



Beloit Memorial High School Bands

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<http://www.sdb.k12.wi.us/Page/215>

Beloit Memorial High School Concert Band

Syllabus

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This course is open to all students who have a desire to perform and learn about music. The Concert Band presents a variety of approaches to the study of music, designed to teach both music literacy, and a perception of the expressiveness and uniqueness of music. Music literacy skills (music reading, instrumental technique, tone production) are developed and refined each year. In this course, the performing arts engage the imagination, foster flexible ways of thinking and problem solving, develop disciplined effort, and build self-confidence. These are lifetime activities, which should enhance the quality of student lives long after high school.

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Develop and demonstrate advanced instrumental practices
- Play with increased technical accuracy and expression
- Refine sight reading and ear training skills
- Play instrumental literature at Levels III-IV, which requires medium to medium-advanced level technical skills, attention to phrasing and interpretation, and ability to perform various meters and rhythms in a variety of keys.
- Play instrumental literature representing diverse genres, styles, and cultures
- Use singing in instrumental study, as appropriate
- Develop skills in improvising, composing and arranging music
- Develop skills in listening to, analyzing, and evaluating musical experiences
- Apply advanced reading and notating skills
- Demonstrate an understanding of instrumental literature in relationship to history, culture, and other content areas

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS - It is expected that all students in the band program will:

- Be present and on time for all rehearsals. (See *Tardy Policy* below)
- Attend all rehearsals prepared with instrument/equipment, music, pencil, and a good attitude.
- Respect others and the facilities.
- Keep school property (books, music, instruments, equipment, etc.) in good condition.
- Participate and contribute in rehearsals and performances.
- When the director or staff member steps on the podium or asks for your attention, all talking will cease immediately. Students who wish to speak, will raise their hand and wait to be called upon.
- No playing instruments, unless you are asked to do so.
- Learn their individual music and be a contributing member of the ensemble.
- At the end of rehearsal, put ALL materials in their proper place.
- Become responsible for and assume responsibility for your own actions. .
- Attend all required performances.

TARDY POLICY

Every student gets **one excused tardy per semester**, so long as it is within the first five minutes of class. If you are more than five minutes late on your first attempt, the following tardy policy applies.

Being absent from Band cannot be made up. If a student is late to class, an ensemble cannot get together outside of class to make up the time he/she missed.

If a student is between one and fifteen minutes late to class, he/she owes **fifteen minutes of work**, before or after school to the Band department. This can range from clerical work (numbering sheet music, filing music, etc.) to physical work (moving equipment, cleaning.)

Example: If a student is 3 minutes late to class, they owe fifteen minutes of work to the Band department.

This work must be made up within three days of the tardy. Failure to complete the commitment will result in a referral to an assistant principal. Completion of the commitment within three days following the tardy will erase your work duty for the Band department (your tardy will still stay on your record). If one cannot make up this work within the first three days, please see me and we can work out a different arrangement.

If a student over fifteen minutes late (for an unexcused reason), they will need to make up thirty minutes of work to the Band department. An automatic referral will also occur.

Summary: If one comes to class on time, there is no reason why Band would not be an enjoyable learning experience. Being tardy to class is inexcusable and will not be tolerated. Band will become a more frustrating and daunting experience if one is consistently late to class.

In other words... If you are on time, there will be no problems. ☺

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

Cell phones / iPads **must** be silenced and **put away** during ALL band activities. The use of communication features on cellular devices during rehearsal/performances is **not allowed**.

Each teacher has the right to allow the use of mobile devices (e.g. cell phones, laptops, iPods, and personal data assistants) during class **for instructional purposes**. In an emergency situation, teachers can give a student permission to make a call from a cell phone.

The use of camera phones is strictly forbidden in private areas such as locker rooms, washrooms, dressing areas, classrooms, and offices at any time. Such use may also be in **violation of the criminal code**.

A device brought to school is the sole responsibility of the student. BMHS is not responsible for the loss, theft, or misplacement of any electronic device.

Students who have cell phones / electronic devices out during class will receive a referral AND serve a 30 minute detention (with Mr. Behrens) within three days of the incident. A student will also lose their daily points for "Ensemble Contribution."

GRADING

Ensemble Contribution (30%)

Students will be assessed on their daily contribution to rehearsal, according to the “Individual Participation Scoring Guide.” In addition, each student will receive 5 pts per rehearsal.

