

**AMS Band Syllabus  
2007-2008  
Mrs. Rogers and Mr. Edwards**

**Course Descriptions**

**6th Grade-** The 6th grade band will begin the year reviewing musical notation, rhythms, and music theory. We will be getting our instruments in late August. At that time we will be learning how to properly take care of and play them. They will display their progress at the Winter Concert and will continue to work in their books for the remainder of the year.

Colminating in a Spring Concert performance.

**7th Grade-** The 7th grade students will continue working in their Essential Elements books. We should finish them by October, at that time they will need the Essential Elements Book 2. The 7th grade also works towards two major performances, the Winter Concert and the Spring Concert.

**8th Grade-** The 8<sup>th</sup> grade band will work on the Essential Technique book this year, a letter will go home soon about when they need that book by. The 8th grade band is involved in many activities. We march in several local parades throughout the year, play at AMS basketball games and assemblies and will perform with the AHS marching band at band night. We will also play at the concert band festival at Worlds of Fun (in either April or May). The 8th grade band also performs at the Winter concert and the Spring concerts.

**Classroom Expectations**

Students are expected to Respect each other and their surrounding while participating in the AMS Bands. Students will also be Responsible for having their instrument, band book, music, pencil, paper, binder and reading book in class at all times. Students are also Responsible for having all items needed for playing their instrument correctly (i.e. reeds, oil, cleaning supplies).

**Grading Procedures**

Performances & Playing Tests	85%
Practice Cards and Participation	15%

(classwork will be factored into this category)

**Extra Credit**

Students are encouraged to attend other music group performances. Students can receive extra credit for attending band and choral performances or musicals. Students must bring a program from the performance to earn credit.

**Playing Tests**

All band students will perform playing tests throughout the year. These playing tests will be lines selected from their books, that they will be asked to practice at home and then play for a grade. These tests will also be used for chair placement within the band. They will have approximately one test per week. To pass a book, students will be asked to play a series of tests reflecting the skills they have acquired from the particular book they are passing. Playing tests are worth 25 point each.

### **Practice Cards**

Students must turn in practice cards on **FRIDAY** of every week. Their practice logs will be part of a band folder that students will receive at the beginning of the year. Students will turn their folders in every Friday and will receive a grade for their practice time. The practice log must be **SIGNED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN** before a grade will be given. Students are required to practice a minimum of 180 minutes per week. They will receive one point for each minute practiced with a 180 points possible each week. Any minutes exceeding 180 will be considered extra credit. Students must turn their practice time in on the practice log they are given. Other pieces of paper or notes will not be accepted

### **Late Practice Cards**

Student will lose 5 points for each day that their practice card is late. It is important that students turn their practice cards in on time to avoid losing points.

### **Performances**

Student attendance at all performances is mandatory. Each performance is worth 100 points. Family emergencies or illness are the **ONLY** excuses that will be accepted. If one of these situations is to occur, we need to be contacted as soon as possible. Students missing a performance for the above mentioned reasons only, will be allowed to make up the points missed from the performance. These situations will be addressed as they arise.

### **Concert Dress**

8<sup>th</sup> grade: The Cadet Band will be required to wear their band polo shirt, black pants, and black shoes. (their marching band uniform) for all performances.

6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Bands: The other band students are required to “dress their best” for our concert performances. Girls should wear a dress, skirt or dress pants and boys should wear dress slacks with a dress shirt (a collared button down shirt for example). Denim jeans and tennis shoes are not acceptable concert attire. Please make sure your child has the appropriate concert dress for our winter and spring concerts.

\*\*\*Remember that students are expected to follow the AMS Dress Code Policy at all times, please see the policy in the student handbook for more details.\*\*\*

### **When to reach us**

You can contact either band director by calling the school at 367-5363. The best time to reach us is before or after school. You can also contact us through e-mail at [jpayne@usd409.net](mailto:jpayne@usd409.net) or [aedwards@usd409.net](mailto:aedwards@usd409.net)

### **Dates of Importance**

<b>Instrument Rental Show for 6th grade</b>	<b>August 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00 am-1:00 pm</b>
<b>Winter Concert</b>	<b>December 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>
<b>Spring Concert</b>	<b>May 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>

Students need to return this commitment contract, signed by a parent or guardian, by August 25<sup>th</sup>. Please retain the rest of the syllabus for your reference throughout the year.

**Commitment Contract**

I have read and understand the AMS Bands syllabus and will do my best to represent AMS in a positive way. I understand that my attendance at all performances is mandatory and missing these performances will result in a lowering of my grade.

\_\_\_\_\_  
student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

I have reviewed the band syllabus with my child and understand the procedures and expectations of the AMS bands. I will do my best to help my student in meeting these expectations.

\_\_\_\_\_  
parent/guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

**8TH GRADE PARENTS**

Anyone who would be interested in helping out with the 8th grade band activities this year, please sign below. Your help would be greatly appreciated!!

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
email (if available)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone