



Content Area: Music

Grade Level: 8

Course Name: Band 8

### Course Description:

Band 8 is an elective course at Shaker Middle School. The class meets every other day for the full year, during the school day. Chorus meets on the opposite day; students are encouraged to enroll in both Band and Chorus as the two complement each other. Band, Chorus, and Orchestra perform in two school concerts per year and may have other performance opportunities. In addition, students in these performing groups are the only ones eligible to audition for Jazz Ensemble, Select Band, Treble Makers (soprano/alto), Syncopella (tenor/bass), Select Chorus, and Scherzo.

Band students will have a required small-group lesson once each week. Private lessons, while encouraged, are not substituted for in-school lessons at the middle school. Lessons rotate through the day so that no student should be excused from the same class more than once in each four weeks of school. Students must already play a band instrument to enroll in the 8th grade Band.

Skills	Description
Wind Instrument Skills	Students who play wind instruments in the Band program (flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone, trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium/baritone, tuba) will continue to develop skills in the areas of breathing, posture, tone production and tone quality, articulation, rhythm and note reading, pulse, balance, blend, fingerings, hand position, and transposition from concert pitch as needed.

Skills	Description
Percussion Skills	Students who play percussion instruments will continue to develop skills on a wider variety of percussion instruments. Specific to the snare drum will build on their abilities in playing position and posture, grip, sticking, NYSSMA rudiments up to level 2, mallet technique, timpani pedal technique, rolls, and various skills related to certain percussion instruments (i.e., triangle, drum set, etc.).
Ensemble Skills	Students enrolled in 8th grade Band will be in their fifth year of experience playing within a large ensemble. They will continue to develop skills in listening, entrances and releases, balance, blend, intonation, expression, articulation, pulse, phrasing, and independent playing. Their use of musical vocabulary will continue to grow. A larger variety of key signatures and tonalities, and a foundational understanding of compositional form and devices will be explored.

NYS Standard	Links
NYS Standards for the Arts, Traditional and Emerging Ensembles Strand	<a href="http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/curriculum-instruction/nys-music-at-a-glance-final-8.2.2017-high-res-v2.pdf">http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/curriculum-instruction/nys-music-at-a-glance-final-8.2.2017-high-res-v2.pdf</a>