



6th Grade Band Syllabus



Course Description

6th Grade band is the 1st year of band instruction at Shelburne. It is a place where students get to have fun while further honing their skills on their instruments. We will showcase our skills for the community with a variety of concerts. We will learn responsibility through routines and a rigorous assessment schedule. We will practice good rehearsal techniques and concert etiquette and be a beacon of good character for our school!

2024-2025 Performance Schedule

Please note that concerts in **BOLD** are required and part of the class grade. Also, if more than one band is playing on a concert, students must stay to the end of the concert.

Date	Time	Who?	Event	Location
Sun., Dec. 8 th	5:00 pm	6th Grade Band	Winter Concert	Staunton HS
Wed, Dec. 11 th	5:30 pm	6 th /7 th /8 th Grade Bands	Winter Concert Snow Date	Staunton HS
March TBD	Field Trip	6th Grade Band	5 th Grade Performance (during the school day)	Shelburne MS
Sun., April 27 th	5:00 pm	6th Grade Band	Spring Concert	Staunton HS
Sunday, May 4 th	Afternoon	All SCS Bands & Choirs	Party in the Park!	Gypsy Hill Park Rain: Staunton HS

Concert Attendance Policy

Performing for people is the reason the band exists! **Attendance at required concerts is mandatory** and a large portion of the class grade (see syllabus for grade breakdown.) Please note that during the 7th/8th grade band concerts, students must stay for the entire concert. Absence will only be excused for the same reasons that SCS excuses absences from school. If you think that you will be absent, please contact the directors as soon as possible! If the absence is excused, a makeup assignment will be given; if the absence is unexcused, no makeup assignment will be provided.

Course Platforms

Google Classroom – Each student will be invited through email, Parents and Guardians will be invited to sign up for weekly reports of materials and student participation. *All assignments and resources for the year will be posted on Google Classroom.*

6th Block Class Code: **wmq2zds**

7th Block Class Code: **ei4ckw2**

Parent and Student Portal - Grades can be checked using our parent portal located at <https://scps.powerschool.com/public/home.html>. You can pick up your login information from the front office.

Parent/Guardian Role

There are many things that parents can do to further their child's success in the band. The biggest one is to keep encouraging the student. Playing an instrument can be very frustrating at times, but with hard work and persistence, success can be achieved, and the rewards are plentiful! Just remember that every great player on the planet sounded like a beginning band student at one time.

Parents/Guardians can also help by encouraging students to practice and perform outside of school. Have them give a short recital for grandparents or other relatives or encourage them to play for their religious services.

Approved Volunteers

We will need help at times throughout the school year (setting up for concerts, chaperoning field trips, transporting equipment...). If you think you will be willing to assist, please consider becoming a Staunton City Schools Approved Volunteer. This process only takes two forms a few minutes; search for the *Volunteer Agreement Application* and *Student Privacy Statement* on the Staunton City Schools Website. Mrs. Greer-Young can provide copies of these forms on request if you wish.

Staunton City Schools "Approved Volunteer" status lasts for one school year, and applies to *all* SCPS activities (athletics, fine arts, PTA events...).

Materials

Instrument & Equipment – A checklist of instrument-specific requirements is posted on Google Classroom. These materials should be acquired *before the start of the school year!* Two local music stores that we work with are listed below.

Shen Valley Band

144 N Liberty St, Harrisonburg, VA 22802
(540) 434-8546
svband@verizon.net
<https://www.shenvalleyband.com/>

Music & Arts (Through Heifetz Institute)

107 E Beverley St, Staunton, VA 24401
<https://www.musicarts.com/>
Gregory.Brown@musicarts.com

Instrument Repair – If you own your instrument, we recommend sending it to Shen-Valley for repair. You can either take the instrument to their Harrisonburg store for repair or students can leave it in the repair box in the Band Room and Shen-Valley will pick it up on Tuesdays.

If you rent your instrument through Shen-Valley, you can either take it to their Harrisonburg store for repair or they can leave it in the repair box in the Shelburne band room and Shen-Valley will pick it up on Tuesdays.

If you rent your instrument through Music and Arts, they can pick up by request at Shelburne or you can take it to the Heifetz storefront on Beverly street.

Note: Shen-Valley is very fast (most repairs take a week) however it should be noted that due to the volume of repairs that they do, they can't call every single person that sends in an instrument before they repair it. Their policy is that if you send them an instrument and the repair is less than 50 dollars, they will go ahead and do it, then bill you for it. If the repair is more than 50 dollars, they will call you before doing anything.

