



New Paltz High School Band

Concert Band - Jazz Band - Marching Band - Chamber Ensembles
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Welcome to New Paltz High School Band!

STUDENT INFORMATION

Supplies:

- For each rehearsal, you need your instrument, folder, music and a pencil.
- Be sure to have enough reeds, sticks, mallets and/or valve oil.
- Label your instrument case with your name!

Student Expectations:

- Take your instrument home. Please do not leave your instrument in the school. You need it at home to practice, and the school will not be responsible for any instruments left in school.
- Keep your instrument working... let Mr. Newsome know of any problems. If it needs repairs, get it fixed ASAP!
- Be a positive team member when in band. This is one of the largest team activities in the district!

INSTRUMENT REPAIRS AND ACCESSORIES

Are available from these recommended local music stores. MANY of these stores will deliver to you in school. **DO NOT RENT OR BUY INSTRUMENTS ONLINE.** Talk to me, ask me - I have 14 years of experience in band instrument repair!

Barcone's Music
528 Broadway
Kingston, NY
331-6089

D and M Music
1367 Route 44
Pleasant Valley, NY
(800)-544-6631

COURSE OUTLINE:

There are two components to the band program: the Large Ensemble Program, and the Lesson Program

Large Ensembles:

All students enrolled in band participate in both the Concert Band and Marching Band. The marching band season involves performing at three home football games and a Spring Memorial Day Parade in New Paltz. The concert band program begins as soon as marching band season ends and seating auditions have been completed. In addition to the Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble(s) also begins at the end of marching band season. This ensemble(s) is open to interested band students who play an instrument in the big band standard instrumentation. (This includes: saxophone, trumpet, trombone and rhythm section)

Lesson Program:

All students will be assigned to a lesson group based on instrumentation and playing proficiency. Lesson groups meet once each week for half a block (42 minutes) on a schedule that rotates through the entire school day. All students and teachers will be given a lesson schedule at the beginning of each 5 week marking period. Students are required to attend five lessons each quarter. Each student is responsible for keeping up to date with the lesson schedule.

GRADING:

You will receive a numerical grade on your report card. Your grade will be based on your participation in band, lesson attendance, preparation of lesson material, and practicing of your instrument. Grades will be posted and maintained on Powerschool's "Parent Portal."

Rehearsals

(up to 20) approximately 30 points

Daily Rehearsals- Your grade depends on your participation in band rehearsals. We are a large ensemble of many people that is working towards a goal of a great performance - you are an important part of our success! Students are expected to have their instrument for every band class, and to be on time and on task for all rehearsals. Tardiness, a missing instrument/music, or lack of effort will result in a lower grade!

Lessons

(up to 5) 25 points total @ 5 points per lesson

Lessons- In rehearsals and lessons, you will have material and assignments to practice and prepare. Your lessons will be scheduled on a rotating basis, and you are required to attend 5 lessons per quarter. You will make the best progress if you attend at least at the rate of 1 lesson every 2 weeks, as opposed to all in a short time, like the end of the quarter.

Lesson points are awarded based upon attendance and your preparation and proficiency level of the lesson material. I will offer make up lessons after school on a weekly basis.

Performances

up to 4 - approximately 10-40 points each - total 25-40 points

Attendance is mandatory at all concerts and performances. As this is a team activity, we need all of the team members in order to be successful! As these performances are a LIVE event happening in real time, missed performances cannot be made up. Please check your calendars and plan ahead. **Students are encouraged to arrange work schedules in advance, to ensure attendance at rehearsals and performances.**

Remember that Band is a graded class, and counts towards your overall GPA. As such, concerts and performances have to be a priority over non-curricular and non-graded activities. In the event of an unavoidable conflict, please let me know in writing with a note from your parent. No missed performance will be excused without a written note.

Playing Tests/Seating Auditions (up to 1) - approximately 10 points

Playing tests are designed to improve your playing proficiency level. They are an important part of formative assessment and the educational process.

In order to improve, you need to practice! There are no shortcuts to becoming a better player. A regular practice routine, something you can easily maintain in your schedule, will pay dividends. Top players hoping to make it into All County, Area All-State and All-State will need to practice daily!