PLEASÉ NOTE:
All students and parents must read and know the policies herein. All students must turn in the signature sheet proving that it was read. Students will not participate in any performances until the signature sheet is turned in, which will be reflected in the grades.


Jeremy Haupt, Director of Bands
402.557.3446
Course Description

Prep Band is for Freshmen and other band students to continue developing their skills with the ultimate goal of preparing for membership in Concert Band. In order for a Prep Band student to qualify for Concert Band, a series of marching and musical skills check-offs must be completed either before the end of the first semester (in order to join Concert Band during second semester) or at the end of the school year.

The following describe the various purposes and expectations of Prep Band:

- **Musical Education**: Because of the various experiences and levels of knowledge of our incoming freshmen, it is essential that, prior to joining our top performance group, the Concert Band, all band students receive an education based on a core set of musical concepts as described by the district standards and pacing guides:
  - Using method books, hand outs, videos, lectures, and practice and performance exercises, students will be led to a full understanding of harmony, rhythm, pitch, performance techniques, etc;
  - Students will be expected to pass both playing tests and written quizzes and tests throughout the lessons to demonstrate your understanding of these core musical concepts;
  - Students will also be trained in and expected to demonstrate proper Marching Band technique through various exercises and performances. In addition to learning and perfecting these techniques, students will be required to attend at least one Tuesday night rehearsal (5-8p), one regular-season home football game, and one marching competition with the Marching Vikings to gain experience and perspective:
    - **Thursday, 23 August**: Varsity Football, Kinnick Stadium, 7-10p
    - **Friday, 14 September**: Varsity Football, Kinnick Stadium, 7-10p
    - **Saturday, 22 September**: Titan Marching Invitational, all day, Papillion-LaVista South HS
    - **Tuesday, 25 September**: Omaha Marching Exhibition, 7-9p, Bryan HS
- **Friday, 5 October**: Varsity Football (**Homecoming**), Kinnick Stadium, 7-10p
- **Friday, 12 October**: Varsity Football (**Senior Night**), Kinnick Stadium, 7-10p
- **Saturday, 13 October**: Omaha Marching Invitational, all day, Burke HS
- **Saturday, 20 October**: NSBA State Marching Contest, all day, Millard South HS

- **Musical Performance**: To prepare band students for their future in the top performance group, the Concert Band, it is essential that they experience various types of performance, including **school concerts, community ceremonies, and judged competitions**:
  - The Prep Band will have **three school concerts, one judged competition, and one community ceremony**, all of which are graded and required:
    - **Thursday, 18 October**: Fall Instrumental Music Concert, 7p, North HS Auditorium
    - **Saturday, 15 December**: Winter Concert, 4p, North HS Auditorium
    - **Thursday, 28 March**: Band Adjudication, time tbd, Benson HS
    - **Thursday, 2 May**: Spring Instrumental Music Concert, 7p, North HS Auditorium
    - **Friday, 24 May**: Commencement, 7p, Baxter Arena
  - In addition to these concert performances, students will participate in the **Florence Day Parade**, held in Florence on the first or second Saturday in May.
  - All students are expected to attend all performances.
    - Any absences must be discussed with Mr. Haupt and reported in writing **48 hours prior to the performance** to determine excused or unexcused status (prior discussion will not necessarily result in an excused absence).
    - Considerable reasons for excused absences include **illness, death in the family, or emergency**. Inexcusable reasons include (but are not limited to) **work, lack of a ride, homework, sporting event (graded performances supersede sporting events)**, **family or community functions**.
    - Tardies for any reason that fall between call-time and performance time will result in 0.5 points removed from the total performance grade (3.5 out of 4).
    - Tardies for any reason that fall during or after performance time will be considered an absence.

**Instructional Philosophy**
We strive to create a **positive environment of respect, accountability, and creativity**. All levels of musician should feel **comfortable** to learn and grow at their own pace, using the resources provided, including the services of Mr. Haupt and more experienced musicians. Such an experience can only be achieved through **relaxation, focus, self-improvement, and cooperation**. As a group, we rely on **each other** to fulfill our responsibilities of **commitment**, **
individual preparation, and group awareness and participation. Students are encouraged to assist those around them in order to ensure a successful learning process and a spirit of serious performance.

Omaha North High Band Mission Statement
We, the Omaha North Bands, believe that, through hard work and dedication, we can provide a quality product for and create a positive impact on the North High and North Omaha communities.

Content Standards
1. Goal: Demonstrate through performance a characteristic tone that blends with the ensemble.
2. Goal: Demonstrate through performance basic elements of playing technique.
3. Goal: Recognize, demonstrate and describe basic musical terms and symbols.
4. Goal: Recognize and perform basic rhythm patterns within the appropriate style.
5. Goal: Study, perform and listen to literature that includes music of a variety of styles, textures, and periods.
7. Goal: Demonstrate proper instrument care and maintenance.

