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## Course Outline

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### Concert Band 8

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*We would like to acknowledge that we work and learn on the ha-houlthee of the Hupačasath and čišaaʔath Nations.*

Welcome to the Alberni District Secondary School Music Department! The music family at ADSS is a large and vibrant community that is filled with opportunities for learning, performance, teamwork, and travel.

We continue to dedicate ourselves to quality performance and sharing positive, lifelong experiences. With the school year now underway, a special welcome is extended to those Band members and their parents who are new to ADSS or new to the Band Program. As always, a warm “welcome back” goes out to returning students and parents. With your support we are off to a great start.

#### **Philosophy of our program**

The goal of the ADSS Band Program is for students to develop a lasting appreciation for the value of music in their lives. Students are challenged to become the most proficient musician and performer that they are personally capable of. Through rehearsal and performance practices, we strive to develop a sense of self-confidence, self-discipline, motivation, and an inner drive for EXCELLENCE in EVERYTHING we do.

Through their social relationships within the band, students will develop lifelong memories and friendships that are bonded by the challenges they will face and overcome together. Above all, we hope students can view their time with the ADSS Band and ADSS Music Department as an experience that had a positive effect on their lives for years to come.

#### **Block Schedule**

Concert Band 8 is a linear course offered all year in D Block rotating with PE 8. Students are on a 2-day rotation schedule. Students are responsible for knowing what day they have Band and PE on.

## Equipment

- Black Binder
- Pencil
- Music/Method Books (provided by the school. This year we will be using “Standard of Excellence -Red Book”)
- Instrument (rental from Long & McQuade or from the school. For more information see handout)

## Course Expectations

1. Students are required to attend all rehearsals/classes, sectionals, and performances for the bands they choose to take part in. If a student is unable to attend a rehearsal due to illness or family emergency, an email is required by a parent/guardian prior to a rehearsal occurring.
2. Engagement in learning is factored into your mark. Students are expected to engage in the music making process to demonstrate learning concepts. **This is a performance-based program.**
3. It is important for the program’s success that all students are present and on time. Many concepts and outcomes are covered throughout each rehearsal and consistency in demonstrating said outcomes and concepts is vital to student success. Students are required to be in their seats and warming up prior to the start of each rehearsal. Students will have 5 minutes from the starting bell to prepare for rehearsal. A student will be considered late if they are not in their seat with all equipment required to perform. This includes a pencil, binder/folder, music, instrument, and all other essential equipment for music making.
4. The music order for the classes/rehearsals is always posted on the white board. Please put your music and method books in order at the beginning of a class/rehearsal. If you have lost or forgotten your music, deal with this issue before we begin, not during class/rehearsal. A rough rehearsal schedule will be posted on our website, as well as through social media. It is expected students will look at this and practice and prepare accordingly to allow for effective use of rehearsal time. **This practice and growth between rehearsals is factored into your grade.**
5. **BE PREPARED.** Have the following materials and equipment: (a) instrument, (b) pencil, (c) ALL music, (d) reeds, valve oil, sticks/mallets, supplies etc. Reed players are to always have at least 3 working reeds. Percussionists at this level need to have their own pair of 5A snare sticks and are expected to maintain and organize shared equipment before and after each rehearsal. Bassists are expected to supply their own patch cords and all 4 of the upright basses should be in use each rehearsal. **Demonstration of proper equipment management is a competency/outcome that is assessed daily!**
6. Have a well-maintained instrument. Please perform maintenance before we warm up or outside of class/rehearsal. If you need help, please ask your director. If the instrument is your own/a rental and beyond what is doable here, please contact High Note Musical Services in Qualicum for repairs.
7. The band room will be kept clean and orderly. Store your instrument on the shelf assigned to you and your music in your binder with your instrument. Please use lockers for other items. Please label your instrument with your name and grade on it. At the end of each rehearsal, it is expected students will leave the rehearsal space clean and organized for the group following them.

## Required Functions

Band members will attend all required functions involving their performing band(s) unless excused beforehand by the director. Required functions include school assemblies, evening concerts, festival competitions/performances, community concerts, and any other event agreed upon by the band program.

***If any dates conflict with work, contact your employer early so that you can get the time off. The band director DOES NOT ACCEPT "I have to work" as a legitimate reason for missing a concert. This will be treated as an unexcused absence and dealt with accordingly.***

## Performance Attendance

### ***Unexcused absence from a performance***

Student is unable to demonstrate outcomes for that term and will be unable to pass that term. Student may be removed from the course at this time.

