



Basha High School Bands



Colorguard Syllabus
1/2 Credit, Fall Semester
2011-12

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Course Description:

The marching band is a service organization to the students, school and community. Students will perform as musicians at athletic events, parades, assemblies and marching band festivals throughout the fall semester. Winds will meet outside of school time, percussion will meet during 7th hour, and colorguard will meet during 4th hour throughout the marching season. All rehearsals, extra sectionals, evening rehearsals, weekend rehearsals, fall break camps, evening performances and weekend festivals may be required for all students. Please consult the calendar on www.bashahighschoolband.com for the practice schedule. If the student successfully completes 3 semesters of marching band, one credit of PE will be waived. May be repeated for credit.

Diversity Statement:

All individuals have a right to an educational environment free from bias, prejudice and bigotry. As members of the Basha High School educational community, students are expected to refrain from participating in acts of harassment that are designed to demean another student's race, gender, ethnicity, religious preference, disability or sexual orientation.

Attendance Policy:

Band is an activity that requires commitment and planning. We plan rehearsals to minimize the time requirement and maximize the productivity of the band. **When any person is absent from a rehearsal, whether it be for legitimate reasons or not, it affects the group in many ways.** We will once again be implementing the "alternate" system, and sidelining students for excessive absences or tardies, or absences the week of a performance. Sidelining a student is at the discretion of the directors and staff. All circumstances will be taken into account when making this decision.

Class rehearsal will follow the school attendance policies, found in the Basha HS Student Handbook. After 10 absences, excused or unexcused, a student MAY BE dropped from the class and receive no credit. Tardies will result in a conference with the teacher. After five tardies, students will receive a written referral and the office administration will determine their consequence. Being tardy to a concert or extra-curricular event will result in a lowered grade for that event.

Extra-curricular rehearsals, concerts, gigs, trips and competitions are required and graded. Please check the band website calendar (www.bashahighschoolband.com) when scheduling work, vacation or other personal occasions. If you face a conflict, please let a director know IMMEDIATELY. You will then be asked to fill out an Excused Absence Form (found on the website). Your absence will be excused or unexcused. If the absence is excused, you will still have to make up the points by completing an assignment at the director's discretion. If the absence is unexcused, there will be no opportunity to make up the points missed. Please note that work is not an excusable absence. Excusable absences are for emergency situations (ie: weddings, funerals, or other family emergencies).

Sectionals will be scheduled by the director or a section leader. These rehearsals are required as well. If you are going to be absent from a sectional, notification to the band director is required for excusal.

Conference period will be on Wednesday and Thursday from 9:17 - 9:45. During this time students are only allowed out of the classroom if they have a pass. The library is not available during conference. Students should use this time to study, practice, or read. The band will also check out twenty passes for Wednesday and twenty passes for Thursday, which enable students to come to the band room to practice or have sectionals.

Classroom Policies and Procedures:

1. Absolutely NO food, drink or gum is allowed in the band room. Bottled water is ok. If the band office is open during lunch, you may eat lunch with the directors (otherwise you must go outside, not to the hallway). Lunch in the room, or any other rooms in the band hallway will no longer be allowed.
2. Students will not be permitted to wear hats during class.
3. Cell phones are not to be used during class or band performances. Phones will be temporarily confiscated. Cell phone use during a concert will result in a lowered concert grade.
4. Profanity, harassment or hazing of any type will not be permitted.
5. Be prepared for class and ready to play by two minutes after the final bell rings.
6. Do not touch or play with an instrument that is not assigned to you.
7. BE POSITIVE!!
8. No PDA (public displays of affection) will be allowed.
9. Lock your instruments and belongings. Unlocked items are subject to removal and assessed a \$1 per day storage fee. Keep your lockers clean.

Failure to abide by classroom policies will result in a conference with the director, a detention, and potentially a referral to the administration.

