - Grade 6 (Full Year)

The 6th grade chorus is open to all interested students who have a love for singing and performing. This course develops skills in reading rhythmic and melodic notation, comparing and contrasting musical styles and periods, singing in unison as well as two and three part harmonies, and individual vocal production. Students will sing a variety of musical styles.

The course places emphasis on producing a choral ensemble and sight-singing. Three to four evening performances and some out of class work are required in this class, and therefore, part of the student’s grade. There is a dress requirement for performances.

Chorus - Grade 7 (Full Year)

Students will develop their musical skills in choral ensemble, sight-singing, solo and three and four-part harmonies. Emphasis will be placed on developing advanced skills in sight-singing, rhythmic reading, and choral ensemble through the use of voices and instruments. Performances are a required part of the class, and, therefore, a part of the student’s grade. There will be three or four evening performances as well as performances during the school day. This chorus may represent the school at county and state festivals. There is a dress requirement for performances.

Chorus – Grade 8 (Full Year)

Students will develop their musical skills in solo and choral ensemble, sight-singing, and three and four-part harmonies. Emphasis will be placed on developing advanced skills in sight-singing, rhythmic reading, and choral ensemble through the use of voice and instruments. The school wide reading and writing initiatives are supported in the music content area. Performances are a required part of the class, and, therefore a part of the student’s grade. There will be three-four evening performances as well as performances during the school day. This chorus will represent the school at county and state festivals. There is a dress requirement for performances.