Points will be subtracted for the following reasons:

- Absent from rehearsal (-5 pts)
- Inattentive Behavior (-3) Doing homework, not paying attention, texting. etc
- Disruptive Behavior (-1 / -3 /-5 pts) talking. (1st/2nd/3rd offense)
- Not having your instrument / music / supplies needed to participate (-5)
- Tardy (-3) not being ready to play WHEN the bell rings.
- Bad Posture (-2 pts.)
- Not having a pencil on your stand (-2)
- Instrument / Music Storage (-3) Not properly storing equipment or music.
- Food (-5) eating/drinking in the band room during rehearsal or without permission.
- Sent out of class (-5)

Students will be asked to fill-out a self evaluation rubric, once every other week. This will be placed in the student’s band portfolio.

Assessment (30%)

Assessments will include both formative and summative assessments. Formative assessments include quizzes, some playing tests, and written / class work, and essays. These assignments are designed to assess your current knowledge or skill level as you are learning / reviewing different skills. Summative assessments (end-of-unit tests, final projects or exams) are a summary of what you have learned, at the end of the learning process. In general, formative assessments will be worth 30% and summative assessments 70%.

Performances / Service Learning (30%)

All concerts / performances are MANDATORY (Please see attendance policy below). Service learning will include all Pep Band performances and other community performances.

Point value is based on the event. Performing to the best of your ability = full point value.

Points will be subtracted for the following reasons: arriving late, improper uniform, leaving early from a performance. not helping with clean-up, inappropriate concert behavior (talking during the concert), etc.

Final Exam (10%)

At the end of each term, we will have a final exam. It will include a written and performance portion, covering skills / knowledge from the current and past terms.

We will use the standard grading scale of: 90-100 (A), 80-89 (B), 70-79 (C), etc.

DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES FOR INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR

If any of these policies regarding attitude and behavior are violated, one of the following courses of action may / will be taken, in addition to loss of points:

- *First offense:* Verbal warning and / or loss of daily points, and / or writing assignment.
- *Second offense:* Conference with the student, written notification to parents.
- *Third offense:* Student referred to the Assistant Principal
- *Fourth offense:* Student referred to the Assistant Principal
& conference with parents to discuss possible removal from program.

EXTRA CREDIT

Students can accumulate extra percentage points (per term) by doing the following:

Private Lessons - submit 7 lesson forms / term.....	5%
Attending a professional, college, other high/middle school performance.....	1%
Being part of a community band.....	3%
Auditioning for WSMA Honors Ensembles.....	5%
Peer Tutoring	1-3%

***All of the above require "proof" in the form of concert programs, letters from directors, etc.

***All extra credit is due one week prior to the end of each term.

UNIFORMS AND CONCERT DRESS

Marching Band

The School furnishes:

1. Marching Band Coat/Pant
2. Hat/Plume

YOU furnish:

1. ALL Black Marching Shoes
2. Black socks

Concert Band

YOU furnish:

1. Black dress shirt
2. Black Pants/Skirt
3. Solid black socks
4. ALL black shoes

Pep Band

YOU furnish:

1. BMHS BAND Shirt (ordered in Aug.)
2. Jeans (good condition, no holes!)

Wind Ensemble

YOU furnish:

1. ALL BLACK dress shirt or
ALL BLACK dress
2. Black Pants/Skirt
3. Solid black socks/ black hosiery
4. ALL black shoes

Jazz Band

YOU furnish:

1. Men: BLACK colored shirt and BLACK dress pants. Tie and Coat are optional
2. Women: solid, BLACK colored dress or blouse and dress pants.

BAND ATTENDANCE POLICIES

Performance Attendance

Signing up for band obligates the student to attend performances during, after, and outside of school. Instrumental music is unique in that one measurement of its goals is the demonstration of skills through public performance. Concerts provide an opportunity for the students to apply objectives they have learned throughout the grading period. Because each band member plays a vital role in the final product, attendance at all performances is required. Students who miss required performances without prior approval will receive a ZERO.

Rehearsal Attendance

The scheduled rehearsal time during the school day brings together 50-60 students to work on ensemble skills. It is extremely important that ALL members are at ALL rehearsals. Therefore, students will not be allowed to make up work from another class during a regularly scheduled rehearsal. The ONLY exception is when a student misses class due to a band performance, clinic, etc. that is scheduled during the school day. In addition, PLEASE avoid scheduling doctor/dentist appointments at times when band rehearsals are scheduled.

These policies are intended to be fair to all members of the BMHS Bands and applies to all performances and rehearsals throughout the school year. A complete schedule of out-of-school performances (to date) is provided in this newsletter so that any possible conflicts can be resolved as soon as possible. All other dates will be published in monthly newsletters or on the band website.

