

EL DORADO SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL
Beginning Band

COURSE SYLLABUS

August 2020 – May 2021

INSTRUCTOR: Mr. Jordan White
OFFICE: EHS Band Room
OFFICE HOURS: Every day after school until 3:30 (time is subject to change)
E-MAIL ADDRESS: jwhite@eldok12.org
CLASS TIME: 6th Hour (12:59 PM - 1:49 PM)
BAND WEBSITE: www.eldobulldogband.com/beginning-band.html
CLASSROOM CODE: 5sq5b7v

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Beginning Band is a course intended for students who have never played a band instrument prior to the start of the year. Students will learn basic musical notation reading, instrument care, and playing of a selected instrument.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To teach and develop basic musical concepts including, but not limited to, notation, pitch, dynamics, rhythm, tempo, harmony, and texture.
2. To teach ensemble skills including the ability to play together, follow a conductor, and exhibit proper stage presence and etiquette.
3. Perform various repertoires highlighting the various styles played by symphonic bands.
4. Become fluent with terms that are specific to band music.
5. To teach basic music history facts including performers, composers, and styles.
6. To adhere to the National Standards for Music Education.

BULLDOG BAND VALUES

- **PRIDE** to our school and community
- **EXCELLENCE** through musicianship
- **SPIRIT** as a band family
- Keep alive the rich musical **TRADITION** in El Dorado Springs

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. Respect People and property
2. Enter prepared and on time
3. Stay on task and work hard
4. Play only at proper times
5. Exemplify amazing
6. Care for your instruments
7. Teamwork

REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR CLASS

- Pencil
- Instruments
- Appropriate supplies (mutes, reeds, neck strap, valve oil, etc.)
- Standards of Excellence (Book 1), ***will be ordered through the school (\$10)***
- Tuner/Metronome is HIGHLY encouraged, but is not required

ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS

1. DAILY POINTS (10 POINTS EVERY DAY)

- a. All students will begin the day with a full 10 points
- b. Students will lose points based on the follow factors:
 - i. **2 pts – Tardy/Late** – not in their seat when class begins
 - ii. **2 pts – Not prepared for Class** – did not prepare for rehearsal outside of class
 - iii. **2 pts – Lack of proper Equipment** – no pencil, music, or has improper maintenance
 - iv. **2 pts – Poor Attitude** – has an attitude that is unwilling to work in class
 - v. **2 pts – “FREE POINTS”** – points can be lost if punishments are necessary

2. WEEKLY PRACTICE CARDS (50 POINTS EACH)

- a. Students will need to practice 2 hours (120 minutes) every week
 - i. It is recommended that each student practices 20 minutes everyday
 - ii. This will develop positive habits and the student will see more growth in their playing at a faster rate.
- b. Practice cards will need to be picked up by the student on Monday (or the first day in session for the week) and will need to turn the practice card in on the following Monday (or first day back in session in the week).
- c. Students will get points based on the following time schedule:
 - i. **Under 60 Minutes = 0 points**
 - ii. **60-74 Minutes = 30 points**
 - iii. **75-89 Minutes = 35 points**
 - iv. **90-104 Minutes = 40 points**
 - v. **105-119 Minutes = 45 points**
 - vi. **120 + Minutes = 50 points**
 - vii. **For every 30 minutes over the required 120 Minutes, the student will receive 5 extra credit points.**

3. PLAYING EXAMS (50 POINTS EACH)

- a. Playing Exams will occur at a minimum of **ONCE** a week
 - i. Tests will be announced no later than 3 days before the test date.
 - ii. Tests will consist of lines out of the Standard of Excellence Book 1
- b. Points will be determined by the following criteria:
 - i. **10 pts – Tone Quality** – the student is able to make characteristic sounds (i.e. rolls, stokes, etc.)
 - ii. **10 pts – Preparation** – the student is prepared and exhibits excellent preparation
 - iii. **10 pts – Note/Rhythm Accuracy** – the student plays the correct notes at the correct time
 - iv. **20 Points – Appropriate Musicianship** – The student exhibits proper musicianship and plays appropriate dynamics, phrasing, articulations, etc.

4. PERFORMANCES (300 POINTS EACH)

- a. Points will be determined by the following criteria:
 - i. **30 pts – Preparation** – the student has music, proper maintenance, and tuned properly
 - ii. **60 pts – Punctuality** – the student shows up to the performance on time with the appropriate material
 - iii. **60 pts – Concert Etiquette** – the student exhibits proper concert etiquette that will be covered during class, before the concert
 - iv. **60 pts – Appropriate Attire** – the student is dressed appropriately as determined by the dress code that has been set for by the instructor
 - v. **90 pts – Performance** – the student plays to the best of their ability as they have been instructed by the instructors

GRADING SCALE

The grading scale is determined by the El Dorado Springs R-2 School District and can be found in the District Handbook.

CONCERT DRESS POLICY

It is important for our concerts for the ensembles to look the most professional that they can. Students are expected to follow the attire set by the Director, as you can find below. This attire is consistent with all Middle School Band Students, and slightly different with the High School program. Students will not be allowed to perform if they choose not to adhere to the Concert Dress Policy. Also, if you need any help with your concert attire, please speak with Mr. White and he will be more than happy to help.

Concert Attire for Girls

Any color blouse (follow school dress code)
Black Pants
Black socks/stockings/hose (optional)
Black shoes

Concert Attire for Boys

Any color shirt (Polos & Buttoned Down Shirt)
Black Pants
Black Belt
Black Socks
Black Shoes

NO SKIRTS!

