

# Twin Falls School District

## Course/Subject: Beginning Band

### Grade 6/7/8



**Course Description:** Beginning Band is a performance-oriented class in which students first learn to play a wind or percussion instrument, learn to read and perform music on their respective instruments that is appropriate to their skill level, and learn to perform at concerts throughout the year. Students will develop listening skills and learn about music history and heritage. Students will learn about appreciation and evaluation of musical performance. A maintenance fee is assessed if a Band member uses a school-owned instrument for the class; there is also an opportunity for free use of a school instrument in most cases for Beginners.

**Instructional Philosophy:** Students will learn the skills and knowledge of music necessary to play a band instrument. These skills include correct fingerings, embouchure, care procedures, posture, position, and tone quality, as well as music theory. Percussionists will learn snare and mallet techniques. Students will also learn self-discipline so that rehearsal and performance procedures are efficient, effective, and personally rewarding.

#### **Power Standards:**

- 1: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the language and structure of music.
- 2: The student will demonstrate personal and group skills in performing, creating, and listening to music.
- 3: The student will demonstrate an awareness and understanding of man's musical heritage.
- 4: The student will demonstrate growth in appreciation and evaluation of music.

#### **Major Course Projects and Assignments:**

Refer to separate Concert/Date List

**Assessment and Grading Plan:** Assessment in Band considers classroom participation/behavior and playing ability; the final grade reflects a combination of achievement in both categories. A student who does not perform in a concert or activity will have his/her grade dropped for each performance missed. If the teacher is notified within one week of your receiving these dates that the student already have a conflict, the teacher may be able to give the student a make-up assignment. A make-up assignment will also be given to students who can not attend a concert due to an illness or other emergency.

O'Leary grading is a combination of a teacher-assigned classroom participation grade and a playing ability grade. Stuart grading is based on a point system which reflects classroom participation and playing ability.

**Classroom Participation Grade:** This grade will reflect the general participation/behavior/attitude of the student in class that quarter. Components include attendance at performances, bringing necessary materials to class (music, instrument, supplies, etc.), written assignments, listening assignments, evaluations, and class discussions.

**Playing Ability Grade:** This grade will reflect an average of all playing tests, written tests and the director's knowledge of the student's playing ability.

**Policy for Re-Doing Work:** A make-up assignment will be given to students who cannot attend a concert due to an illness or other emergency. Another public performance may sometimes be substituted for the missed Band performance. If the public performance is unexcused, the highest grade a student may earn is a B.

**Opportunities for Extra Help:** Necessary help will be available by appointment for students who need additional help

#### **Basic Grading Rubric:**

- A: Student meets basic expectations and exceeds some expectations
- B: Student meets basic expectations
- C: Student meets some basic expectations
- D: Student meets few expectations
- F: Student meets very few or no expectations