Procedure Regarding Absences

An "Absentee Request Form" must be filled out and on file three weeks prior.

(see: <http://www.sdb.k12.wi.us/Page/227>)

Excuses not submitted within this time will be Excused, But Late and will be penalized 25% of the total points.

For Illness, a parent note or doctor's excuse must be submitted.

If a student misses a rehearsal or performance due to an emergency, the students should turn in a note of explanation immediately upon his/her return.

Approved, excused absences may require an alternate assignment. This may come in the form of a significant written or performance assignment. The student will be instructed regarding when the assignment is due and the resulting grade will be registered in place of the missed event.

Acceptable excuses include:

Your serious illness/serious illness in the immediate family. This illness must be confirmed in writing from a parent or doctor.

Unavoidable family events: Weddings, a death in the family, etc. confirmed, when possible, 3 weeks in advance in writing. (FAMILY VACATIONS will not be excused - please plan around band events.)

Direct conflicts with other school activities involving participation (not observation) will be resolved by the student, coach/advisor and the director.

Unexcused Absences Include:

Work, homework, studying for a test, no transportation, family vacations, non-school related activity, dentist/doctor appointments, birthday, driving test, etc.

REMEMBER: Joining the band requires making a commitment for the entire school year.

To summarize, all performances are important. They reflect what we have learned in the classroom. Band is a huge commitment with many rewards, both immediate and life-long. Our program is not only about music education, but also educating for life.

Why do we have Pep Band Performances? – for those of you who are new to the program, here is a little history:

Prior to 2000, the BMHS Pep Band performed at nearly ALL of the home basketball and football games (25+ per school year). It was on a volunteer basis, thus the quality of the performance was never consistent. In addition, those students who did perform at a majority of these events spent an enormous amount of their time.

Keeping with my philosophy of music education and our concert groups being the main focus of the program, I suggested to administration that the band play at 3 football games and 10 home basketball games, which would be chosen by the coaches. In return we would bring our entire band of 100+ students and give them a quality performance. The result has been fantastic! The band sounds amazing – receiving many compliments from home and visiting fans. In addition, we have been recognized as “the best pep band in the state” for the past three years by Mark Miller, editor of Wisconsin Basketball Yearbook. But more importantly, we are valued as an important part of this school through our entertaining performances while still being able to maintain our outstanding concert groups (Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Bands).

Here is the schedule of dates for the entire school year. All performances are REQUIRED by all members unless noted otherwise. They are being provided well in advance to hopefully eliminate any possible conflicts!

2018-2019 SCHEDULE OF PERFORMANCES

AUGUST

Wed. 8/29 **REQUIRED Pep Band Rehearsal – 7:00-8:30 pm (All Band Members)**

SEPTEMBER

Fri. 9/7 Pep Band – Call time 6:00 p.m. (All Band Members)

Sat. 9/8 UW BAND DAY (Optional) Depart 5:30am / Return 4:00pm

Sun. 9/30 BMJO Performance at The Butterfly Club 5-7pm

OCTOBER

Fri. 10/5 Pep Band - HOMECOMING BMHS (All Band Members)
Pep Assembly - 11:00 am
Parade - 1:00 pm
Football Game: Call-time 6:00 pm

Fri. 10/12 Pep Band – Call time 6:00 p.m. (All Band Members)

Sat. 10/20 Haunted Harmonies Dress Rehearsal 6:00pm (WIND ENS. ONLY)
Sun. 10/21 Haunted Harmonies - CONCERT 2:00pm (WIND ENS. ONLY)

Sun. 10/21 Fall Concert – Call time 6:30pm. (CONCERT BAND Only)

Mon. 10/22 BMJE / BMJO Performance at Grand Ave. Pub, Beloit. 6-8pm.

