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# CHEROKEE BLUFF

## Percussion Ensemble

### Intermediate Instrumental Ensemble

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#### Overview

It is the mission of the Cherokee Bluff Band Program to create functionally literate, independent musicians, who continually exhibit the highest level of character as school citizens. This education shall take place through traditional concert band classes, as well as through extra-curricular activities, i.e. marching band, jazz band, small ensembles, solos, auditions, etc.

#### Goals

Students are selected by director's recommendation. Offers intermediate-level performers an alternative ensemble experience to large band and orchestra. Emphasizes the performance style and literature of the instrumental chamber group medium. Covers performance and production, analysis and theoretical studies, creative aspects of music, historical and cultural influences, and music appreciation.

#### Requirements

1. Students in the Percussion Ensemble will prepare and present multiple concerts per year, as notated in the Cherokee Bluff Bands' Calendar.
2. Students in the Percussion Ensemble will participate in before / after school sectionals, as determined by the Director.
3. Students in the Percussion Ensemble will prepare the GMEA District and All State Materials.
4. Students in the Percussion Ensemble will participate in the annual Concert Band Camp in February and Large Group Performance Evaluation in March.

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2020-2021 School Year  
7<sup>th</sup> period

Instructor: J. Craig Cantrell  
Email: craig.cantrell@hallco.org  
Phone: 770-967-0080 ext.748  
Room: 3406 (Band Room)

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#### Materials

All Students **MUST** bring the following to all rehearsals:

- Sticks/Mallets/Stick Bag
- Necessary Instrument Accessories
- Complete Band Binder
- Black Hand Towel
- Personal Bottle of Hand Sanitizer
- Pencil

#### Grading Standards

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##### Performing - 35%

HSIIE.PR.1  
HSIIE.PR.2  
HSIIE.PR.3

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##### Rehearsal Preparation - 35%

Understanding the "what and how" of participating in a musical ensemble, acting as a professional musician, and approaching the instrument in an acceptable manner.

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##### Creating - 10%

HSIIE.CR.1  
HSIIE.CR.2

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##### Responding - 10%

HSIIE.RE.1  
HSIIE.RE.2

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##### Connecting - 10%

HSIIE.CN.1



## SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021

### SEMESTER 1

#### **August 24 - October 29, 2020**

Vehicle - Concert Band

##### Goals

- Introduce basic fundamental concepts through the use of exercises (Breathing, Posture, Tone Quality, Pitch Matching, Harmony, Interval relationships, Prioritization, etc...)
- Develop a relationship from ensemble to conductor
- Understand basic theory of chordal harmony, rhythm, and intervals
- Develop technique through the use of scales, foundations, and all state materials
- Develop an understanding of listening, evaluating, and matching sounds and pitch
- Apply all of these above to less-challenging band literature

**Culminating Event - Fall Concert: October 29, 2020, 7:00PM Virtual Concert**

#### **October 24 - December 15, 2020**

Vehicle - Concert Band

##### Goals

- Transfer and apply the fundamental concepts learned in the above experience
- Continue to build on these concepts to further stretch our skill set
- Apply and develop skills through the use of more skill-appropriate band literature
- Continue to work and develop individual skills to prepare for All State Auditions and Band Placement auditions
- Study for written mid-term exam

**Culminating Event - Holiday Concert: December 15, 2020, 7:00PM Virtual Concert**

**Written & Performance Assessment (Mid-Term Examination): December 17, 2020**



## **SEMESTER 2**

### **January 5 - Feb 27, 2021**

Vehicle - Concert Band

Goals

- Continue reinforcing basic fundamental concepts through the use of exercises (Breathing, Posture, Tone Quality, Pitch Matching, Harmony, Interval relationships, Prioritization)
- Continued study of basic theory of chordal harmony, rhythm, and intervals
- Begin skill-appropriate literature for Large Group Performance Evaluation in March
- Begin preparation to work with a guest conductor / clinician
- Begin a regular sectional schedule with each ensemble

