

Middle School Band Syllabus

Overview: Designed to continue with the teaching of fundamentals and improvement of skills. This class will also offer additional performance and competition activities and experiences to help begin to prepare them for High School Band.

Outside of School Requirements: At this level there are still very few if any outside of class rehearsals. They will continue to work through method books but with a much greater emphasis on published sheet music, as well as Honor Band Tryouts, Solos, and Full Band Competitions. There will be a few more trips and outside of school activities but ample notice will be given on these activities, some of which will be voluntary and some may be required.

Instrument: Each student must still have an instrument and a method book in order to participate. At this level we will be using more “color instruments” so some students may have the opportunity to change to a related instrument to fill out the band’s instrumentation. If this should happen, the school will provide that instrument. They may choose to purchase a flip folder and lyre for the two MS Football Games we plan to attend. For some students, this is the right time to step up from their beginning level instruments into a horn more suited for High School Band or even College. We will talk to the kids about this, and will have a Parent Night later in the year for the music store to present these instruments and explain the differences in them. Again, that is optional but for those able it may be very beneficial.

Required Dress: We will be taking sizes and having all the kids get Band T-Shirts this year. Middle School students will wear these for any informal activities or trips that we take throughout the year. The cost is \$15.00 a shirt and they can be purchased near the beginning of school (order forms will be sent if anyone would like additional shirts/hoodies for their family).

For concerts the students will wear “Concert Black” which is simply all black. Black slacks, socks, shoes, and button down shirt are fine for all, or black dresses if desired (please choose an appropriate length if you choose a dress). Concert black is not expected to be needed until Christmas Concert but now is a great time to start looking with “Back to School” sales.

Communication: Most of our communication will be through an app called Band App. It’s similar to Facebook but in a much more private setting. It allows us to make posts, and for parents and students to comment on those posts, as well as send us private messages. It also has a calendar. We encourage every student and parent to sign up, sending home notes is so often unreliable, and this way the information posted can always be referred back when needed. For the Beginning Band Class, you can follow the link below to register. If you do not want the app on your mobile device, you can also access Band App from a computer.

Middle School Band App Link: <https://band.us/n/a9a75dq6Y1T7M>

Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Mrs. Kristy or myself and we will be happy to help you with anything we are able. Looking forward to a GREAT YEAR and meeting your students!

Sincerely,

Ron Potter
Band Director
North Rock Creek Public Schools
rpotter@nrcps.org

Kristh Potter
Asst. Director/Color Guard
North Rock Creek Public Schools
kpotter@nrcps.org