NOVEMBER

Fri/Sat. 11/2-3 Lawrence University Jazz Festival – (BMJO & BMJE)

Mon. 11/12 Fall Jazz Concert @ La Casa Grande (BMJO & BMJE) 6:30pm

Fri. 11/16 Pep Band – Call time 6:30pm Girls vs. Craig (All Band Members)

Thu. 11/29 Pep Band – Call time 6:30pm Boys vs. Craig (All Band Members)

Fri. 11/30 Pep Band – Call time 6:30pm Girls vs. La Follette (All Band Members)

DECEMBER

Sat. 12/2 BMJO / BMJE Performance at Voigt Music (Janesville) 1-3pm

Thur. 12/7 Pep Band – Call time 6:30 p.m. Boys vs. East (All Band Members)

Sun. 12/16 BMHS Winter Concert - Call-time 6:15pm. (ALL Band Members)

Mon. 12/17 BMJO/BMJE Performance at The Gap 6-8pm

JANUARY

Fri. 1/4/2019 Pep Band – Call time 6:30 p.m. Girls vs. Verona (All Band Members)

Tue 1/15 Pep Band – Call time 6:30 p.m. Girls vs. Westosha (All Band Members)
Fri/Sat. 1/18-19 Purdue University Jazz Festival (BMJO/BMJE)

Fri 1/25 Pep Band – Call time 6:30 p.m. Girls vs. East (All Band Members)

Sat. 1/ 26	BMHS Solo/Ens. Contest (All Students) AM/PM @ BMHS
Mon. 1/28	BMJE/BMJO Performance at Grand Avenue Pub, Beloit 6-8pm.

FEBRUARY

Fri. 2/1	UW Platteville Jazz Festival (BMJO/BMJE)
Thur. 2/7	Pep Band – Call time 6:15 p.m. Boys vs. West (All Band Members)
Sat. 2/9	Pep Band – Call time 6:15 p.m. Boys vs. Memorial (All Band Members)
Mon. 2/11	“Knight of Jazz” Spaghetti Dinner 5pm. (Jazz I/II) Eclipse Center, 5-8pm
Sat. 2/16	Pep Band – Call time 6:15 p.m. Girls vs. Memorial (All Band Members)
Sat. 2/23	Jazz in the Meadows, Rolling Meadows, IL (<i>BMJO/BMJE</i>)
Late Feb/Early Mar	Additional Pep Band dates (playoffs) pending the success of our basketball teams.

MARCH

Sat. 3/2	BIFF Silent Film Performance (BMJO) BMHS Aud. 7pm.
Fri./Sat. 3/8-9	Spring Musical
Mon. 3/11	BMJE/BMJO at The Grand Avenue Pub, Beloit 6-8pm.
Fri./Sat./Sun. 3/ 15-16-17	Spring Musical
Mon. 3/25	Band Spring Concert, 7pm BMHS Aud. (All Band Members)

APRIL

Wed. 4/3 – Tue. 4/9	FLORIDA TRIP (ALL STUDENTS)
Mon. 4/15	BMJE/BMJO at The Grand Avenue Pub, Beloit 6-8pm.

MAY

Tue. 5/21	Spring Jazz Concert at LaCasa Grande - 6:30 p.m. <i>BMJO/BMJE</i>
Fri. 5/24	Music in the Park – Downtown Beloit – 11:30-1:30pm. <i>BMJO/BMJE</i>
Mon. 5/27	Memorial Day Parade 8:00-11:00 am (<i>ALL Band Members REQUIRED to march</i>)

JUNE

Sat. 6/1	Senior Band Members - Dinner at Mr. Behrens' House (5pm-?)
Sun. 6/2	Final Concert and Awards Ceremony (All Band Members) 2pm.
Sat. 6/8	BMHS Graduation 10:00 am (REQUIRED FOR ALL NON-SENIORS)

Fill out the attached page below OR complete it electronically at:

<https://goo.gl/MnKJhz>

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM, NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, SEPT. 7!

**Concert Band Syllabus
STUDENT / PARENT AGREEMENT FORM**

Please read and sign below as indicated:

I have read the Band Syllabus and agree to abide by all the policies stated. I realize that it takes full cooperation, a willingness to make sacrifices, and dedication from 100% of the students and parents to make our band the best it can be. I further realize that failure to follow the stated policies in this syllabus or failure to follow directions from the band director will result in disciplinary actions, which could lead to dismissal from the program. I will do my best to cooperate and represent the BMHS Band program with integrity at all times.

(Student Signature)

(Date)

I have read the Band Syllabus carefully; I understand its contents, what is expected of my child, and agree to support the policies. If I have any concerns or questions, I will contact my student's teacher by **email or phone**.

(Parent Signature)

(Date)

E-MAIL

As budgets become tighter, it will become more difficult to send communications through the mail. In an effort to go "paperless", we are asking all band students and parents/guardians to give us their email address:

Please print CLEARLY.

Student E-mail _____

Mother's E-mail _____

Father's E-mail _____

Additional E-mail _____

Do you use *Facebook* YES or NO (circle)

*** ____ I do not have an email account. Please send communications through U.S. Mail.

Current Address: _____