Classroom Rules and Expectations
• To achieve a spirit of cooperation, focus, and respect, students and instructors should ...
  o ...strive to maintain all rehearsal concepts (found at the back of this syllabus);
  o ...strive to behave within all points of rehearsal etiquette (found at the back of this syllabus);
  o ...strive to maintain energy level and focus needed for the rehearsal level required (found at the back of this syllabus);
  o ...be in their seats with their instruments and supplies out and ready for use within five minutes of the start bell;
    ▪ All students must provide a pass from the office or the tardy station upon late arrival to class. Any student who arrives late without a pass will be sent to the tardy station to obtain one;
  o ...keep all distracting items out of sight, including homework, books, cell phones, and other similar materials;
  o ...participate in warm-ups and rehearsals with either their own or a school-owned instrument;
  o ...maintain instrument in good working order, including cleaning, proper use, and storage;
  o ...participate in preparing the rehearsal room for the next period, including stacking chairs and stands neatly on their racks, securing instruments and music in lockers and music shelves provided, and cleaning any trash;
  o ...remain in the classroom until Mr. Haupt dismisses them;
• ...behave at public events in such a way as to bring honor and pride to the North High Band Program, to North High School, and to the North Omaha community;
• All students are allowed three (3) 15-minute bathroom breaks per quarter, to be recorded on the yellow hall-pass. Once the three breaks are used or the 15-minute time limit is violated, the student will not have access to the bathroom breaks until the start of the next quarter;
• Passes to see other teachers or to leave the school must be delivered to Mr. Haupt prior to the start of rehearsal, and such visits will be subject to rehearsal schedule and needs;
• Only water is allowed for students in the rehearsal room. No other food or drink will be allowed into the rehearsal room by students at any time.

Texts
• Sheldon, Robert; Philips, Bob; Boonshaft, Peter; Black, Dave. Sound Innovations, Intermediate Book
• Cotov, Timothy J. and Murphy, Thomas C. 100 Days to Sight Reading Exercises, Books I & II
• Pilafian, Sam and Sheridan, Patrick. The Breathing Gym
• Rhodes, Tom C. and Bierschenk, Donald. Symphonic Band Technique: a Complete Warm-Up and Technical Study Method
• Pearson, Bruce. Standard of Excellence, Book 2
• Pearson, Bruce. Standard of Excellence, Book 3
• Various sheet music for performance

Assessment
• Each rehearsal will be graded (Formative). Students will be graded according to execution of the expectations laid out in the rehearsal concepts, etiquette, and levels section of this syllabus. Grades will be recorded according to the rubric attached.
• Each performance is graded (Summative with an added weight of x3). Each performance will include a participation aspect and a musical aspect. Students with an excused absence from a performance will be allowed two weeks to make up the musical aspect of the grade by performing the music for Mr. Haupt after school but not the participation aspect. Students are expected to approach Mr. Haupt about making up performance grades. Students with an unexcused absence will not be allowed to make up any part of the grade.
• Playing tests will occur frequently (Formative with an added weight of x4) to determine progress and proficiency:
  o All students will be required to achieve a 3 or 4 on playing tests (graded according to the attached rubric);
  o If a 3 or 4 is not achieved, students have one week to prepare and retake the playing test;
  o If a 3 or a 4 is not achieved by the week of the performance, students will not be permitted to perform at the performance, which will be reflected in the musical
aspect of the performance grade (although attendance is still expected and will be graded as the participation aspect);
• **Quizzes will occur frequently** (Formative with an added weight of x2);
• **Written tests will occur at the end of each lesson** (Summative with an added weight of x4);
• **Written finals will occur at the end of each semester** (Summative with an added weight of x4). These finals will cover everything learned up to that point in the year, including musical terms and symbols, rhythms, marching techniques, drill setting, and more.

**OPS Secondary Grading Practices**

All coursework and assessments are judged based on the level of student learning from “below basic” to “advanced.” This course will provide multiple opportunities to achieve at the “proficient” to “advanced” levels. Students are evaluated based on a proficiency scale or project rubric. Proficiency scales for this course are available upon request (teacher will identify location such as portal, teacher website, attached, etc.).

**There are three types of coursework**

• **Practice**: Assignments are brief and done at the beginning of learning to gain initial content (e.g., student responses in discussion or in written form, a valid sampling of ability on performance repertoire, technique exercises, etc.). Practice assignments are not generally graded for accuracy (descriptive feedback will be provided in class) and are not part of the grade. Teachers may keep track of practice work to check for completion, and students could also track their practice work. Practice work is at the student’s instructional level and may only include “Basic” (level 2) questions.

• **Formative (35% of grade)**: Assessments/assignments occur during learning to inform and improve instruction. They are minor assignments (playing tests, pop-quizzes both written and performed). Formative assignments are graded for accuracy and descriptive feedback is provided. Formative work may be at the students’ instructional levels or at the level of the content standard. Formative assessments/assignments will have all levels of learning: Basic (2), Proficient (3), and Advanced (4), which means that for every formative assessment/assignment, students will be able to earn an Advanced (4) grade. Teachers will require students to redo work that is not of high quality to ensure rigor and high expectations. The students’ scores on assessment that was redone will be their final score.

