

Hamburg Area High School Concert Band  
Syllabus  
Mrs. Megan Kline, Band Director  
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### Goals & Objectives

Individually and collaboratively, students will be able to:

1. Continually improve instrumental performance ability and musical knowledge by participating in full-ensemble experiences, chamber groups, and solo work.
2. Increase musicianship through sight-reading skills and aural comprehension.
3. Experience and develop an understanding of the standard concert band repertoire.
4. Gain an in-depth understanding of community-awareness through music performance and participation.

### Rehearsals

- Concert Band rehearses every Day 1, 3, and 5 during 8<sup>th</sup> period.
- Unexcused rehearsals will result in deduction from the student's grade (Refer to the Concert Band Grading Policy.)

### What is expected of you ....

- *Be Punctual.* In order to make the most of our limited rehearsal time, be in your seat with your music and instrument ready no later than 2:00. If you are late multiple times without a pass or miss rehearsals on multiple occasions, it will result in failure of the class and your removal from the group.
- *Know your notes and rhythms.* Rehearsal time is for the group; practice your part at home!
- *Listen.* One of the best ways and most effective ways to learn your music is to listen to recordings of well-known artists and ensembles. (Recordings of Concert Band music will be posted on the Concert Band Webpage)
- *Bring a positive attitude.* A comfortable learning environment will be one in which all students will be able to effectively participate.
- *RESPECT.* Students are expected to respect other band members, the director, and the band room / music wing.

### Playing Tests

- Playing Tests will be held at the end of every quarter. Dates have been tentatively scheduled as follows:
  - Quarter 1: Week of October 7, 2019
  - Quarter 2: Week of December 9, 2019
  - Quarter 3: Week of March 9, 2020
  - Quarter 4: Week of May 11, 2020

### Concert Schedule (All performances will held in the High School Auditorium beginning at 7:00pm)

- Winter Core Ensemble Concert: **December 5, 2019**
  - Snow Date – Friday, December 6, 2019
- Salvation Army Red Kettle Benefit Concert (Select groups TBD) – **December 8, 2019, 4pm, John's Lutheran**
- Spring Core Ensemble Concert: **May 5, 2020**
- Spring Trip – Williamsburg, VA: **Tentatively May 1 to May 3, 2020**

**The HAHS Music Program adheres to the following statement regarding public performances:**

***Members of performing musical organizations are to be present at all performances, except in the case of personal sickness, death in the family, an act of God, or extenuating circumstances pre-approved by the Director and/or Principal AT LEAST one month in advance.***

### Concert Attire

- Women & Men: **CONCERT BLACK for ALL PERFORMANCES.**

### Concert Band Folders

- All students will be assigned a Concert Band Folder and a Folder Slot.
- If you choose to take your folder home to practice, *please remember that you are financially responsible for any lost or severely damaged copies of music.*

## Hamburg Area High School Concert Band Grading Policy

One of the main objectives of Hamburg Area Band Program is to provide students with opportunities to succeed. With this in mind, the grading policy explained below will be used to evaluate all student performance and participation.

The district-wide grading scale, as described in the Student Handbook, will be used to determine letter grades:

- A: 94 – 100
- B: 86 – 93
- C: 76 – 85
- D: 70 – 75
- F: 69 and below

All students participating in Concert Band will be graded upon the following criteria:

- **Playing Exam – 30%**

All students will complete a playing exam at the end of each marking period. Excerpts of concert music and scales will be pre-determined. Sight-reading may be included as well.  
Playing Exams have been **tentatively** scheduled as follows:

  - MP 1: Week of October 7, 2019
  - MP 2: Week of December 9, 2019
  - MP 3: Week of March 9, 2020
  - MP 4: Week of May 11, 2020
- **Attendance – 15%**
  - Band rehearsal is scheduled for 8<sup>th</sup> period on Day 1, 3, and 5. If students are late to rehearsal without presenting a pass, 5 points will be deducted from their grade. If there are multiple occurrences of unexcused absences or late arrivals without a pass, the student will fail the class and will be removed from the ensemble.
  - *Winter Core Concert: Thursday, December 5, 2019 (Snow Date: December 6, 2019 – same time/place)*  
*Spring Core Concert: Tuesday, May 5, 2020*  
*\* All Core Concerts are held in the High School Auditorium, beginning at 7:00pm*  
Concert attendance is **mandatory**. A student's grade will be automatically lowered one letter grade for an unexcused absence from a performance.
  - All students will meet with Mrs. Kline in a group or individual setting once per cycle for instrumental lessons and evaluation. Students are responsible for their own lesson schedule.  
*5 points will be deducted from the student's grade for each unexcused absence from a lesson (without an attempt to schedule a make-up)*
- **Daily Individual Preparation and Performance – 30%**
  - Students will be expected to be in their seat on time with all parts prepared and with all instrumental equipment and accessories needed for rehearsal. (Computers, homework, and books are put away during rehearsal.)
  - Students are expected to be respectful to other band members, to their instrument, and to the band room.
  - Pencils are ALWAYS needed during rehearsal
  - Points will be deducted if there are violations. Detentions will be assigned if there are multiple violations.
- **Written Assignments – 10%**
  - One page, post-concert critique for the winter AND spring performances
- **Participation and positive contribution to the ensemble – 15%**
  - Consistent lesson/rehearsal attendance, learning/memorizing music notation, respectful behavior towards teachers and peers, serving as help to other members of the ensemble, going above and beyond original expectations of the ensemble, etc.
- **Extra Credit - Up to 10 additional points can be earned for the following activities:**
  - Participation in a voluntary, school-related ensemble (recruitment events, community performances, etc.)
  - Participation in a school-related ensemble, OUTSIDE of school hours (Sr. County Auds./Band, Community Bands)
  - Attendance at an outside musical performance (A program or ticket stub must be submitted as proof)
  - Critique of an outside performance or recording (Students must complete and submit a critique form)

