

# SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL

## SYMPHONIC & CONCERT BANDS

### 2013-14

#### **COURSE OUTLINE:**

SHS Band is a continuation of the opportunity to develop musicianship and artistic perception through musical preparation and performance. Then emphasis is on public performance, with relevant musical history, theory, and techniques discussed and studied in class.

#### **MATERIALS:**

The student will need his/her instrument and accessories, a folder and a flip folder containing all assigned sheet music (percussionists included!), a pencil, and any other assigned materials on a daily basis.

#### **HOMEWORK:**

Students will need to practice at home for a minimum of one hour per week. Practice records verified by the student's parent/guardian will be turned in each Friday. (Because of the extra time involved in performances outside of school time, no practice records will be due for weeks during which there is an extracurricular performance.) Students must have their part ready not just for performance, but for rehearsal as well. Private lessons are not required, but they are highly recommended. A list of private teachers in the Skyline area is available on our website or upon request. (Please call me if you need any assistance in this area.) Superior musicianship makes Band more fun for everybody, and the better we are as individuals, the better we can be as a group!

#### **EVALUATION:**

Grades will be determined on the following basis:

- 90% Participation in class, concert performances, weekly practice records.
- 10% Written and played tests

◆ All Full Band Performances are worth 100 points each. As long as each student is on time and participates positively in each performance, he/she will receive the full 100 points of credit for each performance.

◆ Each student receives a participation grade (equivalent to one test grade) each semester. Every student starts with a score of "100%", in this category. The score remains "100" until the student lowers it by inappropriate classroom, performance, or field trip behavior, coming to class unprepared (i.e. without music, pencil, and/or instrument), tardiness, etc.

◆ Grade percentages are computed utilizing EA+/Skyward software.

◆ Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory. The points you receive for participating are a very large part of your grade. This is a performance-based class, and many, if not most, performances will take place outside of school hours. Students are expected to attend all outside of school rehearsals, concerts, and performance trips. Missed rehearsals and concert experiences cannot be duplicated.

## **STUDENTS: ALL FULL BAND PERFORMANCES ARE PART OF YOUR GRADE!**

◆ **PLEASE CHECK THE ENCLOSED CALENDAR OF FALL FULL BAND PERFORMANCES!!** If a student has a prior conflict with a scheduled band performance, please notify me in writing by **Friday, September 6**. If a student has a prior commitment on his/her family calendar, it will be entered into the EA+/Skyward database as "excused," and the student will not be responsible for the missed points from that performance. **If you are not at a performance (other than those mentioned by September 6 for Fall Performances), you will not receive points for that performance.** (An exception to this would be serious personal injury/illness). Performance schedules for the remainder of the year will come out in December, with a week for you to review for conflicts.

◆ All School/District policies regarding tardies, behavior, etc., will be followed.

◆ Students should also note that one's mere physical presence at a performance does not guarantee full credit; inappropriate behavior (i.e. bringing food/drink into the stands while the band is in uniform and in the stands, inviting/allowing non-Band members to sit with the Band, being late to warm-up, returning late from breaks, etc.) will result in the loss of some points.

◆ Band students will be on time to class, seated, and ready to begin rehearsals.

◆ Band students will have his/her instrument and all materials at all rehearsals, including music, music folder, and rehearsal pencil. Each student will be required to maintain a music folder and to correctly mark music during rehearsals.

◆ Each daily class will be conducted as a rehearsal, and students will be expected to exhibit behavior which will allow for maximum rehearsal accomplishments.

◆ Band members will attend performances dressed in proper performance/concert attire. Students who do not come appropriately dressed change (for the worse) the visual effect of the entire group. Do not expect to receive credit for a performance if you are dressed inappropriately.

◆ School equipment and property will be treated carefully and with respect. Replacement/repair of damaged items will be the responsibility of the person(s) who caused the damage.

◆ Food and drink are not allowed in the band room. This is school policy.

### **UNIFORMS:**

◆ For Football games, the students have chosen to wear a fleece sweatshirt, specially designed for our Band, to be worn with black pants. The fleecewear will cost @\$35, and will be used for football games.

◆ For the Homecoming and any other Marching Band performances, each student is assigned a uniform (coat, pants, & hat.) These items are provided free of charge to the student for the duration of the school year. They are in lightly used (a few of them have never been used before!) and, of course, in "mint" condition, and it is the student's responsibility to keep the uniform neat and clean throughout the year for all marching performances (including getting the uniform cleaned/pressed at the student's expense if it is mistreated or stored improperly after any performance.) The uniform must be returned in the same condition in which it was checked out. For both "traditional" and "casual" marching performances, the students need a pair of **plain white shoes** (sneakers are fine – just no multiple colors or large, colorful logos.)

◆For our traditional Concert Performances, we will again be using the Tuxedos/Formals as we did last year. The tux/shirt/tie/cummerbund annual rental for the men costs @\$65 - \$75. Ladies have decided to do as the orchestra does: each student will wear a dressy, all black outfit of the student's choice. A pair of dressy black shoes is needed for both men's and women's uniforms.

### **FIELD TRIPS:**

Participation in these trips will be subject to one's citizenship grade in class. Anyone who has received less than 90% on his/her Participation Grade over the course of the year, or less than 80% on the report card immediately preceding the trip, will not be allowed to participate in any off-campus field trips/performances.

If any student engages in behavior during an off-campus trip which results in a Disciplinary Referral, that student will be subject to removal from Band and from participation in the Band for the remainder of the school year.

### **LETTERING IN BAND:**

As with many SHS Activities, it is possible to earn a Letter for participation in Band. A record is kept of past points earned, and a total of 500 points is required to Letter. Some activities that will accumulate points include:

- \*attendance at Summer Band Camp
- \*performing at football games
- \*performing at basketball games
- \*performing at Solo/Ensemble Festival (the higher your rating, the more points you receive)
- \*Member of approved Honor Band/Orchestra
- \*Audition for approved Honor Band/Orchestra
- \*Weekly private lessons on your primary instrument for the year
- \*Perform with Pit Orchestra for School Musical.
- \*Section leader for the year.
- \*Band Council for the year
- \*Drum Major
- \*Instrument "doubling" (i.e. switching instruments to help balance the Band)
- \*Director's Discretion – various opportunities will arise over the course of the year to earn more points by participating/helping out when needed.

### **INFORMATION, SCHEDULES, AND UPDATES**

More information about schedules, events, etc., will be posted on the band's website:

[www.skylinespartanbands.com](http://www.skylinespartanbands.com)

# SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL BAND 2013-2014

I have read and understand the course outline and grading policy for the Skyline High School Band, and I realize that my grade in this class will be based these policies.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (please print)

I have read the course outline, requirements, and grading policy for the SHS Band, and I understand what is expected of the students who are enrolled in Band at SHS.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

FOR FULL CREDIT, PLEASE RETURN THIS BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2013

Parent Assistance:

We often have the need for Parent Volunteers during the course of the year for performances, field trips, etc. If you can help out in any of the following areas, would you please put a check-mark in the appropriate field? Thank you very, very much!!!

\_\_\_Field Trip chaperone

\_\_\_Uniform measurement/check-out

\_\_\_Concert set-up/take-down

\_\_\_Jazz n' Java (Decoration, serving, etc.)

\_\_\_Fund-raising

\_\_\_Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide an e-mail address where you wish to receive Band Announcements (i.e. concert & festival updates, trip information, Jazz Band rehearsal change announcements, etc.):

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Thanks again!!!*