

**COURSE OUTLINE
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

**ELMWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT #322
GRADES 7-12**

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The following is an outline of the school year as it pertains to the junior high band. This is a basic outline of the timeline of performances and rehearsals. As a basic concept for this band, music is chosen as to the instrumentation, student's ability levels, and the performances to which they are preparing for. Our choices of literature are meant to be varied in styles, meters, key signatures, and at various level difficulties to best approach the junior high band students' abilities and interests. Every attempt is made to choose challenging, yet entertaining pieces, to best showcase the talents and abilities of the junior high instrumentalist.

August

- A. Work on memorizing a short march piece for the Fall Festival Parade.
- B. Marching techniques are explained.
- C. Practice marching is done on the track or parking lot.
- D. A cadence is taught to the percussion section.
- E. Rehearsals are in preparation of the finished product: the junior high band marching in the Fall Festival Parade.

September

- A. Music for the W.C.C Band Festival is passed out (music chosen in the spring.)
- B. Full band rehearses these five tunes to prepare for the festival.
- C. Two more difficult tunes are passed out for honor band try-outs.
- D. The entire band works on these two pieces along with six different scales.

October

- A. Around 15 students travel to Farmington to audition for honor band.
- B. The entire band works on these festival songs to prepare for performance.
- C. End of October we have a rehearsal and sectionals for the festival.

November

- A. Early November we perform at the festival.
- B. New songs are passed out for upcoming Christmas concert.

- C. These songs are rehearsed by full band and sectionals to better prepare for the performance.

December

- A. Christmas concert music is finalized for the concert.
- B. Christmas concert performance.
- C. Christmas music is passed in, other music is passed out.
- D. Jazz band rehearsals start on Fridays.

January

- A. Regular concert band and jazz band rehearsals continue with different styles of music to be performed at various concerts.
- B. Sign-up for solo & ensemble contest.
- C. Solos & ensembles are chosen and music is chosen

February

- A. Jazz band gets ready for contest or a jazz festival.
- B. Concert band continues reading and learning new and different band literature.
- C. Rehearsal schedules and times are set up for solos & ensembles.

March

- A. Contest music is chosen for organizational contest.
- B. Solos & ensembles continue working on their songs for contest this month.
- C. Jazz band continues also with preparation for contest.

April

- A. Concert and jazz bands attend organizational contest.
- B. Full band also will perform at Brown Bag Concert in Peoria.
- C. Rehearsals continue for spring concerts and performances.

May

- A. Make final preparations for the annual spring concert.
- B. Learn some lighter music for spring.
- C. Prepare a piece for graduation and/or ensemble of some type.

High school band at Elmwood is a performance organization. With marching band, pep band, concert band, and jazz band playing throughout the year, our repertoire for performances is mixed and varied. With a limited time for rehearsals for these groups, we strive to choose music that is both challenging and entertaining as well as educational. So much of what we try to achieve in high school band is so much more than notes, rhythms and performances. Things like dedication, teamwork, being a team player and the sense of belonging are all facets of our program that we try to achieve.

With these groups performing close to 50 times a year, you can see why we are always getting ready to perform or compete.

August

- A. We have a marching band camp the week before school starts. This gives us a head start on the early football season.
- B. The music is taught along with marching formations.

September

- A. Along with halftime music and marching, a street parade is being prepared for.
- B. High school band marches in the Fall Festival Parade.
- C. Expanding our halftime show formations and playing ability are worked on throughout September.
- D. Pep band plays for pep assemblies.

October

- A. Continue working on halftime show.
- B. Learning extra formations and/or music.
- C. Coordinating rehearsals with flags to enhance performances.
- D. Pep band performs at pep assemblies and bon fire.

November

- A. Concert band starts.
- B. Music put in folders of varying degree of difficulty, as we start the concert season.

E. Keep concert band and jazz band working on songs for graduation, spring concert, and Jazz Night Concert.

May

- A. Prepare and perform for spring concert.
- B. Prepare band for graduation and performance.
- C. Prepare and practice for Memorial Day Parade and concert.

Classroom Rules for Band

1. Come into auditorium in an orderly fashion.
2. Get your instruments and music and find your seat as quickly as possible.
3. Refrain from talking or loitering in the back of the stage.
4. No gum chewing allowed by anyone.
5. When seated, you may start to warm up until rehearsal begins.
6. As rehearsal progresses, refrain from talking when you are not playing.
7. Return music and instruments to their proper places at the end of rehearsal.