

NORTHGATE HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Greg Brown, Director

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NIMB website: www.northgatehs-pfc.com/nimb.html

Orchestra/Concert Band/Symphonic Band/Wind Ensemble Course Information

The success of a musical group depends upon its members giving 100% of themselves every day. I expect this of you, and I expect this group to perform with excellence. Excellence comes from hard work and dedication. This group depends upon you to help reach for excellence every day. Below is a phrase that I refer to whenever I think about the positive attitude and dedication required when striving for excellence:

“Success is assured when everyone pitches in with a will.”

I'd like to thank you in advance for your positive efforts whenever they reflect the spirit of the motto above.

Course Objectives

1. All students will develop the basic fundamentals of playing a musical instrument.
2. All students will develop an understanding of the musical elements: form, rhythm, pitch, texture and style.
3. All students will develop musicianship and musical interpretation skills through the rehearsal and performance of high quality repertoire.
4. All students will expand their knowledge of musical form and texture, as well as develop a sense of historical perspective through selected musical literature.
5. All students will attend and participate fully in all rehearsals and performances.

Course Content – course content will focus on the following musical knowledge and skills:

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| 1. Posture, Bowing/Breath Support | 6. Sight Reading Skills |
| 2. Tone Production and Timbre | 7. Articulation |
| 3. Dynamic Balance | 8. Musical Elements |
| 4. Intonation | 9. Musical Expression |
| 5. Rhythm and Subdivision | 10. History |

Traits Demonstrated by Successful Students

1. They arrive early enough to begin rehearsals and performances on time.
2. They prepare for rehearsal as soon as they arrive.
3. They have a pencil on their stand during every rehearsal and mark their parts whenever appropriate.
4. They store their music and instrument in/on the assigned slot, locker, or shelf.
5. They consistently model exemplary posture and constantly work to develop their breathing skills.
6. They have plenty of extra reeds, oil, grease, strings, sticks, mallets, rosin, etc.
7. They have their own copy of their part on the stand, even if they are sharing a stand with a partner, so they may mark the part for aid in home practice.
8. They practice at home regularly.
9. They come to class with a cooperative attitude and a willingness to work.
10. They listen for instructions immediately following each cut off.
11. They listen for instructions given, even if their section is not being addressed directly.
12. They strive to utilize the five item “listening checklist” at all times.
13. They constantly strive to subdivide while playing.
14. Once they know how their part is to be played, they strive to always perform it in that manner.
15. They talk only when it is appropriate to do so.
16. They strive to have fun while they strive to do their best.
17. They assist others in set up and clean up whenever possible.
18. They never leave a mess where they have been rehearsing or performing.
19. They respect other musicians, audience members, facilities, equipment and sheet music.
20. They play only those instruments that they own, that they have checked out to them, or that they need to perform with the ensemble.