Grading Policy:

Basha High School has established a grading policy that will be followed for both semesters of this course:

1 st Quarter Grade	40%
2 nd Quarter Grade	40%
Final Exam	20%

The resulting percentage will be given a grade by the following structure:

A = 90 to 100
B = 80 to 89
C = 70 to 79
D = 60 to 69
F = 59 or lower

Within this structure, quarter grades will be broken down in the following percentages:

Participation	30%	- daily preparation and positive participation
Performance	40%	- performances and competitions
Playing Tests	30%	- performance evaluation (formal and informal)

If a student is unexcused absent from a class, there will be NO opportunity to make up missed points. If a student is excused absent, they may make up the work missed with no penalty. Late work will also be accepted for a lower grade.

Parents can access their child's grades and assignments by going to the school's website and clicking on Parent Connect. Students' information is only accessible by using an individualized password assigned by the school. Parents may contact office personnel/counselor for their child's password.

Marching Festivals:

The Marching Band will also participate in various Marching Festivals. Below is a list of possible and most likely festivals dates:

- September 17th – Marching Band Evaluation Show @ Higley HS
- September 24th – PAS Drumline Competition (drumline only); Location TBA
- October 1st – Gilbert Invitational @ Gilbert HS
- October 15th – Basha Marching Invitational
- October 22nd – ASU Band Day (WBA Show)
- November 5th – State Marching Band Festival
- November 12th – State Marching Competition
- November 18th through 20th – WBA Championships in Los Angeles, California

Financial Commitment:

To build the high standards of performance and educational quality expected, a tremendous amount of financial support is required.

- Budgeted expenses include out of state competition and tours, instructional staff, equipment, uniform maintenance, instrument purchase and any other band department needs to supplement the district allotted budget.

Late Fees ****NEW THIS YEAR****

The Boosters implement a \$25 late fee on all scheduled band payments. To avoid late fees one must:

1. Pay on time.
2. Contact the booster treasurer and arrange a reasonable time line to pay the fees.

Late fees are going to go directly into our scholarship fund to support students in need of financial assistance.

Below is a cost breakdown for this year:

Marching Band Show Costs	\$50
Instructor Fees	\$300
Snacks	\$25
Uniform Cleaning/Alteration	\$5
Festival Fees	\$20
Band Camp	\$25
Equipment Costs	\$125
California Trip	\$100
TOTAL	\$650.00

Additional payment will be required for purchase of shoes, gloves and other individual necessities.

Additional payment will be required for purchase of shoes, gloves, underarmour and other individual necessities.

All payments (whether tax credit, fund raising or personal donation) must be received by these deadlines:

<u>July 17th</u>	<u>\$100</u> (registration night)
<u>August 26th</u>	<u>\$275</u>
<u>September 30th</u>	<u>\$275</u>

A limited number of scholarship amounts may be available for students with specific financial needs who meet participation criteria being established by the Band Directors.

Parents/Guardians should address financial concerns directly with the band directors by July 17th. If for some reason you are unable to make an installment on time please contact Mr. Kozacek for alternate arrangements.

We are continuing with the policy of “No Pay, No Travel”. Any students who have not paid, nor had their parents make contact with the booster treasurer regarding an alternate payment plan, will not be allowed to travel with the band and their spot will be filled by an alternate.

Uniforms:

Students will be assigned a uniform jacket, pants and shako. Plumes will be distributed before performance. Any damages to any part of the uniform are the sole financial responsibility of the student the uniform is assigned to. Students will also need to purchase black socks, Viper marching shoes, and black sure-grip gloves to accompany their uniform.

Marching Band Expectations:

