

Brazos Middle School Beginning Band Syllabus

2021-2022 School Year

Dalia Lee

Middle School Band Director

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Course Description:

This course is designed to give the student an enriching and diverse instrumental music education. This class provides a number of performance opportunities for the student in a variety of settings. The daily objective of the course is to foster and promote musical growth through the playing of an instrument by the student. As a member of the band program, group effort and cooperation is necessary to a successful program. Band is a skilled effort in which each student is expected to show technical and musical growth throughout this course.

Required Materials:

- Pencil
- Instrument and necessary equipment
- Band binder/folder with music and additional content

Classroom Rules:

- No food, gum, candy, or soft drinks, only water bottles are allowed.
- Respect people, the band hall, and all its items at all times.
- Only band students may enter the band hall.
- Observe all other rules during the school year in the band hall, including those in the school handbook.

Attendance:

Your attendance for class and performances has a **direct effect on your grade**. Band is a participation/performance based course. **Attendance is mandatory to all rehearsals and performances unless otherwise noted.** Absences may be excused under specific circumstances.

Excused Absences Include:

- Extreme personal illness with doctor's note (or absence from school)
- Family health emergencies verified by family via email
- Approved academic conflicts
- Required religious observances (with notice)
- Extra-Curricular school conflicts approved by a director in advance.

Again, communication with the director is *crucial* when an absence is known. **The director should know about any conflicts at least ONE week prior to the event in question.** The best method of communication would be via e-mail or through phone contact, preferably by the parent or guardian of the student. Absences that are excused will be subject to a make-up assignment.

Note: Even if the director is informed about the conflict with ample time, it does not guarantee that the absence will be approved.

Grading Policy:

Grades for band classes will be based on Participation, Quizzes, Performances, Overall Attendance, and Tests.

Participation: Students will receive weekly Participation Grades, up to 100 points. If a student is prepared, on time, actively participates, and follows classroom rules and school policy, they will receive the full 100 points. Failure to do so will result in loss of points to the Participation Grade.

Additionally, Beginning Band students will receive weekly "Practice Log" grades, up to 100 points. This grade is calculated through minutes practiced and completion. Completion of this assignment requires parent signature. Each log will be due on Friday of every week. BMS Grading Policies apply to this assignment.

Quizzes: Quizzes are worth 100 points each. They can be performance-based (frequent) or written (infrequent) and will take place during class.

Performances: Each concert and contest are worth 100 points. To earn full points, students must be in attendance, on time, and actively participate.

Overall Attendance: Attendance grades are given weekly, making up the majority of your overall grade. Students can earn up to 100 points for the whole week.

Tests: Written tests are infrequent, however they can greatly impact a student's grade if they are not prepared. They are worth 100 points.

Performance Guidelines:

- Be early for report times.
- Come prepared physically and mentally.
- Have equipment and/or materials ready to go before report time.
- Wear the appropriate attire according to the BMS Band Handbook and director's instructions.

Important Dates and Events*:

- MS All Region Band Auditions-Saturday, December 4, 2021/Stafford
- MS All Region Band Clinic and Concert-Saturday, January 29, 2022/Needville
- MS UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest-Friday, February, 4 2022/Edna High School
- UIL Concert and Sightreading Contest-March or April of 2022

All dates and events are subject to change.

*Additional concert dates will be scheduled and announced throughout the year.

Please detach below sections and return to director.

I have read the course syllabus for the Brazos Middle School Band, and understand the expectations and guidelines of the class. I am also aware of the scheduled concert dates throughout the school year.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: ____/____/2021