

REYNOLDS SECONDARY SCHOOL BAND PROGRAM

Band 11/12 Course Outline

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Reynolds Secondary School wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

Welcome to the Reynolds Secondary School Music Department and year 59 of the Reynolds Band Program! The music family at Reynolds is a large and vibrant community that is filled with opportunities for learning, performance, teamwork, and travel. We continue to dedicate ourselves to quality musical performance and sharing positive, lifelong experiences.

With the school year now underway, a special welcome is extended to those Band members and their parents who are new to Reynolds or new to the Band Program. As always, a warm “welcome back” goes out to returning students and parents. With your support we are off to a great start.

Thank you!

Jamie Davis
Director of Bands

PHILOSOPHY

The goal of the Reynolds Band Program is for students to develop a lasting appreciation for the value of music in their lives. Students are challenged to become the most proficient musician and performer that they are personally capable of. Through rehearsal and performance practices, we strive to develop a sense of self-confidence, self-discipline, motivation, and an inner drive for EXCELLENCE in EVERYTHING we do.

Through their social relationships within the band, students will develop lifelong memories and friendships that are bonded by the challenges they will face and overcome together. Above all, we hope students can view their time with the Reynolds Band and Reynolds Music Department as an experience that had a positive effect on their lives for years to come.

SCHEDULING

Band 11/12 is a combined linear (all year) course offered in B-Block on Tuesday, Thursday, and alternating Fridays. It is backed with senior English offerings.

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REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

It must be understood by all members and parents that all decisions concerning membership, band members, seating placement in the band program, performance, and music will be made by the director/teacher. Those decisions are final.

MENTAL HEALTH

Just a reminder to take care of yourself! When we don't feel our best, it can be harder to do well in school. Try to make time for things that help you relax and stay healthy this semester. If schoolwork is stressing you out, please let me know—we can talk about it. There might also be other things going on in your life that are making school harder. The Reynolds Student Services team is here for you, offering support to help you with anything that's affecting how you feel or how you do in school.

Remember, everyone needs a little help sometimes, and *you are never alone*.

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LEARNING GOALS

In this course, students will:

1. **Develop technical and expressive skills** on their instrument through ensemble and solo performance.
2. **Communicate meaning and emotion** through music, using appropriate musical vocabulary.
3. **Reflect on progress and performance**, applying feedback to improve individual and group musicianship.
Explore diverse repertoire that represents different cultures, histories, and perspectives, including those of Indigenous peoples.
4. **Demonstrate responsibility and respect** for themselves, their peers, and their community as performers and audience members.
5. **Connect music to identity and society**, recognizing its power to foster belonging, express values, and respond to global issues.
6. **Practice care and wellness**, maintaining instruments properly and developing healthy rehearsal and learning habits

ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

Assessment and evaluation tasks will be based upon home practice, class participation, and performance.

1. Performance, by memory, of required scale exercises and percussion rudiments (looked at daily)
2. Daily oral work (ex. checking rhythms, terms, key signatures, etc)
3. Adequate “chart” (music) preparation
4. Participation in group performance activities (Band Concerts), most of which occur outside of regular class time. These are necessary to fully test the success of student achievement. Participation in band concerts is mandatory for all members, unless arrangements have been made to miss a performance AHEAD OF TIME, with the director. EVERYONE IS IMPORTANT!

HOME PRACTICE

While a practice card is not required, regular practice is required for success at this level of band.

WHAT CAN PARENTS DO TO HELP?

Continued encouragement towards home practice and towards prompt regular attendance at all band classes and concerts.

Listening occasionally for proper home practice techniques; for example, each practice session should start out with long tones and scale work; class exercises and “Requirements” should be practiced slowly and carefully, at first, striving for accuracy; band music should be practiced as well. Instead of playing a variety of pieces and exercises quickly with no attention to detail, students should know what they’ve practiced and how it has helped to improve their playing technique.

