

# RHMS Middle School Band



David Bartley , Jim Hollingsworth

Directors

## 2008-2009 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Syllabus

Hello,

My name is Jim Hollingsworth and I am the new band instructor for Rose Hill schools. I am extremely excited to be joining this district and cannot wait to get started. This page is my course syllabus and expectations for this year. Please review both this page and the calendar on the back. Finally, please return the attached info card to me as soon as possible. This will be worth daily grade points.

### Expectations:

1. Be on time and prepared with everything you need for the day.
2. Follow directions at all times.
3. Demonstrate respect for your peers, your school, and yourself.

### Grading:

#### **40% - Concert Attendance**

Concerts are a band members "big test". Therefore, **all performances are required**. An absence from a performance may be excused for: 1) personal illness; 2) last minute family emergency; or, 3) at least two weeks prior notice for a good reason. An unexcused absence from a performance will result in a letter grade deduction for each absence. All excused/unexcused decisions will be made by band faculty and middle school principals.

#### **20% - Playing Tests**

We will have 2-4 playing tests per quarter during class. If you are not satisfied with the score you earn, you may retake the test up to a week after the initial test. This retake must be done outside of class.

#### **25% - Daily Grades**

5 points will be earned daily. To earn all 5 points, you must: be prepared with everything you need for the day (instrument, music, pencil, reeds, oil, etc.), conduct yourself appropriately during class, and be on time for class. Perhaps most importantly, you must bring the right attitude.

#### **15% - Practice Time and/or Etude Check-off**

You have two options for this portion of grade. You may either practice a set number of minutes per week, or you may play an etude outside of class time. Each etude will be worth two weeks of practice time. You may also use a combination of the two options.

#### Practice Time Grading Scale:

140 minutes per week = 15%	80 mpw = 9%	20 mpw = 3%
120 mpw = 13%	60 mpw = 7%	0 mpw = 0%
100 mpw = 11%	40 mpw = 5%	

\*These times represent average per week. Practice cards will be accepted only on Fridays during class.

**Concert Attire:**

During our “marching” performances (MS Band Night, parade, and State Fair) performance attire will be our band shirts along with blue jeans. If you need to order a shirt, please let me know ASAP. During all “formal” concerts, attire will be the same as the high school band. The uniform consists of a black dress shirt and black slacks. Gentlemen need to have a collared black shirt (long or short sleeves), black dress slacks, black shoes and black socks. Ladies will wear a nice black shirt, slacks or a skirt with black dress shoes. Skirt must extend below the knee while sitting. Please, please, please: no t-shirts, no jeans (even if they are black), and no tennis shoes. If there are any issues in securing the items needed, please let me know.

**Calendar:**

This calendar is still tentative. I do not foresee any changes, but that is usually the case. Please remember that all performances are required.

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Event:</u>	<u>Time:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
Sep. 9	State Fair	During school	Hutchinson Fair Grounds
Sep. 19	MS Band Night @ Football game	TBA	District Stadium
Oct. 11	Annual Rose Hill Parade	TBA	TBA
Nov. 8	SCKMEA Honor Band*	All Day	Andover Central High
Nov. 15	Pioneer League Honor Band*	All Day	Mulvane Middle School
Dec. 16	Winter Concert	8:00 PM	HS Auditorium
Mar. 10	MS Band Concert	8:00 PM	HS Auditorium
Apr. 22	Pioneer League Fest	During school	El Dorado MS
May 14	Extravabandza	7:00 PM	HS Gym

\*Denotes performances for selected students. This is not a required event.

This is the calendar as of now. If anything is added, it will be a voluntary event.

**Final Notes:**

Nametags: All students should have a nametag on their instrument. This will help everybody keep track of their instruments (including me). If you do not have a nametag on your case, please come get one from me.

Afternoon Practice: On my door is a schedule for the week when students may practice in the band room after school. I provide this added time for test retakes, etude check-offs, and practice opportunities for students with large instruments that are difficult to take home every single day. There is no sign-up for this time, just come on in and practice. I will be arriving from the elementary school as soon as I can. Please do not come in to practice when it is not available.

I am looking forward to this new school year and I am proud to be a Rocket!

Thanks,

Mr. H