



Basha High School Bands

Marching Band Syllabus

1/2 Credit, 1st Semester

2009-10

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Caption Heads:

Percussion: Jimmy Madonia

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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 during zero hour, percussion will meet during 6th hour, and colorguard will meet during 4th hour throughout the marching season. Morning 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. Students who are tardy will be required to attend detention after school with the director. 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 Thursday and Friday 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 or read.

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.

Marching Festivals:

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

- September 26th – PAS Drumline Competition (drumline only)
- October 3rd – Prescott Marching Festival
- October 17th – Basha Marching Invitational
- October 24th – ASU Band Day
- November 7th – State Marching Band Festival
- November 14th – State Marching Competition

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.

Below is a cost breakdown for this year:

Marching Band Show Costs	\$50
Instructor Fees	\$100
Snacks/BBQ/Meals	\$50
Uniform Cleaning/Alteration	\$10
Band T-Shirt	\$10
Festival Fees	\$30
Band Camp	\$100
Equipment Costs	\$100
TOTAL	\$450.00

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

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

<u>June 1st</u>	<u>\$150 (band camp)</u>
<u>July 25th</u>	<u>\$300</u>

It is important to take full advantage of the Arizona Tax Credit Program. All taxpayers can donate up to \$400 joint or \$200 individually to the band program, all of which is refundable when state taxes are filed the following year. Essentially, the government is paying your band fees if you loan the money. Tax credit forms must be turned into a director for your student to get credit, or you can donate online and send a copy of your receipt to the band directors. Please do not hesitate to utilize this program. We have had students raise \$1200 in two weeks by asking friends and relatives to help them with their fees.

The boosters also offer numerous fundraising activities for students to raise money. Visit the website at www.bashahighschoolband.com or better yet, attend the booster meetings to find out more information on what kind of fundraising activities are available.

A limited amount of scholarship is available, as well as time extension and personal payment plans. Please contact a director for more information.

We have begun a new policy of “No Pay, No Travel”. Any students who have not paid, nor had their parents make contact with a director 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.

Instruments:

Basha High School has some instruments, which are rented to students upon director approval. These instruments are primarily percussion and the more expensive instruments. School instruments are rented for a \$30 usage fee. This fee is not refundable. The fee is used to help defer maintenance costs on the instruments. The student will still need to provide the necessary equipment needs (i.e. reeds, swabs, etc.) for their instrument. School instruments that are damaged or lost will be the sole financial responsibility of the student and parent. Please check with the band director for availability.

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. Lockers are for instrument and music only, not for clothes or food. 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.

Smartmusic:

Students will also most likely be utilizing Smartmusic, a program that allows students to practice along with accompaniment and record their progress. The program is downloadable for a \$30/year fee. It is not required for students to have this program, as it will be available at school for use, but it is strongly recommended.

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 _____

MARCHING BAND

Student Name: _____ *Grade:* _____

ID#: _____