

2009-2010 IRONDEQUOIT HIGH SCHOOL WIND ENSEMBLE SYLLABUS

Mr. Stephen Beamish (336-2948)

Mr. Casey Springstead (336-3068, www.westirondequoit.org/dake/Springstead)

Rehearsal Procedures

Wind Ensemble is scheduled from 8:53 to 9:35 every day (2nd period). All students are expected to be seated and ready to play by 8:55. Each student should bring his/her instrument, music, supplies appropriate for the instrument, and a pencil.

Concert Schedule

Every student will be given a performance schedule for the entire school year. For each required event, students will receive a detailed information sheet at least one week prior. All performances require the students' attendance, so every effort should be made to work out any conflicts well in advance. Students may not miss a concert except for an emergency. In the event of such an absence, a make-up assignment will be given at the instructors' discretion.

Concert Attire

It is important that the audience's focus be on the ensemble's performance rather than on an individual's unique attire. As a result, specific concert dress is required. The concert dress for all concerts is as follows:

GENTLEMEN: White, long-sleeved, collared shirt (regular or wing collar)
 Black bow tie (no long neckties; bow tie is provided)
 Black dress pants; NO JEANS, PLEASE
 Black socks
 Black dress shoes; NO SNEAKERS, PLEASE

LADIES: White shirt with long sleeves
 Black, ankle-length skirt; NO PANTS, PLEASE
 Black shoes or sandals; NO FLIP-FLOPS, PLEASE

Sectionals

Sectionals are required of every student in the band program. Students will be excused from a regularly scheduled class once per cycle. All students are allowed 1-2 excused absences from sectionals, depending on the length of the quarter (students who study privately are allowed one additional excused absence). In the event that a student misses a regularly scheduled sectional, a make-up sectional must be completed before the end of the marking period. Students cannot make-up more than one sectional per week.

Curriculum

The Wind Ensemble curriculum is based upon the New York State and National Standards for Music. Although it is primarily a performance class, attention may also be given to the following areas: solo literature, multicultural literature, chamber ensembles, music theory and analysis, composition, history, and listening exercises.

Grading

Grades are based on the following areas:

- 25% Sectional preparation and attendance
- 25% Rehearsal preparation and attendance
- 25% Concert performance and attendance
- 25% Performance and written exams

Extra-credit may be earned by participation in solo festival, All-County, Area All-State, Conference All-State, concert attendance/reviews, or any other pre-approved outside activity.

Seating

Seating auditions will be administered in September, and may be scheduled for the second semester at the discretion of the directors. Each student will be given a section of band music to prepare; he/she will perform this part for the sectional instructor who will evaluate him/her with a performance rubric. The auditions may also be recorded for later reference. Seating will be based SOLELY on this audition and there will be no rotation of parts (percussion will see some rotation). Seniority will be considered only in the event of a tie.

Behavior

All students are expected to adhere to the same principals of behavior required of all students in the high school. Additionally, students will remain quiet when not playing in rehearsals so that instructions can be given to those who are.

Loaned School Instruments

Those students using school owned instruments must complete a yearly student information contract. All instruments should be kept in good working order throughout the school year and returned in the condition in which they were initially loaned. Students will not be required to pay any rental fee.

Supplies are available from the following vendors:

Music and Arts 586-2766 **Atlas** 671-2020 **House of Guitars** 544-3500

Final Thoughts...

This band is for musicians who are diligent, disciplined, and capable of focused practice and improvement. This is *not* an ensemble for students who simply want to earn a credit, socialize, or have ever thought, "I won't practice that because it's too hard." You will be expected to prepare your parts to the absolute best of your ability, and you should be prepared to make measurable contributions at every rehearsal. Every part is crucial in the advanced music we perform, so membership in this ensemble will require a significant time commitment on your part toward regular practice and mastery of the repertoire. The standards are very high, but the musical rewards are many. We look forward to an exciting year of making great music with you!