

EXPECTATIONS for GCS MIDDLE and HIGH SCHOOL BANDS

Band Director ~ Ms. Heather Kriesel
607-656-4161 ~ hkriesel@greenecsd.org

1. STUDENTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE PERFORMANCE SKILLS.

During the regularly scheduled lessons, individual strengths and weaknesses will be addressed. Students will also be able to schedule extra time to work with Ms. Kriesel during a study hall or 9th period.

2. STUDENTS WILL ATTEND & PARTICIPATE FULLY IN REHEARSALS & LESSONS.

Students who are not able to play on the day of a rehearsal due to illness/injury should notify Ms. Kriesel at the beginning of rehearsal. The student will be expected to participate in the rehearsal to the best of their ability by following along in the music and being attentive. Under no circumstances should rehearsal time be used to do work for another class.

3. STUDENTS WILL MAINTAIN (and protect) A MUSIC FOLDER.

An individual folder will be provided. Students are responsible for replacement cost if music/folder is lost or damaged. These materials must be present at each rehearsal. (*New high school folders cost \$12.95 each.*)

4. STUDENTS WILL REFRAIN FROM CONSUMING FOOD, CANDY and/or BEVERAGES DURING REHEARSAL. No gum. Water is the only exception.

5. STUDENTS WILL ATTEND SCHEDULED CONCERTS (REQUIRED to pass the course).

Excused absences from concerts include religious reasons (*with prior notification*), illness, family emergency etc. UNEXCUSED absences include baby-sitting, lack of transportation, work etc. **Concert dates are available on the first day of school.** You can find the music department calendar on Ms. Kriesel's "Teacher Page" on the GCS website. This provides students and families plenty of advance notice so that schedules can be arranged accordingly. **A written excuse for an absence from a scheduled concert** is due during the next day the student is in attendance in school. A make-up assignment will be given. If assignment is not turned in by the end of the marking period, the student's average will be lowered by 20 points.

6. STUDENTS WILL WEAR APPROPRIATE ATTIRE FOR CONCERTS.

Standard concert dress will be BLACK AND WHITE. In general: white tops, black bottoms. Black pants/socks/shoes or a black skirt/stockings/shoes. Clothing **MUST** follow school dress code. *Exception:* skirts must *cover the knees when sitting down* (remember... people are looking UP at us.). No thin straps or strapless dresses/tops. No transparent fabric.

GRADING

Students will receive a numerical average every 10 weeks. This grade will be determined from the total number of points earned each marking period. A sample grade sheet is included.

Students will have the opportunity to earn points in the following areas: rehearsal participation, concert attendance, performance professionalism, audience behavior, musical skills, written evaluations, and individual part (band music) checks.

Students will have the opportunity to earn extra credit in a number of ways listed below:

- ✓ Participate in church/community band or orchestra (*turn in note/email from director*)
- ✓ Participate in GCS Marching Band or Jazz Ensemble
- ✓ Take private instrumental lessons (*turn in note/email from director*)
- ✓ Attend an arts performance event other than our own or a public concert (*area concerts, theater, symphony, opera, etc*). Show the concert program or ticket stub as proof of your attendance.
- ✓ Perform a solo or group performance in public setting. Show the concert/church program and invite other students as proof of your performance.
- ✓ Perform in All-County, Area All-State or prepare a NYSSMA solo.
- ✓ Audition for a school/community production when offered (*Talent Show, Musical*)
- ✓ Participate in extra help with Ms. Kriesel or a section leader
- ✓ Give a presentation to the band on a specific musical event (*NYSSMA, Conf. All- State, Area All-State, etc*). Speak to Ms. Kriesel beforehand for report ideas and presentation approval.

Goals for Rehearsal Participation and Performer/Audience Behavior

The quality musician....

- Performs correct notes and words
- Maintains excellent posture
- Maintains eye contact with the director
- Is responsive to the conductor's gestures
- Maintains 'poker face' in the event of mistakes or disruptions
- Refrains from talking in between or during selections
- Wears appropriate concert attire

The quality audience member...

- Listens with full attention without talking or whispering during performance
- Applauds politely when appropriate
- Exits or enters only between selections
- Refrains from using any handheld devices (*cell phone, tablet, etc.*)

The outstanding band student...

- Treats everyone with respect
- Attends rehearsals regularly and **puts phone away** when entering the room (*HS*)
- Is on time to rehearsals
- Participates fully in all aspects of rehearsals
- Limits "sitting out" during rehearsals due to illness. Follows rehearsal when it becomes necessary to sit out
- Limits talking during rehearsals
- Maintains music folder well and brings it to each rehearsal
- Has/uses pencil to mark music
- Strives to improve performance skills using techniques learned in rehearsal
(*scales, air support, articulation, intonation*)
- Strives to improve musical skills (*solfege, count singing, sight reading, understanding and applying musical terms and concepts*)
- Listens **attentively** during presentations, listening assignments, or video lessons
- Responds respectfully during student-led exercises and/or lessons
- Has excellent posture
- Knows their own part well
- Is aware of other parts as well as their own
- Is able to identify trouble spots in music
- Is willing to demonstrate both vocally and instrumentally

CURRICULUM OUTLINE

The band student will work to:

1. Play all major scales (*according to grade-level requirements*)
2. Improve timbre and tone quality (*using breath support, range, embouchure*)
3. Sight-read within current individual NYSSMA level
4. Perform parts alone and with contrasting parts.
5. Learn about composers and musical styles through singing, playing, listening, and research
6. Learn/improve basic musicianship, theory and listening skills through discussion, score study, singing, playing, and listening.
7. Learn about instrumental performance by playing, attending live performances, and listening to recordings of excellent bands and orchestras
8. Learn appropriate concert etiquette as a performer and as a member of the audience.
9. Learn to evaluate individual and group performances

GCS Band Sample Grading Form

Marking Period 1			Marking Period 2		
SKILL	WORTH	EARNED	SKILL	WORTH	EARNED
Rehearsal/Participation	40		Rehearsal/Participation	40	
Band Lessons	25		Band Lessons	25	
Music Test/Project	20		Winter Concert	20	
Scale Test	10		Winter Concert Eval.	10	
Involvement/Effort	5		Involvement/Effort	5	
Total Possible Points	100		Total Possible Points	100	
Extra Credit Items			Extra Credit Items		

Marking Period 3			Marking Period 4		
SKILL	WORTH	EARNED	SKILL	WORTH	EARNED
Rehearsal/Participation	40		Rehearsal/Participation	40	
Band Lessons	25		Band Lessons	25	
MIOSM Concert	20		Spring Concert	20	
Scale Test	10		Spring Concert Eval.	10	
Involvement/Effort	5		Involvement/Effort	5	
Total Possible Points	100		Total Possible Points	100	
Extra Credit Items			Extra Credit Items		