



# ADVANCED BAND SYLLABUS

(Honor and Symphonic)  
2024-2025



## Goals for the Year....

The Voss MS Eagle Advanced Bands aspire to exhibit excellence in music performance that is expected by the staff, parents, community, and band director. Students will be made aware of expectations and high standards placed on them as Advanced Eagle Band members. They will be motivated to set attainable goals as musicians and will be encouraged to continually evaluate their progress. Eagle Band Members will strive to rank high at all competitions and will enjoy performing challenging yet exciting music throughout the school year.

## Materials:

In addition to the normal materials used for playing and care of your instrument, students will be required to have the following items:

- HONOR BAND: Foundations for Superior Performance book
- SYMPHONIC BAND: Essential Elements Band Book 2
- 1 Black 1" Binder for music
- Sheet protectors (at least 15)
- Pencil
- Metronome and Tuner App for a device or metronome and tuner from a music store. The Tonal Energy App is recommended (\$3.99) but many free apps are available to choose from.

## Classroom Expectations:

- Follow all Voss procedures and classroom behavior expectations!
- Students must be in the band hall by the tardy bell to avoid being marked tardy.
- Students will respect the property of others by not tampering or playing with another person's instrument, music, or band locker during or outside of class, including music stands and percussion equipment.
- Instruments must be kept in playing condition. Repairs need to be taken care of within two weeks.
- While in the band hall, students will keep their mouths free of gum, candy, and food.
- Students will play or talk when they are asked to do so.

Due to the large number of students involved in a band classroom, it is necessary for all students to obey the rules at all times. Our goals are that each individual becomes a better player and that the whole band becomes a better band. An infraction of any of the above stated rules will keep us from reaching our goals and will result in step one of the VMS discipline consequences. Another infraction of any of the rules will result in step two of the VMS discipline consequences and so on.

## **BISD Grading Policy:**

Grades for Fine Arts students should be determined with regard to mastery of the TEKS for the particular course including performance. While performance is not the only component considered during assessment/ evaluation, it is a legitimate part of the assessment. If a performance is the culminating activity based on implementation of the TEKS, a grade may be given for participation or non-participation. Extenuating circumstances shall be considered when a student misses a performance.

## **Grades:**

### Minor Grades- 50%:

- Weekly Participation Grade- Students must have all necessary materials to properly participate in class. Each week the student begins with a Participation grade of 100. During that week, 20 points will be deducted each time that the student does one of the following:
  - Does not have instrument in class
  - Does not have supplies (music/ pencil/ etc.)
  - Repeatedly leaves music binder or instrument
- Theory Assignments and Counting Worksheets
- Sectional Rehearsals- All Honor band students are required to attend 1 after school session. Students may choose the day and are allowed to change days week to week. Most playing Tests will be done after school during after sectionals.

### Major Grades- 50%

- Playing Tests are given throughout the year.
- Concerts- Students are required to participate in all concerts. Performances are a major part of a student's grade. Band concerts are school related activities and take priority over non-school related activities.

## **Concerts:**

Advanced Band students will perform at least three concerts- Fall, Winter, and Spring. Advanced band members will also participate in pep rallies, Veteran's Day performance, and other school events. Band members will also participate in two contests- the Solo contest and UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest. Concerts usually start at 6:30pm and are finished around 7:30pm.

## **Concert Attire**

### **Informal Performances-**

- Jeans
- Previous years Band polo or t-shirt. Students have the option of purchasing the newly designed band shirt or can wear their current shirt or polo.

### **Formal Concerts-**

- **Boys:** Nice black dress pants, nice black dress shoes, black long-sleeved button up shirt, black belt
- **Girls:** Nice black dress pants, nice black dress shoes, nice black dressy top (short or long-sleeved)
- No denim, athletic shoes, or athletic pants

## **School and Personal Instrument Care**

Students who have the privilege of using a school instrument are responsible for the general maintenance of their individual instrument. If the instrument is damaged while in your care, it is the financial responsibility of the family to have the instrument repaired, within two weeks, by a qualified musical instrument repair person.

All students using a school instrument will be responsible for a \$80 (per instrument) Rental fee. The fee will be collected at the beginning of the school year. Additional repair costs may be incurred if the student causes damage to the instrument aside from normal use. At the end of the school year, students will be responsible for a cleaning and dent fee.

## **Socials/ Field Trips**

Band students have the opportunity to participate in many social band events throughout the school year. To ensure an enjoyable time for all participants, students must be trustworthy and demonstrate good behavior. Any band student that is disruptive in band and requires a band director to contact a parent regarding behavior issues will lose the opportunity to attend a social or field trip during that particular semester. Any band students that receives ISS from another teacher or administrator risks losing the opportunity to participate during that particular semester.

*Here's to the start of a very exciting school year!*

*Alicia Perkins*

*Tivo Tristan*