**Culminating Event - Symphonic Band Camp: February 26-27, 2021 CBHS**

### **February 28 - March 12, 2021**

Vehicle - Concert Band

Goals

- Continue to develop skills through the LGPE Literature
- Continue regular weekly sectionals with each ensemble
- Discuss appropriate reactions to adjudicator comments and evaluation

**Culminating Event - LGPE: March 10-12, 2021. Habersham Central HS (TBA)**

### **March 15 - May 15, 2021**

Vehicle – Marching/Parade Band

Goals

- Transfer and apply the fundamental concepts learned in the above experiences.
- Continue to build on these concepts to further stretch our skill set.
- Apply and develop skills through the use of more skill-appropriate band literature.
- Develop skills for a parade and/or marching band performance.
- Continue to work and develop individual skills to prepare for Band Placement Auditions in April
- Study for written final exams

**Culminating Events – Marching Band / Parade Performances (TBA)**

# REHEARSAL PREPARATION GUIDLINES

## Percussion Ensemble: 2020-2021 School year

In an effort to create a more positive learning environment and make rehearsals more efficient, the following policies will be in effect:

\*2:43pm - Students should enter the room, immediately get their instrument, and find their seat.  
*The locker room is too small to be a hang out spot.*

2:48pm - Students must be seated, Please do not play – we will warm up together.  
*Percussionists must be setting up for the day's agenda, or warming up, at this time.*

2:50pm - Group Warm-up will begin  
*Percussion equipment must be set up and ready to go for the day's agenda by this time.*

3:33pm - Pack-up / Return back to seat.  
*Students are to make no more sounds on their instruments after dismissal.*  
*Percussionist should cover all instruments at this time, return all auxiliary instruments to their proper place, and not play.*

3:41pm - Students Dismissed for the day.

\*When on *Innovation Tuesday* schedule, all times move 5-10 minutes earlier

- At no point should a student distract another student's ability to learn
- At no point should a student's shoulder or head be down or directed to the floor or another student
- The only sounds allowed during rehearsal are musical sounds from instruments, or the director giving feedback. Students are to speak when spoken to, or to raise their hands with pertinent questions.
- The time between agenda items should be silent and should require minimal movement from the percussionists.
- Percussionist may sit during announcements. That is the only time.
- ALL Students must have their own music, instrument, and pencil each day.
- Students may not use the restroom during the first and last 15 minutes of class.

Students are given 50 points per week (10 pts. per day) for rehearsal preparation. These 10 points per day shall be used to assess the above policies. Unless otherwise noted, 1 point will be deducted from the daily grade for each/any violation of the above policies.

These policies are the same expectations of a professional musical ensemble. This should be viewed as an effort to educate our students on being professional in their approach to rehearsal, not as punishment.

## STANDARDS: GRADE 9 - 12 MUSIC – INTER. INSTR. ENS.

*(The design constructs for the advanced curriculum may correlate with the musical concepts and demands found within grade 3-5 level literature.)*

### A. PERFORMANCE

HSIIE.PR.1 – Sing alone or with others.

- a. Sing to recognize fundamentals of tone production.
- b. Sing to match pitch.
- c. Sing to reinforce breathing and use of the air stream.

HSIIE.PR.2 - Perform on instruments through a varied repertoire of music, alone and with others.

- a. Demonstrate characteristic tone quality utilizing playing technique (e.g. proper embouchure, playing position, posture, breathing techniques, articulation, and appropriate percussion technique).
- b. Demonstrate proper warm-up techniques (e.g. long tones, lip slurs, chorales, major and chromatic scales, and technical exercises).
- c. Use ensemble skills through performance of musical literature (e.g. rehearsal etiquette, dynamic expression, style, blend and balance, steady tempo, rhythmic accuracy, and intonation).
- d. Demonstrate all ensemble skills through sight-reading performance of music literature of Level 1 and 2.

HSIIE.PR.3 Reading and notating music

- a. Identify and define standard notation symbols for pitch, rhythm, dynamics, tempo, articulation, expression, and key signatures.
- b. Interpret the musical terms incorporated in the literature.
- c. Demonstrate an understanding of simple and compound meter rhythmic patterns through a systematic counting procedure.

