**Spratley Gifted Center**

**2018-2019**

**Course Title:** 6th grade Beginning Band

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

**Course Description**: Beginning band is an instrumental music education course designed to introduce students the fundamentals of music through instrumental music performance. Students will also develop fundamental 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 to move on to 7th grade intermediate band.

**Required Course Materials:**

1. Instrument
2. Pencil **(no pens please)**
3. Text: *Essential Elements: Comprehensive Band Method Book 1*
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 a 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 sixth graders are required to perform at three concerts for the school: the winter concert, the spring concert, and one in-school performance. 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 dress attire for **6th grade** is the following:

Boys: a nice shirt (a polo is fine, a t-shirt is not), black pants (black jeans are fine), black shoes

Girls: a nice dress/skirt/shirt (black jeans are fine), black shoes (please try to refrain from open toed shoes)

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**:

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

Solo and Ensemble – April 25th 2019 @ TBA

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!

**Section of the Day**:

Every day, I will choose a section that has performed well and behaved well for the entire class period. This section will get a point for the day and be able to pack up before everyone else. The section that has the most points by the end of the 9-week grading period will get a reward.

Each class period, the class will be dismissed by rows, with section of the day being able to pack up first. This will help erase the chaos of everyone packing up his or her stuff all at once.

**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 **6th grade** will look to answer this question every day: **how did you promote citizenship in class today?**

**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.**

**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**