# Hamburg Area Concert Bands Playing Test

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_ INSTRUMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_ / 40

	Superior=5 points	Excellent=4 points	Average=3 points	Fair=2 points	Poor=1 point
<b>Wind/Brass Fundamentals</b> (Winds / Brass only)	Sat with perfect posture and instrument carriage.	Sat with nearly perfect posture and instrument carriage. Was not deficient in more than one area.	Struggled to sit with proper posture instrument carriage. Was deficient in two areas.	Struggled to sit with proper posture, instrument carriage, and/or embouchure formation in all three areas.	Failed to sit with perfect posture, instrument carriage, and/or embouchure formation. Deficiency shown in all three areas.
<b>Percussion Fundamentals</b> (Percussion only)	Stood with perfect posture, and had correct stick grip. Sticking patterns were correct. Played rudiments with correct technique.	Stood with nearly perfect posture and/or had nearly correct stick grip. Sticking patterns were nearly correct. Played rudiments with nearly correct technique.	Stood with nearly correct posture and playing with correct stick grip. Sticking patterns had several errors. Rudiments were played with somewhat correct technique.	Had trouble standing with correct posture and playing with correct stick grip. Sticking patterns had many errors. Rudiments were not played with correct technique.	Failed to stand with correct posture and stick grip. Favored one hand for the majority of the exercise. Rudiments were not addressed.
<b>Rhythmic Accuracy</b>	Performs rhythms with 100% accuracy.	Performs rhythms with 90% or more accuracy.	Performs rhythms between 80-89% accuracy.	Performs rhythms between 70-79% accuracy.	Performs rhythms between 69% or less accuracy.
<b>Tempo Control</b>	The student maintains a steady and consistent tempo throughout 100% of the performance..	The student maintains a steady and consistent tempo for 90-99% of the performance.	The student maintains a steady and consistent tempo for 80-89% of the performance.	The student maintains a steady and consistent tempo for 70-79% of the performance.	The student performs the piece with an inconsistent, wavering tempo. Less than 69% of the piece is performed with a steady and consistent tempo.
<b>Pitch Accuracy</b>	Performs notes with 100% accuracy.	Performs notes between 90% or more accuracy.	Performs notes between 80-89% accuracy.	Performs notes between 70-79% accuracy.	Performs notes between 69% or less accuracy.
<b>Tone</b>	Has a characteristic tone for instrument/ensemble for grade level. Played with correct embouchure formation. Mallets always bounced off of bars.	Tone is mostly characteristic for grade level. Played with nearly correct embouchure formation. Mallets usually bounced off of bars.	Tone is close to grade level. Played with somewhat correct embouchure formation. Mallets sometimes bounced off of bars.	Tone is below level. Played with fair embouchure formation. Mallets rarely bounced off of bars.	Tone is falls far below grade level. Did not played with correct embouchure formation. Mallets never bounced off of bars.
<b>Phrasing</b>	The performance as a whole demonstrated proper phrasing.	The performance as a whole demonstrated nearly proper phrasing with few additional breaths needed. Additional breaths were taken in appropriate places.	The performance as a whole demonstrated some attention towards phrasing; used several additional breaths. Additional breaths were usually taken in appropriate places.	The performance as a whole demonstrated little attention towards phrasing; used several additional breaths. Additional breaths were not taken in appropriate places	The performance as a whole demonstrated no attention towards phrasing; used too many breaths. Additional breaths were erratic and not taken in appropriate places.
<b>Dynamics</b>	The performance as a whole demonstrated 100% of all written dynamics.	The performance as a whole demonstrated 90% or more of all written dynamics.	The performance as a whole demonstrated 80-89% of all written dynamics.	The performance as a whole demonstrated 70-79% of all written dynamics.	The performance as a whole demonstrated 69% or less of all written dynamics.
<b>Articulations</b>	The performance as a whole demonstrated all written articulations.	The performance as a whole demonstrated 90% or more of all written articulations.	The performance as a whole demonstrated 80-89% or more of all written articulations.	The performance as a whole demonstrated 70-9% or more of all written articulations.	The performance as a whole demonstrated 769% or less of all written articulations.

