8th Grade Band

8th grade Concert Band is a full year class. The full ensemble will rehearse a minimum of twice per week. Students electing Band/Chorus will rehearse during the two full ensemble rehearsals. Students electing band only will rehearse one additional time for a total of three rehearsals per week. In addition all band students will receive 1 small group homogenous lesson once each week. Lessons will take place during the school day with the band director or qualified lesson instructor in groups no larger than five students. These lessons will occur on a rotating pull-out basis.

This course is offered to all students who desire training in instrumental techniques, ensemble rehearsal and performance techniques, and music reading. Adherence to the Contract of Success and the performance dress code is required. Participation in the winter and spring evening curricular concerts is expected and integral for successful completion of this class. Homework for this class includes daily practice on assigned lesson and ensemble music.

Course Overview

Course Goals
Ensemble Goals:
- After 8th grade concert band, students will successfully perform and study selected literature from the repertoire map.
- After 8th grade concert band students will be able to perform within an ensemble setting with appropriate balance, blend and follow a conductor’s non-verbal directions.

Small Group Lessons
- After 8th grade concert band students will successfully complete a minimum of skill level IV objectives.
- After 8th grade concert band students will successfully perform an appropriate level solo and scales in their lesson that represents their individual progress.

Instruction Guide
I. All students in the Fairfield band program progress through Skill Levels. These skill levels are a continuation form the sixth grade curriculum. Most students in the Concert band program will complete Skill IV, by the end of their 8th grade year.
II. All students in the 8th grade concert band will study common musical genres as identified in the repertoire map.
III. During ensemble rehearsal skills learned in lessons will be applied and ensemble techniques such as rhythmic accuracy, musical interpretation, balance and blend, intonation, sight reading, music analysis and evaluation will be developed.
IV. Instruction in lessons will focus on unique skills and techniques needed for specific instruments.
V. All students in the 8th grade band program will progress through a series of tasks designed to meet state standards.

Assessments
Common Assessments
- Ensemble Performances
- Small Group Performances

Skill Assessments
- Skill Level IV - Mastery

Small Group Lesson Assessments Level IV
Includes (Regardless of Instrument):
- Enumerate
- Play and read time signatures
- Identify symbols and define terms

Plus instrument specific assessments related to instrument specific techniques.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Outline</th>
<th>Standards</th>
<th>Summary Objectives</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Summary Objective 1</td>
<td>Connecticut SDE Arts Curriculum Framework</td>
<td>Students will be able to:</td>
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<tr>
<td>II. Summary Objective 2</td>
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<td>- Play their instruments in tune and with a characteristic tone, repertoire from the recommended 8th grade band repertoire list and designated lesson materials with expression and technical accuracy, both in lessons and within their ensembles.</td>
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<tr>
<td>III. Summary Objective 3</td>
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<td>- Enumerate rhythms designated through skill level IV.</td>
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<td>IV. Summary Objective 4</td>
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<td>- Read rhythmic patterns in various time signatures designated through skill level IV.</td>
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<tr>
<td>V. Summary Objective 5</td>
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<td>- Listen to, analyze, and describe performances, using music terminology designated through skill level IV.</td>
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<tr>
<td>VI. Summary Objective 6</td>
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<td>- Evaluate their own performances and compare and contrast them to performances of others, both individually and within an ensemble.</td>
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<td>- Describe distinguishing characteristics of representative music genres from selections contained in the repertoire map.</td>
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</table>

Connecticut State Music Standards are met in the following areas:
- **Instrumental**
- **Notation**
- **Analysis**
- **Evaluation**
- **History and Cultures**
Fairfield Music Department Curriculum
Middle School Band Repertoire Map

Repertoire selected for each block will reflect the skill level represented in each ensemble:
Fairfield skill levels I - V

6th GRADE
Overtures and Programmatic Music

7th GRADE
Latin and March

8th GRADE
Jazz and Transcriptions
**Ensemble Materials/Resources**
Used in all Summary Objectives

A variety of skill level appropriate band music representing various styles and genres.