NO TENNIS SHOES, JEANS, OR T-SHIRTS

NO TENNIS SHOES, JEANS, OR T-SHIRTS

PERFORMANCES

The performance schedule is attached below and is subject to change.

| DATE | EVENT | LOCATION | TIME |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|----------------|
| December 13 | Bulldog Band Winter Concert | EHS Gym | 3:00 PM |
| December 20 | Bulldog Band Winter Concert *Make-up* | EHS Gym | 3:00 PM |
| May 11 | Bulldog Band Spring Awards Concert | EHS Gym | 3:00 PM |

ALL DATES ARE REQUIRED FOR A PASSING GRADE IN BAND.

MISSED PERFORMANCE POLICY

Excused Absence

If a conflict should arise with the performance schedule, students & parents should notify Mr. White IMMEDIATELY!

- ***If the absences is due to illness or death:***
 - The student MAY NEED to write paper over a famous composer, musician, or instrument of their choice
- ***If the conflict is another school activity, the student will not need to do a make-up assignment.***

Unexcused Absence

*If the student chooses not to attend the performance or does not give prior notice to their absence, they will forfeit **ALL** of their points and will not be allowed to complete a make-up assignment.*

PAYMENTS FOR GOODS

The Director will decide on various products that the students will use throughout the year. These products are deemed as the best quality for the best price. It is the responsibility of the student and parent to make sure that their balance in their account is current. The Director will send home an updated account balance at the end of every quarter. Checks for these good need to be made out to "EHS."

When making a payment to Bulldog Band, the student will need to place all money (cash or check) into an envelope with the following information on the front. This system will help better track money for the Band Boosters and Mr. White.

COMMUNICATIONS

E-MAIL CORRESPONDENTS

The most effective form of communication with Mr. White is through e-mail. Mr. White checks his e-mail regularly throughout the day and into the evening. If you need to contact Mr. White, this is the preferred method.

Likewise, if Mr. White should need to contact you or your parents, he will need an updated e-mail address. Students are expected to check their SCHOOL ISSUED e-mail address regularly. Mr. White will send itineraries and other updates to this address. Parents will need to supply an e-mail address that is checked regularly, as well, on the "Student & Parent Information Form." All members of the Bulldog Band Program will need to supply this information for Mr. White.

BULLDOG BAND WEBSITE

The El Dorado Springs Bulldog Band has a website!!! Mr. White has been working hard on a new website for parents and students to stay informed about upcoming events! On this website, you will find a calendar of events; information for trips, classes, and concerts; Band Boosters and meeting information; and Newspaper articles on our blog. Please, check this website on a regular basis, as information will continue to be updated.

WEBSITE URL: www.eldobulldogband.com

Parents and Students are highly encouraged to check the Band Website and specifically the Band Calendar to keep track of events. Mr. White works very hard to keep all information up-to-date.

BULLDOG BAND SOCIAL MEDIA

The Bulldog Band is also on Facebook. Various items are posted on this communication page for our great community. Items that will be posted are photos of students, results from competitions, Band Booster meetings, upcoming concerts/performances, and special announcements that pertain to the Bulldog Band Program. It is highly recommended that both students and parents "like" and "follow" this page so they can stay in contact with the program. You can search for "**EL DORADO SPRINGS BULLDOG BAND**".

ParentSquare

Our school district has purchased an App for your phones that will allow all teachers to communicate with both parents and students. If you have any questions as to how to setup your ParentSquare App, call the office and they can direct to the correct person to speak with. **ALL** communication will be sent out through this App. You can receive messages through the App or Text Message. This is the same form of communication that the District uses for notification of school closings.

El Dorado Springs Bulldog Band

Health Information

Medical Release

Travel Release

HEALTH INFORMATION

Student's Name: _____ **Birth Date:** _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ **Relationship:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Alternate Numbers:** _____

Second Contact, if above Parent/Guardian cannot be reached in an emergency

Contact Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ **Relationship:** _____

Known Allergies of Student: _____

List Any Prescriptions Being Taken: _____

Cause for Prescription: _____

Family Physician/Phone Number: _____

MEDICAL RELEASE STATEMENT

I, _____, hereby give my permission and consent for my child _____ to be given the medical treatment, aid, or care they need by a medical doctor or hospital as required on an emergency basis, in the event that the said student become ill or be injured while participating in an Band event or excursion. I am aware that this is in the event of a non-life-threatening injury if I cannot be reached.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

TRAVEL RELEASE STATEMENT

I, _____, request that my child, _____, be permitted to attend all excursions approved by the Music Department during the current school year. I understand that only general supervision can be given at these activities and will not hold any school employee responsible for an injury the student may obtain on such activities.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

El Dorado Springs Bulldog Band

Student & Parent/Guardian Information Sheet

Student's Name: _____ M/F: _____ DOB: _____

Student Address: _____

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____ Relationship: _____

Parent's E-mail: _____

Phone # (Best way to reach you): _____ Home / Work / Cell

Second Phone #: _____ Home / Work / Cell

Please List the Best Times to Call You: _____

Second Contact: _____ Relationship: _____

Parent's E-mail: _____

Phone # (Best way to reach you): _____ Home / Work / Cell

Please List the Best Times to Call You: _____

Syllabus Agreement

I have received a copy of the El Dorado Springs Beginning Band Syllabus. I have read and reviewed all the band policies. I understand the expectations that are to be upheld by the band students and will encourage my child to abide by the rules set in place and to fulfill their obligations to the band.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date Signed

I have received a copy of the El Dorado Springs Beginning Band Syllabus. I have read and reviewed all the band policies and I understand that it is a privilege to be a part of this program. I know that by signing this form, I have agreed to uphold these policies and have accepted the responsibility to attend all performances and activities in which the band participates. I recognize that each member of the band contributes greatly to the success of the program.

Signature of Student

Date Signed