SOLs and Course Objectives

6th Grade Band course objectives will be based on the 2020 revisions of the VA Instrumental Music Standards. Core tenants of the curriculum will be:

- Creative Process (MIB.1 & MIB.2)
- Critical Thinking and Communication (MIB.3, MIB.4, and MIB.5)
- History, Culture, and Citizenship (MIB.6, MIB.7, and MIB.8)
- Innovation in the Arts (MIB.9, MIB.10, MIB.11)
- Technique and Application (MIB.12, MIB.13, MIB.14, MIB.15, & MIB.16)

Grading Requirements

Grade Breakdown

34% Classwork & Daily Class Grade

33% Assessments

33% Concert Attendance

Classwork & Daily Class Grade

Band is a team activity; we succeed as a group, not as individuals. As such, students' full participation in every activity in rehearsals is critical to the success of the group. Students will receive a 10-point **Daily Class Grade** for participation in rehearsal (5 points), having all required materials (3 points), and being ready on time (2 points). Additionally, any activities we complete in class will fall in the **Classwork** category.

Assessments

All assessments are opportunities for students to demonstrate mastery of a targeted skill, and will take different forms depending on the skill being assessed. One assessment may be recording a video of playing something specific, or a written or digital test, or playing in person during class. Students are allowed to retake assessments as many times as they want before the grading period is over. We want every student to have the chance to get better. However, if a student doesn't practice the material and asks to retake it, we will tell them they cannot try again until they spend time practicing it.

Concert Attendance

6th Grade Band Students have two required performances: the Winter Concert and Spring Concert. Please reference the calendar on page 1 for specific dates, times, and locations. Absence will only be excused for the same reasons that SCS excuses absences from school. If you think that you will be absent, please contact the directors as soon as possible! If the absence is excused, a makeup assignment will be given. If the absence is unexcused, no makeup assignment will be provided.

Homework

Specific homework will not be assigned, however students are expected to practice at home to prepare for their playing tests and upcoming performances. It is recommended that students practice playing in front of their family to prepare for the "nervous feeling" that typically comes with a playing test!

Class Procedure

Class Procedure

1. Get your Instrument + Binder then go to your seat
2. Assemble your instrument.
3. When the timer is zero, stand up with your instrument laying in your chair. Clarinet, Sax, and Double Reed players must have their reeds on the instrument by this time. If you're not done assembling your instrument, you will be marked tardy!

Assessment Calendar



6th Grade Pass-Offs 2024-2025



Passed?	What?	When?	How?	
	<u>Flashcard Quiz</u> First 5 notes, Basic Notation	August	Written	1 st 9 Weeks
	<u>Intro to Notation Quiz</u> Basic notation	August	Written	
	<u>Flashcard Race</u> Identify notes under 30 seconds	August	Class	
	<u>MOS 1.1</u> Snare: 1.2	September	Class	
	<u>First 5 Notes & Assembly</u>	September	Class	
	<u>MOS 1.26</u> Percussion: Snare & Mallets	Sept./Oct.	Recorded	

Passed?	What?	When?	How?	
	<u>Piano & Notation Quiz</u> Identifying enharmonic names	January	Written	3 rd 9 Weeks
	<u>Scale Test 2</u> WWs & Perc: Scale 3 Brass: Scale 2 Snare: Paradiddle, Flam	January	Recorded	
	<u>Scale Test 3</u> WWs & Perc: Scale 4 Brass: Scale 1 Snare: Flamtap	February	Recorded	
	<u>Technique Test 1</u> Brass: Trampoline 2 Clarinets/Saxes: Pops Flute/Percussion: Octave Slurs Snare: Buzz Roll	February	Class	

	<u>MOS 2.1</u> Percussion: Mallet & Bass Drum	October	Recorded	2 nd 9 Weeks
	<u>Rhythm Quiz</u> Writing Counts	November	Written	
	<u>Scale Test 1</u> WWs & Perc: Scale 1 Brass: Scale 4 Snare: 5 Stroke & 9 Stroke Roll	December	Recorded	
	<u>Note Naming Test</u> Low Range Mad Minute	December	Written	

	<u>Scale Test 4</u> WWs & Perc: Scale 2 Brass: Scale 3 Snare: Ruff	March	Class	4 th 9 Weeks
	<u>Scale Test 5</u> WWs & Perc: High Scale 3 Brass: Scale 5 Snare: Lesson 25	March	Class	
	<u>Chromatic Scale Test</u> Chromatic Study 3	April	Class	
	<u>Technique Test 2</u> WWs & Perc: Scale 6 Brass: Trampoline 3 Snare: Double Stroke & Buzz Roll	May	Class	

6th Grade Band Syllabus Signature Page

I understand the following things.

1. My student is required to attend the following 2 concerts, and the dates are written in my calendar:
 - a. **Sunday, December 8th at 5:00pm** – Winter Concert
 - b. **Sunday, April 27th at 5:00pm** – Spring Concert

2. Concert Dress is as follows:
 - a. Black dress shirt (short or long-sleeved)
 - b. Black dress pants (NOT black jeans, jeggings, spandex, or capris)
 - c. Black Shoes and Crew Socks
 - d. Calf-length Black skirts/dresses (must cover knees when seated)

Student _____

Parent/Guardian _____