Theory Time Packets
Supplemental Materials
- Including but not limited to:
  - Reference copies lesson books
  - Small ensemble books

Contemporary Band Literature
Posture Chairs to accommodate enrollment
Manhasset style Music Stands to accommodate enrollment
Lockable Storage cabinets to accommodate instruments

**Percussion Equipment**
- Timpani (set of three)
- Concert Bass Drum and Stand
- Concert Snare Drums (three) and stands
- Parade Snare Drums and Carriers to accommodate needs of ensemble (minimum of 10)
- Marching Bass Drum and Carrier
- Drum Set with appropriate stands
- Concert Cymbals (18”)
- Suspended Cymbal with stand (19”)
- Chimes with mallets
- Concert Bells with stand
- 3 ½ Octave Xylophone
- 2 Bell Kits
- 3 Drum Pads with stands
- Bongos with stand
- Temple Blocks with Stand
- Assorted Latin Percussion as needed for curricular repertoire map

**Small Group Lesson Materials/Resources**
Used in all Summary Objectives

Grade level and instrument appropriate band method book(s).

**Instrument Recommendations**

**Skill Objectives**
Used in all Summary Objectives for all students regardless of instrument

**LEVEL IV**
Students will:
- Enumerate and corresponding rests.
  ![Music Notes]
  - Play and read in 2/2 (c=cut time), 3/8, 6/8 time signatures.
  - Identify symbols and define terms: sf, sfz, sfzp, subito, poco a poco, molto, simile, vivace, adagio, maestoso.
- Sleigh Bells
- Assorted mallets

Conductors Podium
## Summary Objective 1

**Standards**

**Instrumental**

Students will play, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of instrumental music.

Students will:
- perform on at least one instrument accurately and independently, alone and in small and large ensembles, with good posture, good playing position and good breath, bow or stick control.
- perform with expression and technical accuracy on at least one string, wind, percussion or classroom instrument a repertoire of instrumental literature with a difficulty level of 2, on a scale of 1 to 6.

## Unit Objectives

Students will be able to:
- Play their instruments in tune and with a characteristic tone, repertoire from the recommended 8th grade band repertoire list and designated lesson materials with expression and technical accuracy, both in lessons and within their ensembles.

### Tasks

#### Ensemble
- Group performance of scales through skill level IV.
- Group performance of band literature from recommended 8th grade repertoire list. Using appropriate balance and blend while following a conductor’s non-verbal directions.

#### Lesson
- Individual performance of designated lesson material with a characteristic tone, phrasing and articulation through skill level IV.

### Assessments

- **Ensemble Performances**
- Small Group Lesson Assessments as appropriate
- **Level IV - Mastery**
  - Oboe
  - Bassoon
  - Flute
  - Clarinet
  - Saxophone
  - Trumpet
  - French Horn
  - Trombone
  - Tuba/Euphonium/Baritone
  - Mallet Percussion
  - Battery Percussion

### Ensemble Materials/Resources

See above

### Small Group Lesson Materials/Resources

See above

### Skill Objectives

See above

### Technology Resources

- Tuner
- Metronomes
- CD Recorder
- Microphones

### Differentiated Instruction

Small group lessons

### Enrichment/ELL

Participation for those who quality:
- Western Regional Music Festival
- Middle School Honors Orchestra
- Individual school’s Jazz Band
- Microphone Stands
- Computers
- Stereo
- Laptop Mac (digital recording) and ipod – needed to implement curriculum standard for self-evaluation
- Digital video camera (concert recording) - needed to implement curriculum standard for self-evaluation
- Keyboards for each teaching space (including practice rooms)
- Bass Amplifier combo
- Guitar Amplifier combo
- Maintain Current District Music Software
### Standards

#### Notation

**Students will read and notate music.**

Students will:
- read at sight simple melodies in both the treble and bass clefs.
- identify and define standard notation symbols for pitch, rhythm, dynamics, tempo, articulation and expression.