1. Rehearsals must be run efficiently. Direction will come from “the box”, field staff, or drum majors only.
2. The Dr. Beat signals the end of instruction and beginning of the next rep.
3. Anyone talking excessively or acting inappropriately, including disrespectful behavior towards staff, leadership or other students, will be asked to leave the rehearsal and dealt with sternly.
4. Students must have dot books with them at every rehearsal! You will be asked to continuously check your dots and ensure that you are in the correct spot. Without your dot book, you are holding up the rehearsal process and will be asked to leave.
5. HUSTLE! Saving 15 seconds between reps adds up to hours of rehearsal gained.
6. In the stands, you are expected to be positive and enthusiastic for the Basha football team. They feed off of your energy! Students who are unwilling to cooperate with our enthusiasm as a band will be asked to leave.
7. Ask a director or staff member before leaving the stands for any reason.
8. In some cases, you will be given a break during 3rd quarter, but be prepared to perform the entire game.
9. Students may not leave games or events early without the consent of a parent. There are special forms available that parents must fill out to release them from the liability of Basha HS and the band program.
10. All members are expected to maintain academic requirements. Any member who is unable to meet school academic standards is unable to perform and must attend school-sanctioned tutoring.
11. All students are expected to constantly represent the Bear Regiment and Basha High School in a positive manner. This includes but is not limited to: no swearing or inappropriate language, **no disrespect** (internally and externally), no noisy and rude behavior, no defilement of the uniform or running in uniform, etc.
12. All students are expected to dedicate time outside of school to master material and practice.
13. Negativity is unworthy of the band. All students are expected to maintain a positive attitude during any band-related event or rehearsal.
14. The primary goal of the band program is to develop students into good, positive contributing people. Students will be expected to learn personality traits and communication skills that will be utilized for the rest of their life.
15. We live in Arizona. Bring jugs of water for hydration purposes. Students should be drinking a gallon on the days of rehearsals or performance.
16. Worry about oneself. Do not worry about the people around you. Encourage them, do not correct them. Everyone is trying.

Colorguard Specific Expectations:

- Students should wear form-fitting clothing that is easy to dance in. No jeans or jean material. Yoga pants or leggings are the best, but please make sure that they don't fall over the feet (this is dangerous and it is difficult to see whether feet are pointed or not).
- Students should avoid wearing baggy shirts and sweatshirts as they can get tangled in equipment. School dress code does apply.
- For Monday evening rehearsals with the band, please wear a white shirt to rehearsal. This is for the benefit of the students learning how to guide off each other, as well as, helping the instructors to see the big picture.
- For Thursday after school rehearsals, please wear your section shirt.
- No jewelry should be worn during rehearsal (stud earrings are acceptable).
- Students with long hair should have it pulled back in a ponytail or something comparable. Students with shorter hair should clip back any pieces so that they do not hang in the face. It is important in the learning process that the students be able to see and don't have to waste time fussing with unruly hair.

Lockers:

Students may use a school instrument locker using a school lock. Items stored in lockers are limited to only the items needed for the band class. All items left in lockers after the school year will be discarded or sent to Goodwill. Students will be given a school lock and combination. It is their responsibility to keep these. Lost locks will be charged to the student at \$5 per lock. Students who forget their combination are subject to a \$.50 fee to get their combination retrieved.

Charms Music:

Students and Parents will be able to easily access their students band information through the Charms Music system. Accessing Charms is simple:

1. Go to www.bashahighschoolband.com
2. Click on Access Your Band Account
3. Enter the students school ID number as the password

Charms contains a lot of useful information for parents to access, including documents, handouts, student account balances, and many more features. Please plan to fully utilize this wonderful program.

Physical Fitness Component:

While we have always had a physical fitness component, we are going to be implementing a system to measure progress and insure that all students are on the right track in their own personal health goals. The last thing that we want is for any of our students to get hurt or be unable to participate in our activity. Poor fitness is also a very big factor in bad foot timing. Students get tired and their technique and timing go out the window.

We will have "Minimum Fitness Standards" and if students are unable to pass the standards, they will be on an improvement plan to continue working towards the "Minimum Fitness Standards".

These standards are:

20 pushups in 1 minute

25 situps in 1 minute

200 yard run in 46 seconds or less

1 mile in under 11 minutes

Most students will be able to do these requirements even with no prior training.

Syllabus Approval and Contact Information Sheet

I have read the course requirements and expectations listed in the attached syllabus. By signing, I acknowledge that I have received all rules and consequences, as well as grading procedures and class requirements.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

COLOR GUARD

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____ ID#: _____