• **Summative (65% of the final grade)**: Assessments/assignments are major end-of-learning unit tests, projects, and performances used to determine mastery of content or skill. Summative assignments are graded on accuracy. Summative assignments assess the students’ progress on grade level standards and may not be written at the students’ instructional levels. Summative assessments/assignments will have all levels of learning: Basic (2), Proficient (3), and Advanced (4), which means that for every formative assessment/assignment, students will be able to earn an Advanced (4) grade.
To maintain alignment of coursework to content standards, which is a key best practice for standards-based grading, teachers will utilize a standardized naming convention for each of the standards within a course. The content standard will be marked on each assignment, entered into Infinite Campus (District Grading Program) using all capital letters followed by a colon. After the colon will be the title of the coursework. At the end of the grading period, scores are converted to a letter grade using the following grading scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>3.26 – 4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>2.51 – 3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>1.76 – 2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.01 – 1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.00 – 1.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Redoing/Revising Student Coursework***

1. Students are responsible for completing all coursework and assessments as assigned.
2. Students will be allowed redos and revisions of coursework for full credit as long as they are turned in during that unit of study while a student still has an opportunity to benefit from the learning. When time permits, teachers should allow the redoing and revising of summative assessments.
3. Students are expected to complete assessments when given to the class, or if a student was justifiably absent, at a time designated by the teacher.
4. Redoing, retaking, or revising will be done at teacher discretion in consultation with the students and parents/guardian. Teachers may schedule students before, during, and after school to address needed areas of improvement if not convenient during class. The time and location for redoing, retaking, or revising will be done at the teacher’s discretion in consultation with the student and parents/guardian.

*Indicates standardized language
Revised July 2013

**Equipment and Uniforms**

- To accomplish the **highest level of performance**, students must **maintain their instrument** at the highest level, including using it only for rehearsal and performance, monthly cleaning, weekly oiling and greasing, and proper storage (see “How to Take Care of Your Instrument” sheet in back of rubric):
  - You are expected to **purchase your own reeds, oils, greases, etc.** If you do not have such materials, they can be purchased from the music office;
- All text books and materials (including lyres and flip folders) handed out by Mr. Haupt must be **taken care of** by students and returned at the end of the year:
  - Any piece of sheet music **lost** or returned **damaged** (markings other than pencil, rips, folds, etc.) or **without a student name** will result in a **$2 fine** for each item;
  - Any concert folder **lost** or returned **damaged** will result in a **$25 fine**;
  - Any flip-folder or lyre **lost** or returned **damaged** will result in a **$10 fine**;
In the events for which the student will be attending a Marching Vikings event, the student is expected to wear a **blue band shirt** (provided free by the BOPS organization) and **khaki shorts**;

- Prep Band members will wear the following for all Concert performances:
  - **Men**: white button-down (all the way) shirt, black tie, nice black slacks, black dress socks, and black dress shoes;
  - **Women**: black or white blouse and black skirt/pants, nice black dress flats/heels/sandals

**Extracurricular Opportunities**

- Students are encouraged to audition for and participate in **Honor Bands** to strengthen their skills, learn from a new instructor, and perform different music in a different setting.
  - **All-City Band** (OPS-run with rehearsals and a performance in January and February)
  - Various **College Honors Bands** (see Mr. Haupt)

- Students are encouraged to participate in **extracurricular musical activities** that will strengthen and enrich their growth and performance level.
  - **Private lessons** that provide more focus on individual instrument technique. A **private instructor folder** with names and contact info will be maintained and updated at the front of the room
  - **Omaha Area Youth Orchestras** (OAYO) provides wind and percussion students an opportunity to perform in a full orchestra setting. Auditions for the three orchestras are held in April.

**Band and Orchestra Parents & Students Organization (BOPS)**

- To better help **promote, encourage, support, and provide for** the band students, the BOPS organization encourages students to participate in **monthly meetings** to share ideas and concerns. These meetings are held on the **third Monday** of each month from **6-8p** in **Room 125**

- All students are expected to **participate in fundraising** opportunities set up by the Band and Orchestra Parents & Students (BOPS) organization. Fundraising is necessary to help provide music, equipment, travel and participation in band trips.
YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PERFORM ANY GRADED EVENTS UNTIL THIS SIGNATURE SHEET IS TURNED IN, SIGNED, TO MR. HAUP (your grades will reflect this).

I have read, understand, and agree to meet expectations and policies listed above.

Name: ____________________________________________

Signature: _________________________________________

Parents Signature: ________________________________

I give permission to allow my student to participate in all Marching and Concert Band events happening at school and at other locations:

Student Name: ___________________________________

Parent Signature: ________________________________

I give permission to allow my student to participate in all fundraising activities.

Student Name: ___________________________________

Parent Signature: ________________________________

I am interested in participating in Honors Symphonic Band and agree to meet all prerequisites and second semester requirements.

Student Name: ___________________________________

Signature: _______________________________________

Instrument: ________________________________