### Unit Objectives

**Students will be able to:**
- Enumerate rhythms designated through skill IV.

### Tasks

#### Ensemble

- Enumerate musical notation verbally and in writing, band literature from 8th grade repertoire map

#### Small Group Lessons

- Enumerate musical notation verbally and in writing from designated lesson material

### Assessments

- **Ensemble Performances**
- **Written Theory Assessments**
- **Small Group Lesson Assessments**

#### Level IV - Mastery

- Oboe
- Bassoon
- Flute
- Clarinet
- Saxophone
- Trumpet
- French Horn
- Trombone
- Tuba/Euphonium/Baritone
- Mallet Percussion
- Battery Percussion

### Ensemble Materials/Resources

See above

### Small Group Lesson Materials/Resources

See above

### Skill Objectives

See above

### Technology Resources

- Tuner
- Metronomes
- CD Recorder
- Microphones

### Differentiated Instruction

Small group lessons

### Enrichment/ELL
- Microphone Stands
- Computers
- Stereo
- Laptop Mac (digital recording) and ipod – needed to implement curriculum standard for self-evaluation
- Digital video camera (concert recording) - needed to implement curriculum standard for self-evaluation
- Keyboards for each teaching space (including practice rooms)
- Bass Amplifier combo
- Guitar Amplifier combo
- Maintain Current District Music Software
### Standards

**Notation**

Students will read and notate music.

Students will:
- read at sight simple melodies in both the treble and bass clefs.
- identify and define standard notation symbols for pitch, rhythm, dynamics, tempo, articulation and expression.

### Unit Objectives

Students will be able to:
- Play rhythmic patterns in various time signatures designated through skill level IV.

### Tasks

#### Ensemble

- Play musical notation in band literature from 8th grade repertoire map with appropriate balance and blend while following a conductor’s non-verbal direction.

#### Small Group Lessons

- Play musical notation from designated lesson material

### Assessments

- Ensemble Performances
- Small Group Lesson Assessments
  - Level IV - Mastery
    - Oboe
    - Bassoon
    - Flute
    - Clarinet
    - Saxophone
    - Trumpet
    - French Horn
    - Trombone
    - Tuba/Euphonium/Baritone
    - Mallet Percussion
    - Battery Percussion

### Ensemble Materials/Resources

See above

### Small Group Lesson Materials/Resources

See above

### Skill Objectives

See above

### Technology Resources

- Tuner
- Metronomes
- CD Recorder
- Microphones
- Microphone Stands
- Computers

### Differentiated Instruction

Small group lessons

### Enrichment/ELL
- Stereo
- Laptop Mac (digital recording) and iPod – needed to implement curriculum standard for self-evaluation
- Digital video camera (concert recording) - needed to implement curriculum standard for self-evaluation
- Keyboards for each teaching space (including practice rooms)
- Bass Amplifier combo
- Guitar Amplifier combo
- Maintain Current District Music Software
Summary Objective 4

Standards: Analysis
Students will listen to, describe and analyze music.

Students will:
- describe specific music events in a given aural example, using appropriate terminology.
- analyze the uses of elements of music in aural examples representing diverse genres and cultures.

Unit Objectives
Students will be able to:
- Listen to, analyze, and describe performances, using music terminology designated through skill level IV.

Tasks

Ensemble
- Develop criteria for analyzing the quality and effectiveness of music performances using appropriate terminology
- Use the criteria to analyze the quality and effectiveness of their own curricular concerts using appropriate terminology
- Use the criteria to analyze the quality and effectiveness of others’ performances using appropriate terminology

Small Group Lessons
- Demonstrate through performance and discussion the application of criteria developed in the ensemble to analyze their own individual performance
- Demonstration of applied analytic skills in daily, at home practice, to predict successful lesson performance

Assessments

Ensemble Performances
- Small Group Lesson Assessments
  - Level IV - Mastery
    - Oboe
    - Bassoon
    - Flute
    - Clarinet
    - Saxophone
    - Trumpet
    - French Horn
    - Trombone
    - Tuba/Euphonium/Baritone
    - Mallet Percussion
    - Battery Percussion
  - Plus informal individual and group assessment

Ensemble Materials/Resources
- See above

Small Group Lesson Materials/Resources
- See above

Skill Objectives
- See above

Technology Resources
- Tuner
- Metronomes
- CD Recorder

Differentiated Instruction
- Small group lessons

Enrichment/ELL
- Microphones
- Microphone Stands
- Computers
- Stereo
- Laptop Mac (digital recording) and ipod – needed to implement curriculum standard for self-evaluation
- Digital video camera (concert recording) - needed to implement curriculum standard for self-evaluation
- Keyboards for each teaching space (including practice rooms)
- Bass Amplifier combo
- Guitar Amplifier combo
- Maintain Current District Music Software
**Summary Objective 5**

**Standards**

**Evaluation**

Students will evaluate music and music performances.