### B. CREATION

HSIIE.CR.1 – Improvise, compose, and arrange music within specified guidelines

- a. Improvise or compose rhythmic patterns (e.g. clapping, singing, playing an instrument).
- b. Improvise or compose a melody and/or variation of a melody (e.g. using a five-note diatonic, pentatonic, or blues scale).
- c. Compose rhythmic exercises and short melodies using traditional notations, which incorporate use of dynamics.
- d. Refine improvised or composed pieces using student or teacher-created criteria.

### C. RESPONDING

HSIIE.RE.1 - Listening to, analyze, and describing music

- a. Relate and describe the use of compositional devices (e.g. techniques, meter, tempo, tonality, intervals, chords) to the interpretation of music for listening and for performance.
- b. Distinguish characteristics of a specific work based on genre and/or culture.
- c. Demonstrate ability to adjust and match individual instrument to a prescribed pitch-source (e.g. tuner, electronic drone, individual performer).

HSIIE.RE.2 – Respond to music and music performances

- a. Identify music literature and band performances of both superior and poor quality and distinguish the factors that are used to classify them as such.
- b. Compile a list of strengths and weaknesses in performance and suggest strategies for improvement.
- c. Identify and discuss the interpretations in a band performance in relation to the expressive intent of the composer.
- d. Describe and demonstrate appropriate ensemble and audience etiquette for a performance.

## D. CONNECTING

HSIIE.CN.1 - Understanding relationships between music, other arts, other disciplines, varied contexts, and daily life.

- a. Describe and discuss similarities and differences in the terminology of the subject matter between music and other subject areas (i.e. color, movement, expression, style, symmetry, form, interpretation, texture, harmony, patterns and sequence, repetition, texts and lyrics, meter, wave and sound production, timbre, frequency of pitch, volume, acoustics, physiology and anatomy, technology, history, and culture).
- b. Develop knowledge through performance of repertoire representing diverse cultures, historical periods, and styles.

### **Classroom Electronic Use Policy**

1. Electronic devices (cell phones, iPads, tablets, music players, etc.) are to remain on silent and put away during class time, unless the teacher has instructed to use them for a class activity. Failure to follow this guideline will result in confiscation of the electronic device for the remainder of the period. Continued failure to follow this guideline will result in disciplinary referral.
2. Digital recording (audio and/or video) or photography with electronic devices may not be done without prior approval of the teacher. ASK before taking pictures of class notes or recording any activities. Failure to do so will result in confiscation of electronic device and/or disciplinary referral.
3. Practice appropriate digital citizenship at all times when using electronic devices in this classroom. For our classroom, **Digital Citizenship** is defined as:  
"Critical thinking and ethical choices about the content and impact on oneself, others, and one's community of what one sees, says, and produces with media, devices, and technologies."

In other words: THINK before you engage in online activities.

Regarding Cell Phones:

1. Students may not have cell phones out when entering or exiting the room.
2. Cell Phones may be kept on the music stand during rehearsal under the following condition:
  - a. The phone has a tuner app installed and is being actively used to tune  
Suggested apps - Tonal Energy and iStrobosoft
  - b. The phone has a metronome app installed and is being actively used to practice  
Suggested apps - Yamaha Metronome, Tempo Advanced
  - c. No other uses are permitted.
3. Violation of this use may result in the phone being confiscated.

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*Detach the following portion and return signed by the end of the first week of classes please.*

I have read and understand the Percussion Ensemble class syllabus and agree to follow all guidelines.

I am aware of the importance of attendance and participation in all rehearsals and performances. I am aware that my grade will be lowered for absences, and I will not be permitted to perform in any concert if I do not attend the dress rehearsal prior to the concert. Work schedules and lack of transportation are unacceptable reasons for absences. I acknowledge receipt of mandatory deadlines and performance dates on the syllabus which I received the first day of class.

Student Name (PRINT): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_