

Kailua Intermediate School
“Beginning Band” Syllabus
SY 2018 – 2019

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This course will be a comprehensive approach to the National Core Standards for Music. Students will be introduced to the basic skills of traditional music reading and will learn to perform on an instrument alone and with others. Students will perform music from various cultures, styles and time periods and will have multiple opportunities to perform in public. In addition to performance skills, the course will also focus on topics such as music history, music theory, and composition.

Course Outline

Please refer to the Band Handbook for curriculum goals, classroom supplies, assessment, uniform policies, instrument usage policies, and behavior expectations. The Band Handbook will be reviewed with all students on the first day of class.

Grading Policy

Each student will be expected to maintain a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate acceptable attainment of the standards. Periodic evaluation of the portfolio will ensure students are providing the evidence of proficiency of standards required for quarterly evaluation. The following indicators will be used to determine a quarterly grade based on the degree of attainment of the required benchmarks of specific standards addressed in this course.

A (Advanced)

Student demonstrates excellent achievement of all the benchmarks and provides evidence demonstrating such excellence; shows an in-depth understanding of the concepts and skills included in the Standards; makes insightful connections to other areas and concepts; grasps, applies and extends the key concepts and skills for the grade level.

B (Meets Proficiency)

Student demonstrates acceptable achievement of all the benchmarks; shows a solid understanding of the concepts and skills of the Standards; consistently uses appropriate strategies to solve problems; grasps and applies the key concepts for the grade level.

C (Partial Proficiency)

Student demonstrates acceptable achievement of some of the benchmarks shows an acceptable understanding of the concepts and skills of the Standards; occasionally uses appropriate strategies to solve problems; grasps and applies the key concepts for the grade level.

D (Novice)

Student demonstrates a marginal achievement of some of the benchmarks; shows partial understanding of the concepts and skills in the Standards but has not yet achieved them; is beginning to grasp and apply key concepts and skills for the grade level.

F (Well Below)

Student demonstrates unacceptable achievement of the benchmarks or provides no evidence; needs additional learning opportunities to achieve even a partial understanding of the Standards; has difficulty grasping the key concepts and skills for the grade level.

Special Rules or Things to be Aware Of

Students are expected to practice independently in order to meet their learning goals. Musical excerpts will be assigned each week. Students must practice the assigned excerpt for at least 1.5 hours per week and have their parents and band teacher sign their practice charts to verify this. **Late practice charts will NOT be accepted.**

Throughout the school year, students will have the opportunity to perform for their fellow students, families, and community members. In order for students to participate in these performances, they must display commitment to the group by attending rehearsals scheduled before school or after school. Rehearsal schedules will be determined at a later date. Listed below is the rehearsal policy:

- Students must present a *written note* or *email* from their parent 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE to the teacher requesting to be absent or tardy from rehearsals.
- Two unexcused absences from rehearsals = dismissal from the next performance
- Two unexcused tardies from rehearsal = dismissal from next performance
- Constant violation of rules = dismissal from all performances

While it is not required that students perform outside of class, it is highly recommended. These performances outside of class enable students to develop their musical skills, form a tight bond with other band students, and earn extra credit. Several performances have been scheduled. Please support your child by attending as many of his or her concerts as possible.

Special Request for Supplies or Materials

Students may borrow instruments through the school. Method books and other consumable supplies such as reeds may be purchased throughout the school year by students at a discounted rate. Some supply costs are generously subsidized by the Kailua Intermediate School Band Booster Association.

Positive Statement or Affirmation

The Kailua Intermediate School Band has an established standard of excellence that is tied to the hardworking students that are committed to excellence. This year should be a truly rewarding experience for your child as they grow tremendously.