



West Bloomfield Band Department 2017-2018 Syllabus

wbbands.info

Dear Parents,

Welcome to another wonderful year! We are so happy that your child has chosen to pursue the arts, and are even more thrilled that they have chosen to be a part of the West Bloomfield Bands. As you may already know, the WB Bands have a tradition of excellence in participation, decorum, and performance. We take pride in the fact that our students achieve at an outstanding musical level, and look forward to teaching your children as we guide them to new heights of personal and musical achievement. Please reference the calendar in this syllabus for upcoming performances. A more detailed calendar can be found on our website, wbbands.info. We look forward to a great year with all of you!

Yours in music,

Chad Mielens
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Director of Bands, Abbott Middle School
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Course Outline and Objectives

Throughout their time in the West Bloomfield Band Department, students will advance their:

- 1.) Musical Development
- 2.) Music Appreciation
- 3.) Musical Language

Through these points of growth students will develop a “Music Learning Community”, a safe environment centered on positive learning, musical growth, and respect towards their peers, instruments, facilities, music and teachers.

Grading

The West Bloomfield Bands grading system operates on a points system as listed below:

- Concert and Rehearsal Attendance and Etiquette:** 100 points/event
- Weekly Participation:** 10 points/week
- Playing and Written Quizzes:** 30 points/quiz
- Homework:** Points assigned based on assignment
- Final Exam (high school only):** 10% of total semester points

Weekly participation points are given on an “elevator” scale. Every student begins the week with all 10 points, and through their own behavior points are either maintained or taken away. Point deduction will occur on a case by case basis and at the discretion of the director(s).

Examples of behaviors that can result in point loss:

- Lack of materials (pencil, music, instrument)
- Distracting behavior
- Lack of respect for facilities, instruments, etc

Concert and Rehearsal Attendance and Etiquette: Every student is expected and required to attend all scheduled rehearsals and concerts during the school year. All unavoidable conflicts must be communicated by a parent to the director(s) ***no later than 2 weeks before the schedule conflict.***

Band Expectations

Be Your Best

Be Your Best is a goal that everyone can achieve. This is not the same as “Be the Best” which is something that few can achieve. It is all that is expected of you, but it is expected all of the time - every minute, every practice, every day and every performance. Further, it is expected that you will Be Your Best outside of organized band activities, as well as in rehearsals and performances.

Show Respect

Respect yourself. Respect others. Respect the band facilities, equipment, instruments, and uniforms.

Be Prepared

Band members are responsible for doing their best, working on their individual skills, and practicing. All materials must be brought to class every day.

Be on Time

In order to be prepared to start our rehearsal promptly, students should arrive to the room *before* the rehearsal is scheduled to begin in order to be ready to start on time.

Performance Schedule

High School Bands:

October 16: PRISM Dress Rehearsal. Time 6pm-9pm	WBHS Auditorium
October 18: PRISM Concert @7pm. Report @6:30pm.	WBHS Auditorium
October 28/29: All State Band Auditions	Walled Lake Northern HS
December 11: Winter Concert @7pm. Report @6:30pm.	WBHS Auditorium
January 13/14: MSBOA District Solo and Ensemble	Brighton HS
February 22: Pre-Festival Clinic. Time TBD	WBHS Auditorium
Potential Band Festival Dates:	Site TBD
March 2/3	
March 9/10	
March 17: State Solo and Ensemble	Site TBD
May 24: Finale Concert @7pm. Report @6:30pm.	WBHS Auditorium
June 3: Commencements (Symphonic Winds ONLY)	Compuware Arena, Plymouth

Abbott Bands:

October 17: 7 th and 8 th Grade Band Concert @7pm	AMS Gym
October 28/29: All State Band Auditions	Walled Lake Northern HS
December 11: 7 th and 8 th Grade Winter Concert @7pm	WBHS Auditorium
January 17: 6 th grade Band Concert @7pm	AMS Gym
February 22: 8 th grade Pre-Festival Clinic. Time TBD.	WBHS Auditorium
Potential Band Festival Dates (8 th Grade ONLY)	Site TBD
March 2/3	
March 9/10	
April 14: MSBOA Solo and Ensemble Festival	Lake Orion Waldon MS
May 29: AMS Band Concert @7pm (ALL Bands)	AMS Gym