

**Plymouth Middle Schools  
Music Program  
Course Syllabus**

**Course Name** Band  
**Grade** Grade 7

**Course Description**

Students in the Grade 7 Band will be continuing their progress of learning to play an instrument. Emphasis will be on developing technique, ensemble skills, and performance experience with musical styles from a variety of musical genres. Students will develop musical independence and will be called upon to make their own musical decisions. Small ensemble performance will be a part of this class. Students will be able to perform music at a 2 – 2.5 grade level. Students will have the opportunity to audition for regional honor groups (Southeast Jr. District, Jr. SEMSBA, and All-Town Band). Assessments will be based on student's performance. Students will be expected to participate in all performances both during school hours and evening school performances.

**Instructional Objectives**

*Student will:*

1. Use correct technique and posture;
2. Use appropriate embouchure and hand positions;
3. Improvise and compose simple melodic patterns;
4. Identify and describe basic elements of music: beat, tempo, rhythm, meter, pitch, melody, texture, dynamics, and form;
5. Use appropriate terminology in describing music, music notation, and music performances;
6. Use movement in response to music while performing and listening to music.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of good care of instruments;
8. Develop and maintain an effective practice routine; and
9. Develop and demonstrate appropriate rehearsal, performance, and audience behavior.

**Text and Instructional Materials**

Middle School Band Library

*Standard of Excellence Book 2 / 3*

*I Recommend*

*Teaching Music Through Performance in Band*

**Performance Opportunities**

Students will perform in regularly scheduled evening performances throughout the school year. Additional performance opportunities may include:

- All – Town Band Festival
- SE Jr. District and SEMSBA music Festivals
- MICCA Festival
- Jazz Band (after-school ensemble)
- Small Ensembles
- Invitational Concerts

**Grading Policy**

Student grades are determined by their performance through the following tasks and assignments.

Performances	30%
Performance Assessments/Participation	30%
Quizzes and Tests	15%
Homework and practice	10%
Cooperation/Class Preparation	15%

## **Learning Sequence**

### **Term 1**

- Review of note reading
- Chromatic scale in 2 octaves
- Junior District solo introduction and audition requirements
- Key signature review (Bb, F, C, Ab, G, Db)
- Sight reading (MENC grade 1.5 music)
- Improvisation assignment
- Preparation for Holiday Concert

### **Term 2**

- Holiday Concert
- Scale tests: Bb, F, Ab, C, G, Db
- Junior SEMSBA audition (optional)
- Small ensembles
- Sight reading
- Composition assignment
- Selection of All-Town band students
- Preparation for All-Town Band Festival

### **Term 3**

- All Town Band Festival
- Key signature tests
- Rhythm tests
- Small ensembles
- Composition / improvisation assignment and performances
- Sight reading
- Preparation of Spring Concert
- Southeast Jr. District Music Festival (qualifying students)
- Possible Music Festival/Competition

### **Term 4**

- Spring Concert
- Jr. SEMSBA Music Festival (qualifying students)
- Composition assignment and performances
- Sight reading (MENC grade 2)
- Final performance assessments
- Final Written Exam
- End of the year review / reflections
- Local and Regional Field Trips