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GENERAL PROGRAM POLICIES

I. COURTESY AND RESPECT

1.) Members of the band program are expected to treat one another with courtesy and respect at all times. Our rehearsal space is a place of inclusion, where every student is valued and supported. Disrespect, hate, or discriminatory behavior of any kind will not be tolerated. Together, we create a positive and welcoming environment where everyone can learn, grow, and make music.

II. PARTICIPATION

1.) Students are required to attend all rehearsals/classes, sectionals, and performances for the bands they choose to take part in.

2.) Participation is monitored and a lack of participation (lateness, unexcused absences) will be communicated home.

3.) Students are considered late if they are not in their proper seat with instrument, music, and all necessary equipment at the appointed time.

4.) The music order for the classes/rehearsals is always posted on the white board. Please put your music and method books in order at the beginning of a class/rehearsal.

5.) Conversation in a normal voice or a soft warm-up is welcome before the director steps on the podium and we warm up as a group.

6.) **BE RESPECTFUL.** Make quick changes to the next piece after we finish with a piece of music. This is not the time to talk and play.

7.) **BE PREPARED.** Have the following materials and equipment: (a) instrument, (b) pencil, (c) ALL music, (d) reeds, valve oil, sticks/mallets, supplies etc. *Reed players are to have at least 3 working reeds at all times. Percussionists at this level must have their own sticks and mallets (buy a stick bag and put your name on it).*

III. REQUIRED FUNCTIONS

Band members will attend all required functions involving their performing band(s) unless excused beforehand by the director. Required functions include school assemblies, evening concerts, festival competitions/performances, community concerts, and any other event agreed upon by the band program.

Formal Blue Band performances are scheduled for:

- Wednesday, October 29, 7:00pm – Blow Out the Dust Fall Band Concert (Reynolds Gym)
- Monday, November 10, 9:00am – Reynolds Remembrance Day Assembly (Reynolds Gym)
- Tuesday, November 11, 10:00am – Saanich Remembrance Day Observance (Municipal Hall)
- Wednesday, December 2, 7:00pm – Winter Concert #1 (Reynolds Gym)
- Sunday, May 10, 2:00pm – Mother's Day Concert (Playfair Park)
- Wednesday, May 27, 7:00pm – Year End Band Concert (University of Victoria)

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IV. PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance at all performances and concerts is mandatory. These events are major components of the course and are critical to the success of the ensemble.

Any absence from a performance — whether excused or unexcused — will impact your grade, as each student's participation is essential to the success of the ensemble.

- **Excused Absence:** Any absence excused by a parent or guardian (through direct email communication with the band director) will result in the student's term grade being reduced by one full letter grade for each missed performance.
- **Unexcused Absence:** A student who misses a performance without an approved excuse will receive a failing grade for the term.

Parents or guardians must contact the band director directly by email or phone to notify of a performance absence. Messages from students, friends, or other third parties will not be accepted as notification.

Exceptions and "make up" tasks will only be made in the case of severe illness.

V. CONDUCT

Please respect each other and all efforts in the band room. When we perform, please respect the audience by acting responsibly and putting on a strong show from beginning to end. We represent the school, and we would like our band program to be respected. Serious violations of the following will be given 2 warnings, a third resulting in loss of membership in Band 11/12:

- Lack of adequate preparation of music
- Misbehaviour in a class/rehearsal, concert, or parade

VI. UNIFORMS

Students who fail to be in full uniform before a concert will NOT be allowed to perform with their bands.

VII. EQUIPMENT & SPACES

Please respect and care for all equipment in the band room, and help keep the room and adjoining practice rooms tidy. Misuse of school-owned equipment will result in two warnings, followed by loss of membership."

Students are expected to pay for all damaged or lost school owned instruments, music, and music folders (due to neglect or improper care).

PLEASE CO-OPERATE! THE BANDS EXIST TO MAKE QUALITY MUSIC!

"SUCCESS IN MUSIC, SUCCESS IN LIFE, IT'S NO COINCIDENCE!"