

Ms. Kathy Green, Director of Bands
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WIND ENSEMBLE COURSE OVERVIEW 2007/2008

Performance schedule/times: **ALL PERFORMANCES ARE REQUIRED UNLESS NOTED**

October 8, Monday – Concert w/Dallas Brass – TJ Gym, 7:00 pm
December 11, Tuesday – Winter Concert – Totem Gym, 7:00 pm
February 4, Monday (tentative) – Pacific Northwest Band Festival – University of Washington – 9:00 am to 9:00 pm
February 6, Wednesday (tentative) – Recruiting Visits to Elementary Schools – During the school day, returning to Totem for lunch
March 1, Saturday – Region Solo and Ensemble Contest – Sacajawea MS, **Not required**, but strongly encouraged for Wind Ensemble – extra credit offered
March or April – TJ Area Band Festival – TJ Gym, 7:00 pm
May 20, Wednesday – Leavenworth Field Trip – 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, **Not required**
May 31, Saturday – Region Band Contest – Ballou JH, all morning
June 2, Monday - Spring Concert – Totem Gym, 7:00 pm

The band also performs at the Veteran's Day Assembly and 3 pep assemblies.

Chaperones/Helpers: Needed for ALL the above events. Please check on the return information/contract form if you will help out. For Field Trips, you must have a current Washington State Patrol Form on file. They are good for two years.

Fees/fines:

Instrument Usage Fees (NOTE INCREASE) = \$100 for the year or \$60 per semester
Leavenworth field trip = \$25 – students who cannot afford may fundraise
Lost tie/cummerbund = \$10 (or \$5 each)
Lost tux shirt = \$14

Grading:

Students are required to participate in all events, except as noted above. Barring circumstances beyond control, **failure to participate in any required event will result in the lowering of the student's grade by one to two letter grades.** Because of the unique learning circumstances provided by the performance situation, make-up assignments for performances **ARE NOT POSSIBLE.** Performances are 20% of the grade. If a student cannot attend a performance for an unavoidable reason – please contact Ms. Green as soon as possible. Classroom participation, practice and homework, playing and written tests, and performances are categories each having point totals. Percentiles as follows will be averaged to comprise an overall grade:

Independent Work (practice records, homework)	20%
Collaborative Work (daily points, class work, ensembles)	20%
On Demand Work (playing and written tests)	40%
Project Based Work (concerts and contests)	20%

Independent Work / Practice Records (graded every Monday)

- ♫ Totem planner, band book, or practice card to be used to record practice time
- ♫ Practice record turned in ON TIME
- ♫ Practice record signed by parent
- ♫ At least 90 minutes for Meeting Expectations (85% or B)
- ♫ Students may count ½ the time practiced on another instrument, rehearsing with an out of school group, and may count ALL the time from a private lesson.
- ♫ Homework turned in complete at Meeting Expectations (85% or B)

Collaborative Work (daily points, class work, ensembles)

- ♫ "Do Now" work graded every two weeks
- ♫ Ensemble work done throughout the year
- ♫ Students earn 4 points daily in band class by following the two classroom expectations: 1.) No one has the right to interfere with the learning or safety of others. AND 2.) Do what is expected and do it the best you can.

On Demand Work (playing tests)

- ♫ Playing tests performed on assigned test day at Meeting Expectations
- ♫ Playing tests will be taken from performance music, band books, and handouts

Project Based Work (grade for each performance)

- ♫ Student on time for performance warm-up
- ♫ Student in required uniform for performance
- ♫ Having instrument and music
- ♫ Remains for the entire performance
- ♫ Attentive and following performance behavior expectations
- ♫ Individual part performed at a high level of proficiency

Concert Attire:

MEN

Black dress pants
White wing tip tux shirt (we have a limited number to check out)
Black socks
SOLID black dress shoes
Black tie and cummerbund
(supplied by the school)

WOMEN

Black skirt with dark black hose or black dress pants
White wing tip tux shirt (we have a limited number to check out)
Black socks
SOLID black dress shoes
Black tie and cummerbund (supplied by the school)

If purchase of the required attire is not possible, please contact Ms. Green or the counselors. We want all students to participate and be properly dressed!

Students MUST return the SAME tie and cummerbund they were issued or pay a fine.

