

Percussion Ensemble

Syllabus

Mr. Hansen

Room A144

Phone: (541) 440- 4142

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Overview:

This is a performance based group that practices and performs year round. The first semester, much time is spent rehearsing marching band literature. After marching season, the ensemble begins to study percussion literature that is more classical in nature. "Novelty" pieces using everything from buckets to balloons are also rehearsed. Percussion Ensemble members also participate in concert band performances.

Class Behaviors:

- The music rooms should always be left in a neat, organized manner.
 - All instruments are to be kept in the instrument lockers. Music is to be kept in a folder and left in the locker or taken home for practice.
 - Percussion equipment should always be put away, covered, or set aside, and must be handled with care. Please do *not* play percussion equipment unless you are enrolled in a class as a percussionist or have otherwise sought permission from Mr. Hansen.
- Vandalizing instruments, equipment, and other school or student property will not be tolerated. Any offenders will be held Financially Responsible.
- Gum chewing, candy eating, food, beverages (except water), etc. are not permitted in the music rooms.
- Have all equipment at all rehearsals and performances (instrument, music, reeds, oils, mutes, pencils, sticks, mallets, rosin, etc.).
 - All reed players should have several spare reeds. Do not wait until you use your last reed to purchase a new one.
 - Basic supplies are available at local music stores (see "Local Music Stores" section of handbook).
- Be in your seat (or spot) ready to begin *on time*.
- All talking and playing must stop *immediately* when Mr. Hansen steps onto the podium or in front of the group.
- Please do not talk or play when the director stops conducting to give instructions or explanations. I'll pay attention when you are talking to me. I expect you to do the same.

Grading:

Grading for Percussion Ensemble will be based upon the following:

Playing Exams:	20%
Participation in Rehearsals:	30%
Participation in Performances:	50%

If students wish to earn an “A” in Percussion Ensemble, they must pass all playing exams and give their best effort during all rehearsals.

As attendance is a large part of a students’ band grade, unexcused absences will have a negative impact on any student’s final grade. *Two unexcused absences will result in the lowering of a student’s grade by one full letter (10%).* **Any unexcused absence from a performance results in a failing class grade.**

Supplies:

Please look under the “Class Behaviors” for some information on required instruments. Thanks!

Late Work / Make-Up / Extra Credit:

Late work, Make-up work, and extra credit opportunities may all be found on the list below. In order to find a suitable make-up or extra credit activity, all students should see Mr. Hansen.

- Be selected and perform at **State Solo** Contest (2nd Semester).
- Take **private lessons** on a weekly basis on your regular band instrument or piano. A signed report from your private teacher is required at the end of each grading period.
- Participate in **Solo and Ensemble** Contest (2nd Semester).
- **Audition** for All-State, WIBC, or All-Northwest Honor Bands (1st Semester).
- Be selected and **perform in All-State, WIBC or All-Northwest Honor Bands** (WIBC: 1st Semester / All-State or All-Northwest: 2nd Semester).
- **Play in an ensemble** that meets on a regular basis (examples: Church Choir, Community Band or String Ensemble, etc.).
- **Practice!!!** Practice for 3 hours a week all semester and turn in a practice card signed by a parent at the end of each grading period.
- **Attend 3 concerts** that you *are not performing in*. Turn in the programs with parent signatures. Acceptable concerts may include high school or middle school choir concerts, band concerts, UCC performances, etc.
- Complete a **special writing assignment**. This should be between 2-3 double-spaced pages. If you have a topic idea of your own, please clear it with Mr. Hansen first. If you are at a loss of ideas and don’t know what to research

come ask Mr. Hansen. He'll give you all sorts of exciting topics to look into—like the history of Magadizing, or the the origins of the term Bisbigliando. The possibilities are endless!

- Complete a **special listening assignment**. In this assignment you listen to recordings of an outstanding performer on your instrument and write a one page description of what you liked about his or her performance and sound. Make sure to include the soloist name and names of the recordings in your paper. Don't forget to check out the Music CD Library in the Mr. Hansen's office for ideas.
- Serve as a **Drum Major**.
- Attend 4 **extra basketball games** that aren't required
- Teach **private lessons** to someone. If you need help setting this up please Mr. Hansen. Both middle schools would be happy to have your help.
- Participate in Marching Band (if not already required by your ensemble)
- Serve as **Band Assistant**. This requires at least 4 hours of work by the end of the term. Most students end up helping in the music library or with other office tasks. Come see Mr. Hansen for more details. You may earn more points by volunteering more time. This is a great option for all students, but especially those interested in pursuing music education (a fine line of work indeed)!
- Participate in **another RHS performing arts class** (choir, drama, a 2nd band).
- If you have any **other ideas**, please discuss them with Mr. Hansen.