Comments:

## Academic Eligibility Standards for Extra-Curricular Music & Drama Programs

Members of the music and/or drama department are required to attend all school and community performances and events listed in individual ensemble curriculums or course guidelines. Additional community performances may be added at a later date and will be announced with as much prior notice given to participants as possible.

Participants who are academically eligible and in good behavioral standing may participate in additional opportunities such as MEBC County Festivals, PMEA District Festivals, local university festivals, various county-wide events, and field trips. **Good behavioral standing indicates that participants must be free from disciplinary action during the current marking period of an event (in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, multiple detentions, etc.) Academic eligibility indicates that a student must be passing at least four classes and failing less than two classes on any given week. Academic eligibility is cumulative from the beginning of each marking period and will be monitored, reported, and filed in the principal's office on a weekly basis.**

If a student is failing two or more classes as of a Friday, that student will be deemed ineligible for extra-curricular vocal/instrumental ensembles and drama activities (including performances, festivals and after-school rehearsals) for the duration of the following week (Sunday through and including Saturday).

- Week One of Ineligibility: An ineligible student may participate in after-school rehearsals provided he/she attends \*Homework Help prior to each rehearsal. (This is true even if it would make the student late to rehearsal) Participation in performances, festivals, and field trips is allowed.
- Week Two of Ineligibility: An ineligible student may participate in after-school rehearsals provided he/she attends \*Homework Help prior to each rehearsal. Participation in performances, festivals, and field trips is **NOT** allowed.
- Week Three of Ineligibility: An ineligible student may **NOT** participate in any rehearsals, performances, festivals, or field trips. A student's membership in extra-curricular ensembles/organizations is now in jeopardy and the student must meet with the director to determine further course of action.
- **A student who is failing two or more classes at the end of a grading period will be automatically deemed ineligible for 15 days (three full school weeks)**

\*Homework Help is Hamburg high school's after school supervised study time in the library. It is available 2:40-3:30pm Monday - Thursday afternoons. *Please note: Ineligible middle schoolers who are involved in the drama department must use Homework Help in the high school library before attending rehearsal.*

If a student in the music or drama department becomes ineligible, notice of ineligibility will be e-mailed to a parent/guardian and also sent home by way of a homework club paper (see attached sheet) that must be returned with a parent signature. In the event that Homework Help is cancelled the student must make separate arrangements with their director.

Orchestra is a graded course which meets once per cycle during the school day and once per cycle after the school day. Due to the necessity of placing rehearsal for a graded course after school, ineligible orchestra students are excused from Homework Help on after-school orchestra days.

A student committing any of the following infractions is subject to removal from an ensemble/organization at any time: Failure to attend homework help on a rehearsal day, ineligibility, disciplinary action (TLP, detention, in/out-of-school suspension) multiple absences, inattentiveness/misbehavior during rehearsal or performances, or any other infraction deemed unacceptable by the director.

\*ALL ENSEMBLES Administration and directors reserve the right to remove students entirely from any ensemble based on the expectations above. For Dramahawks, administration and directors reserve the right to change roles or remove students entirely from the fall play or spring musical based on the expectations above.

#### Affected Groups

Hamburg Hawks Performing Arts (including the musical and drama club)

Aerial Boundaries

The Hawktones (Jazz Band)

Marching Band

Ascending Chamber Strings

Showchoir

Barbershop Quartets

Or any after-school ensemble that may be added in the future.

Notice of Ineligibility Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent:

Your child \_\_\_\_\_ has been

Found to be ineligible for next week.

Dates of ineligibility are \_\_/\_\_/\_\_ to \_\_/\_\_/\_\_.

This is Week 1 2 3 of ineligibility which means:

If a student is failing two or more classes as of a Friday, that student will be deemed ineligible for extra-curricular vocal/instrumental ensembles and drama activities (including performances, festivals and after-school rehearsals) for the duration of the following week (Sunday through and including Saturday).

- Week One of Ineligibility: An ineligible student may participate in after-school rehearsals provided he/she attends \*Homework Help prior to each rehearsal. (This is true even if it would make the student late to rehearsal) Participation in performances, festivals, and field trips is allowed.
- Week Two of Ineligibility: An ineligible student may participate in after-school rehearsals provided he/she attends \*Homework Help prior to each rehearsal. Participation in performances, festivals, and field trips is **NOT** allowed.
- Week Three of Ineligibility: An ineligible student may **NOT** participate in any rehearsals, performances, festivals, or field trips. A student's membership in extra-curricular ensembles/organizations is now in jeopardy and the student must meet with the director to determine further course of action.

Please sign and return this form along with the attached Homework Help form to show that you have received this notice and that you and your child understand the procedure for Homework Help.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNING AND SUBMITTING THIS FORM MEANS YOU HAVE READ  
ALL ITEMS LISTED IN THE HAMBURG AREA HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT  
BAND SYLLABUS.**

*I have received a copy of the Hamburg Area High School  
Concert Band Syllabus. I understand the document and will  
abide by all terms and conditions.*

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Please return to Mrs. Kline **no later** than Thursday, August  
29, 2019*