**Spratley Gifted Center**

**2018-2019**

**Course Title:** 8th grade Advanced Band

**Course Instructor**: Michael Bigelow mbigelow@hampton.k12.va.us

**Course Description**: Advanced Band is an instrumental music education course designed as the next step in the band class progression following Intermediate Band. Students will work to develop an advanced knowledge of music through instrumental music performance. Students will also continue to develop their skills in music theory, music history, and music appreciation in order to supplement and enhance instruction. Through a positive learning environment and self-directed student learning, students will develop all the skills necessary in order to be successful in any high school or life-related musical endeavor.

**Required Course Materials:**

1. Instrument
2. Pencils **(please no pens)**
3. Text: *Sound Innovations Ensemble Development*
4. Instrument Maintenance Materials

**HCS Music Class Grading Scale:**

1. Classwork and Homework: 30%
2. Individual Skill Development and Practice: 30%
3. Projects, Rehearsals, and Performances: 40%

**Course Work Grades**:

A – 93-100 A- - 90-92 B+ - 87-89 B – 83-86 B- - 80-82

C+ - 77-79 C – 73-76 C- - 70-72 D – 64-69 F – below 64

**Late Assignment Submissions**:

When a student fails to submit an assignment by the required due date, the student shall receive a grade penalty equal to that of a half of a letter grade. For example: one day late would mean that an A- is the highest grade possible. The waiving of a grade penalty will be reserved as a right of the instructor’s and will be put into effect should the instructor deem the tardy assignment submission as a direct result of an extenuating circumstance.

**Performances and Rehearsals**:

The eighth graders are required to perform at **four** concerts for the school: the winter concert, the spring concert, and two in-school performances. As such, there will be rehearsals that take place before the performances. Since these performances and rehearsals comprise 40% of the student’s grade, the students need to make arrangements in advance so that no rehearsals or performances are missed. **These musical performances do count as a test grade and if you miss it, you will have to make up the grade in some way.** It is up to the instructor’s discretion as to how the grade is made up.

The eighth graders will also be required to perform at the Band Assessment in March. More information will be given about that as the year progresses.

**The dress attire for 8th grade is the following: Blue Spratley Band Polo with black pants and black shoes. The blue Spratley Band polos will be $15 and are required for 8th grade performances. If you already have yours from last year, you will not need to purchase another one. If you need another one, the fee will be due by October 15th.**

Remember, you will have put in a tremendous amount of practice time and studying in order to prepare for these events. Do not do yourself or your grade a disservice of missing a required performance or rehearsal.

**Spratley Concert Dates/HCS Music Dates**:

All City Band auditions – November 8th, 2018 @ Eaton **(All 8th graders will be required to audition)**

Pre Winter Concert In-School Performance (Chorus/Band) – November 29th, 2018

Spratley Band Winter Concert – December 4th, 2018 @ 6:30

All District Band auditions – January 5th, 2019 @ Grafton

All District Band event – January 31st-February 2nd, 2019 @ Kecoughtan

All City Band event – February 21st -23rd, 2019 @ Kecoughtan

Pre-Assessment In-School Performance (Chorus/Band) – March 7th, 2019

District VII Band Assessment – March 13th-15th, 2019 @ Warhill

Solo and Ensemble – April 25th 2019 @ TBA

Kings Dominion Spring Trip – May 11th, 2019

Spratley Band Spring Concert – June 4th, 2019 @ 6:30

**Website:**

We do have a website! It is [**http://spratleyseahawkband.weebly.com/**](http://spratleyseahawkband.weebly.com/)**.** Any important dates, information, and forms as well as all Google Voice call-ins will be posted on the website, so please check daily!

**Rental Fee:**

If you are renting an instrument from the school, you are **required** to pay the $30 fee for the school year. **There will be no exceptions for this rule. If you are renting an instrument from the school, you must pay. You cannot take your instrument home until you pay the rental fee.**

**Themes:**

Spratley Gifted Center assigns a certain theme to each grade: 6th grade-citizenship, 7th grade-challenge, and 8th grade-change. The band program will strive to address these themes on a regular daily basis. Every day, the **8th grade** will look to answer this question every day: **what positive or negative changes did you experience today, either as an individual or as an ensemble?**

**Percussion:**

If you are a percussionist, it is **highly recommended** that you purchase your own sticks and drum pad. **If you are not a percussionist PLEASE do not touch the percussion.**

**Kings Dominion:**

Just like last year, you will be eligible to go to Kings Dominion! Our tentative date will be May 11th, 2019. More information will be given to you as the year progresses.

**Reeds**:

For clarinet and sax players, reeds will be $2 per reed, and you must turn in money to Mrs. Newberry in the office, NOT to me.

I, the student, have read the above syllabus in its entirety, and I agree to fulfill all the obligations of the course to the best of my ability.

**Student Signature Date**

I, the parent/guardian, have read the above syllabus in its entirety, and I am aware of the responsibilities that my child will incur in taking on this course

**Parent/Guardian Signature Date**