

Valley Regional High School

Concert Band Syllabus 2019–2020

Course Description

Emphasis is placed on development of technical facility and musicianship through large and small ensemble experience. Various styles of band and chamber literature will be studied and performed. Participation carries with it the responsibility of attendance at rehearsals, pep band performances, concerts outside the school day, as well as individual practice. Performances include concerts, parades, home football games, adjudication festivals, performances throughout the district, and graduation. Band members are eligible for participation in CMEA Southern Region, New England Music Festival, CMEA All-State Festivals, and may audition for the VRHS Jazz Band.

FLEX

Students will attend FLEX at various times throughout the semester in order to work in small sectionals, receive more individualized feedback, and to prepare for upcoming performances. Mr. Lam will give at least 2 weeks advance notice for when students/specific instrument groups need to attend FLEX. These FLEX rehearsals are mandatory and will count towards a student's grade.

Cell Phone Policy

Please read the Region #4 School District's policy on cell phone usage. All teachers have been instructed to strictly enforce the policy in order to create a safe, focused classroom environment.

Website and Calendar

Please visit www.vrhsband.weebly.com for the calendar and other important information.

Google Classroom

Concert Band Code: pj4z6hj

Concert Band Alternate Code: z7i7p9v

Remind

You can receive messages from Remind through text messages or as a push notification through the app.

→ Text the number 81010 + class code

◆ @vrband

◆ @vrjazz

◆ @vrperc

Percussion Ensemble and Jazz Band

All concert band percussionists **are required** to perform in Percussion Ensemble. Jazz Band is an elective ensemble but once students are committed to the jazz band, they are required to attend all rehearsals and performances. Both ensembles will perform at the Winter and Spring and Heritage Music Festival Concerts.

→ Percussion Ensemble rehearses during flex 1 on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

→ Jazz Band rehearses on Mondays from 5:30 – 7:00 PM.

Performance Attire

Pep Band

- VR Band t-shirt (students purchase shirt) and assigned warm up band jacket

Memorial Day Parade

- VR Band t-shirt (tucked in), khaki pants (no cargo/shorts) and sneakers

Concert Attire

- Men – Black dress shirt (no t-shirts), black dress pants (no jeans), black shoes and socks
- Women – Black dress shirt (no t-shirts), black dress pants (no jeans), black shoes and socks OR appropriate length black dress.

Attendance Policy

Students must attend all performances listed below. Unexcused absences from any of the above events will receive a zero as an assignment grade. Excused absence notice (email, phone or letter) must be received at least 1 week prior to the event with the exception of the Winter and Spring Concert. An alternative assignment will be assigned if a student misses a concert performance. Please see Mr. Lam if you have any questions.

Pep Band

All students are required to perform at varsity home football games with the Pep Band. Mr. Adam Twombly is the director and questions can be mailed to atwombly@reg4.k12.ct.us.

- Friday, September 13 vs. Morgan
- Friday, October 11 vs. Coventry/Windham
- Friday, November 15 vs. Old Saybrook/Westbrook
- Thursday, November 21 vs. Gilbert/Northwest

Concerts/Performances

- Winter: Wednesday, December 4
- Band Day: Wednesday, April 1
- Spring: Wednesday, May 13
- Memorial Day Parade: Monday, May 25 (Deep River)
- Graduation: Wednesday, June 17

Six Flags – Friday, May 1, 2020

The VRHS Concert Band will be traveling to Six Flags New England to perform in the Music in the Parks Music Festival. This adjudicated music festival will give students an opportunity to perform for professional musicians and receive feedback on their performance. Afterwards, students will enjoy the rest of the day in the park. Estimated cost \$80.