### ***Unexcused lateness to a performance***

First time warning; second time loss of membership (and failing grade)

Students are required to stay until the END of a performance unless arrangements have been made to leave early or your ensemble has been excused from staying until the end of a performance. Thank you for supporting all of your fellow musicians.

***All reasons for lates and absences (to classes, rehearsals, performances) must be in the form of a signed note, an email, or a phone call from a parent to the band director. If a problem arises, such as illness, please let the director know as soon as possible. Please bring a note for extended absences, family trips etc.***

## Conduct and Behavior

Please respect each other and all efforts in the band room. When we perform, please respect the audience by acting responsibly and putting on a strong show from beginning to end. We represent the school, and we would like our band program to be respected. Serious violations of the following will be given 2 warnings, a third resulting in removal from the program:

- lack of adequate preparation of music
- misbehavior in a class/rehearsal and/or concert

## Uniforms

Students who fail to be in full uniform before a concert will **NOT** be allowed to perform with their bands. Understanding the professionalism associated with being a musician is part of our curriculum. Please see uniform expectations on the separate order form if you have questions or concerns.

## Equipment

Please respect and treat with care all the equipment that you find in the band room and keep the room tidy. Misuse of school owned equipment will also see two warnings, followed by loss of membership. Students are expected to pay for all damaged or lost school owned instruments, music, and music folders (due to neglect or improper care).

## Evaluation and Assessment

Students will be given a level of proficiency each reporting period. These are determined through the following assessments and evaluations:

### Engagement in learning/rehearsals/performance

These are measured in **rehearsals and performances** and include:

- Ability to engage and concentrate with the conductor and music making process.
- Ability to respond and use feedback.
- Ability to demonstrate the personal and social responsibilities of a musician.  
(equipment/instrument, safety in the environment, protocols, self-warm-up, on time, etc.)

### Individual Skills and techniques

These skills and techniques are measured in **rehearsals and performances** as well as the **work that happens between** and includes:

- Rhythmic Technique
- Notational Fluency and Accuracy
- Articulations
- Tone Production/Posture/Technique
- Ensemble Skills and Techniques (introduction to Balance/Blend, Dynamics, Intonation, Phrasing).
- ***Students will also be assigned various exercises to perform to demonstrate outcomes. These will be assigned in class and due dates will vary. Please pay attention to dates listed on the board/website.***

### Practice and Refinement

Students will be expected to practice 15 minutes a day outside of class. This is measured through progress from class to class as well as assigned practice expectations from the book or other music selections. Practice can look like the following:

- Playing exercises from your method book (using a metronome is highly encouraged)
- Practicing sheet music given out in class (using a metronome is highly encouraged)
- Listening to and doing the fingerings to recordings (or playing along with a recording)
- Clapping rhythms and counting out loud
- Learning something new (especially learning something by ear can be really fun and helpful)
- With a friend or group of friends.

## ADSS Music Program Rubric

<u>Beginning/Developing</u>	<u>Proficient</u>	<u>Extending</u>
	Musician engages and explores music making in rehearsals	
	Musician engaged in a safe and responsible manner.	
	Musician provides all necessary equipment for each rehearsal and maintains quality of their instrument.	
	Musician demonstrates evidence of refinement and practice of technical abilities.	
	Musician demonstrates ensemble awareness/skills in rehearsals.	
	Musician is able to listen to and use conductor gestures and feedback to improve day to day performances.	
	Musician is able to perform in concerts demonstrating ensemble cohesion and ensemble skills.	
	Musician is able to demonstrate professionalism in concert settings.	
	Musician is able to demonstrate a refined and sophisticated performance of repertoire.	
	Musician is able to identify ensemble and self-goals and challenges.	

<p><b><i>Ensemble Skills include but are not limited to:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Balance</i></b></li> <li>• <b><i>Blend</i></b></li> <li>• <b><i>Dynamics</i></b></li> <li>• <b><i>Phrasing</i></b></li> <li>• <b><i>Intonation</i></b></li> </ul>	<p><b><i>Technical skills include but are not limited to:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Rhythms</i></b></li> <li>• <b><i>Pitches/notes</i></b></li> <li>• <b><i>Articulations</i></b></li> <li>• <b><i>Posture/hand position</i></b></li> <li>• <b><i>Breathing/tone quality</i></b></li> </ul>
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