Students will:
- evaluate the quality and effectiveness of their own and others’ performances, compositions, arrangements and improvisations by applying specific criteria appropriate for the style of the music, and offer constructive suggestions for improvement.

**Unit Objectives**

Students will be able to:
- Evaluate their own curricular concert performances and compare and contrast them to performances of others, both individually and within an ensemble.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Assessments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ensemble</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ensemble Performances</strong>; Winter and Spring Concerts and written evaluation of individual and group performances of each concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Develop criteria for evaluating the quality and effectiveness of music performances with attention to balance and blend.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Demonstrate through performance and discussion the application of the criteria to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of their own and others’ performances with attention to balance and blend.</td>
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<td>- Offer constructive suggestions for improvement of individual, section and ensemble.</td>
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<td><strong>Small Group Lessons</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Demonstrate through performance and discussion the application of criteria developed in the ensemble to analyze their own individual performance.</td>
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<td>- Demonstration of applied analytic skills in daily, at home practice, to predict successful lesson performance.</td>
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**Ensemble Materials/Resources**

See above

**Small Group Lesson Materials/Resources**

See above

**Skill Objectives**

See above

**Technology Resources**

- Tuner
- Metronomes

**Differentiated Instruction**

Small group lessons

**Enrichment/ELL**

8th Grade Band

BOE Approved 12/08/2009
- CD Recorder
- Microphones
- Microphone Stands
- Computers
- Stereo
- Laptop Mac (digital recording) and ipod – needed to implement curriculum standard for self-evaluation
- Digital video camera (concert recording) - needed to implement curriculum standard for self-evaluation
- Keyboards for each teaching space (including practice rooms)
- Bass Amplifier combo
- Guitar Amplifier combo
- Maintain Current District Music Software
### Summary Objective 6

**Standards**

*History And Cultures*

Students will understand music in relation to history and culture.

Students will:
- describe distinguishing characteristics of representative music genres and styles from a variety of cultures.

### Unit Objectives

Students will be able to:
- describe distinguishing characteristics of jazz and transcriptions music as identified in the repertoire map, including examples of significant historical events and cultural trends.

### Tasks

**Ensemble**

Group study and performance of:
- **Jazz**
  - Swing eighth notes
  - 12-bar chord structure Blues
  - Improvisation
- **Transcriptions**
  - Originally written for another ensemble
  - Comparison between original composition and the transcription
  - Comparison of instrumentation

**Small Group Lesson**

- Describe distinctive characteristics to given musical examples from designated lesson material/literature

### Assessments

- **Ensemble Performances and district-wide written assessment.**
- **Small Group Lesson Assessments**
  - **Level IV - Mastery**
    - Oboe
    - Bassoon
    - Flute
    - Clarinet
    - Saxophone
    - Trumpet
    - French Horn
    - Trombone
    - Tuba/Euphonium/Baritone
    - Mallet Percussion
    - Battery Percussion

### Ensemble Materials/Resources

See above

### Small Group Lesson Materials/Resources

See above

### Skill Objectives

See above

### Technology Resources

- Tuner
- Metronomes
- CD Recorder
- Microphones
- Microphone Stands
- Computers
- Stereo

### Differentiated Instruction

Small group lessons

### Enrichment/ELL

Small group lessons
- Laptop Mac (digital recording) and ipod – needed to implement curriculum standard for self-evaluation
- Digital video camera (concert recording) - needed to implement curriculum standard for self-evaluation
- Keyboards for each teaching space (including practice rooms)
- Bass Amplifier combo
- Guitar Amplifier combo
- Maintain Current District Music Software