2007 - 2008 Essential Academic Learning Requirements/Course Expectations for Band Wind Ensemble (8th Grade)

1. The student acquires the knowledge and skills necessary to create, to perform, and to respond effectively to the arts. To meet this standard, the student will:
 - 1.1 Demonstrate knowledge of music vocabulary, scales, key signature, form, time signature, tempo, expressive elements, and dynamics
 - 1.2 Reads, writes, and creates music using dotted rhythms
 - 1.3 Play and sight read music graded on the 2 -3 level
 - 1.4 Play the concert C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb, G, D, A, major scales and concert D, G, C, F, minor scales
 - 1.5 Play a chromatic scale for two octaves
 - 1.6 Know and respond to tempo markings including ritardando and accelerando
 - 1.7 Sight read music containing dotted rhythms

- 2 The student applies the creative process with arts knowledge and skills to reason and solve problems. To meet this standard, the student will:
 - 2.1 Evaluate musical performances and use their knowledge of music to identify ways to improve it using music vocabulary
 - 2.2 Demonstrates an awareness of balance and blend
 - 2.3 Demonstrate the ability to tune their instrument to a given note
 - 2.4 Evaluate the form structure of the literature being performed
 - 2.5 Recognize and adjust during performance when playing out of tune

- 3 The student uses at least one of the art forms to communicate ideas and feelings. To meet this standard, the student will:
 - 3.1 Demonstrate musical artistry to communicate ideas and emotions through musical performance
 - 3.2 Demonstrate the ability to play varied styles of music through participation in a solo or ensemble

- 4 The student understands how the arts connect to other subject areas, life and work. To meet this standard, the student will:
 - 4.1 Demonstrate stage presence, correct posture, etiquette and the ability to follow the director during performance
 - 4.2 Demonstrate the ability to work independently and responsibly by playing in a solo or ensemble
 - 4.3 Attend all performances and rehearsals of the band

Each band student **MUST** bring to class everyday:

- ♪ their instrument
- ♪ their music folder and pencil that should **ALWAYS** remain in the folder
- ♪ their planner
- ♪ the intention of following the two classroom expectations

CLASS EXPECTATIONS

- ♪ No one has the right to interfere with the learning or safety of others.
- ♪ Do what is expected and do it the best you can.

Every other "rule" we might have falls into one of these two expectations.

To expand on that:

- ♪ Respect yourself
- ♪ Respect each other
- ♪ Respect the teacher
- ♪ Respect the school and band equipment.

Class Guidelines

There are some procedural guidelines to help keep the class running smoothly.

- ♪ All Totem school rules, expectations, and guidelines as printed in the planners will be followed in band class.
- ♪ **BACKPACKS ARE NOT TO BE BROUGHT TO CLASS!** Planners **MUST** be brought to every class.
- ♪ Only water in a closed container is permitted in the band room. No food, gum, candy, or other drinks.
- ♪ Students are expected to participate daily by playing their instrument. If a student is ill, they are expected to **TRY** and play. If they cannot, they will be expected to "air play" their instrument. If they are too ill for this, they will be excused to the health room.
- ♪ Students should keep their instruments in the storage room and **NOT** in their classrooms. The instrument storage room will be open before school at 7:45; - no earlier. It will be open after school until 3:00. Band students should drop their instrument off before 1st period, and retrieve it immediately after school before going home.
- ♪ If your instrument is not operating properly before or during class, please continue to **TRY** to play your instrument. If you will leave it with me after class, I will attempt to repair it myself during my plan time.
- ♪ There is a designated red basket for notes, letters, permission slips, homework, and "do now" work.
- ♪ Each student will have their own folder or music and will use only their music. No sharing. If parts are needed, please let the teacher know.

PLEASE READ THE PRECEDING FOUR PAGES CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING. Note particularly the grading policy for performances and concert attire. You may want to mark events on the family calendar at this time. Please detach this back page, fill it out completely, return it to school, and KEEP THE REST for reference.

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I have read and understand the contents of this course overview, and agree to follow the classroom guidelines and expectations:

Student _____ Date _____

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I have read and understand this course overview. I understand that my child is expected to attend all performances of the Totem Wind Ensemble and what is required for concert attire.

Parent _____ Date _____

E-mail address _____ Phone _____

I may be able to help chaperone or help at an event:

- _____ October 8 – Concert w/Dallas Brass @ TJ
- _____ November Fund Raiser - Cookie dough sale
- _____ December 11 – Winter Concert Assistance
- _____ February 4 – Chaperone Trip to UW – Pacific Northwest Band Festival
- _____ February 6 – Chaperone Elementary Recruiting Tour
- _____ March 23 Fund Raiser, Jazz Café (lots of help needed for this)
- _____ March or April – TJ Area Band Festival @ TJ
- _____ May 20 – Chaperone Leavenworth Field Trip
- _____ May 31 – Chaperone Band Contest @ Ballou JH
- _____ June 2 – Spring Concert Assistance