

# Somerville High School Band Program

Course Syllabus: 2018-2019



## Course Number

872 (CP) & 873 (H)

## Course Description

Band is an instrumental ensemble of students who perform music from a variety of different cultures and styles (rock, classical, contemporary, and jazz). During the school year, the group performs at athletic events, parades, competitions, festivals, and concerts. Through rehearsal and performance, students learn technique and develop knowledge of instrument mechanics. This course is designed to progressively develop musicianship through practice in a supportive community of students.

## Instructors & Contact Information

Mr. Gabriszeski	JGabriszeski@k12.somerville.ma.us
Ms. Sears	RSears@k12.somerville.ma.us
Mr. Westmoreland	TWestmoreland@k12.somerville.ma.us
Band Website:	SomervilleBand.com

## Learning Objectives & Goals

### [National Standards for Music Education](#)

Creating, Performing, Responding, & Connecting

### Somerville Band Objectives

Somerville Band Students are...

- Creative: Fearlessly approaches music with a sense of curiosity and imagination
- Communicative: Proactively & honestly communicates with & responds appropriately to others
- Collaborative: Contributes to the group process and honors the work of fellow musicians
- Committed: Displays dedication to our group through honoring one's responsibilities
- Community Builders: Shows empathy and respect for others and works to make our band, school, and community a better place through generously sharing our talents and kindness with others

## **Our Commitment To You**

Just like we have expectations of you, you should have expectations of us. Our work will be guided by the SPS Music Department Vision Statement: **“As Music Educators, it is our mission to inspire and guide every student in active music making through the use of a sequential and creative curriculum that nurtures the human spirit and promotes cultural understanding”**. Also know that we are committed to your success through being...

- Prepared for our rehearsals and performances
- Present & available to help you when you need it
- Respectful of your time - we will not waste your time with “busy work”
- Communicative about events and daily activities
- Positive and energetic during our rehearsals and performances
- Honest and forthright in our communication with you
- Willing to listen to your ideas and concerns
- Committed to your success and growth

## **Grading**

### Performance & Rehearsal Attendance (70%)

- Students are required to attend all performances and rehearsals of the band
- Students are required to arrive at performances and rehearsals at the assigned time - points will be deducted for tardiness
- Students who miss performances without advanced notice will not be allowed to make up their absence
- If a student needs to miss a performance for a legitimate excuse (imperative family obligation, illness), students must inform their teacher at least 1 week before the performance or as soon as possible (in the case of a medical emergency)
- Students who miss rehearsals or performances must complete a performance absence form and return it to their teacher within one week of the missed performances
- Students who miss a performance or rehearsal for a pre-approved reason will be allowed to make up their missed performance by scheduling two 30-minute practice sessions after school with Mr. Westmoreland

### Class Participation (25%)

- Students should enthusiastically participate in daily rehearsals
- Students should have their instruments, music, pencils, and any other materials
- Students should arrive on time to class

### Musicianship Assignments (5%)

- Students will have a variety of assignments in each quarter to develop their musical literacy and skills and will be tiered according to a student’s level of musical experience
- Assignments will include music theory worksheets & scale and rhythm playing assignments

## Performance Calendar

\*Note: Events marked with an asterisk are tentative - will confirm ASAP

### Quarter 1

Wednesday, September 12 1:40-2:30PM	Early Release Music Rehearsal with Drum Line	NA
Friday, September 21 Report Time: 5:45PM	SHS Football Game	Band Uniforms
Wednesday, September 26* 1:45-4:00PM	Early Release Field Rehearsal with Drum Line	NA
Friday, September 28 Report Time: 5:30PM	SHS Football Game	Band Uniforms
Friday, October 5 Report Time: 5:30PM	SHS Football Game	Band Uniforms
Sunday, October 7 Report Time: 9:30AM	Honk Parade	Festive Wear
Friday, October 12 Report Time: <b>4:45PM</b>	SHS Football Game (away in Lynn)	Band Uniforms
Wednesday, October 17 1:45-4:00PM	Early Release Field Rehearsal with Drum Line	NA
Friday, October 19 Report Time: 5:30PM	SHS Football Game	Band Uniforms

### Quarter 2

Playoff Football Games in Late October/Early November*	TBD	
Wednesday, November 21 Report Time: 4:30PM	SHS Football Game	Band Uniforms
Thursday, December 6 Report Time: 4:15PM	Somerville Tree Lighting	Band Uniforms
Thursday, December 20 Report Time: 5:15PM	SHS Winter Concert	Black & White (White Shirt, Black Bottoms)

**Quarter 3**

Early February*	Chamber Music Concert	Black & White
Saturday, March 23* Report Time: 9:30AM	Greek Festival Parade	Band Uniforms

**Quarter 4**

Wednesday, April 24 During School Day	Annual Band Festival	
Thursday, April 25 Report Time: 5:45PM	SHS Spring Concert	Black & White
Sunday, May 19 Report Time: 12:15PM	Memorial Day Parade	Band Uniforms
Friday, May 31 During School Day	Class Day	TBD
Monday, June 3 TBD	Graduation	Black & White

**Special Music/Band Events**

Friday, September 7 2:30-3:15PM	Band Town Hall Meeting	I will be available to chat about your vision and goals for the SHS Band!
Sunday, September 23 1:00PM	Fluff Festival!	Fundraiser for Band Trip
Early April	Band Trip 2019!	Details will be available in late September
Monday, May 20 6:00PM	SHS Music Department Awards Ceremony	All students & families are encouraged to attend!

## Honors Band Requirements

Students who have elected to participate in band for honors credit will have additional commitments and assignments to complete during each quarter.

### **All Year**

Lead small group & sectional rehearsals, serve as helpers to fellow band members during musicianship assignments, attend all required performances and rehearsals, and display leadership through setting a good example and displaying a positive attitude

### **Quarter 1**

Attend Fluff Festival Fundraiser on September 22nd and one of the following options:

1. Attend 2 full rehearsals of the All-City Honors Band (Tuesdays 3:00-5:00PM)
2. Prepare for All-District Auditions in November by keeping practice/private lesson log, scheduling one 30 minute individual practice session with Mr. Westmoreland in October, and participating in a mock audition after school on Thursday, October 25
3. Help with Instrumental Rental and Instrument Loaner Nights on Tuesday, September 11 and Thursday, September 13 from 3:00-7:00PM.

### **Quarter 2**

One of the following options:

1. Attend 3 full rehearsals of the All-City Honors Band (Tuesdays 3:00-5:00PM) & perform in their concert on Thursday, December 13 at 6:00PM
2. Continue to prepare and attend All-District Band Auditions on Saturday, November 17 at Milton HS
3. Participate in a ensemble outside of the school day that meets regularly & attend appropriate performances (must be cleared with Mr. Westmoreland ahead of time)

### **Quarter 3**

Perform with the Beginners Instrumental Concert on Thursday, January 17 (snow date Jan 24) and one of the following options:

1. Attend 2 full rehearsals of the All-City Honors Band (Tuesdays 3:00-5:00PM)
2. Create a chamber ensemble that meets for at least 4 hours, has one coaching session with Mr. Westmoreland, and does one public performance outside of the school day
3. Participate in a ensemble outside of the school day that meets regularly & attend appropriate performances (must be cleared with Mr. Westmoreland ahead of time)

### **Quarter 4**

One of the following options:

1. Attend 3 full rehearsals of the All-City Honors Band (Tuesdays 3:00-5:00PM) and concert on May 9 at 6:30PM
2. Create a chamber ensemble that meets for at least 4 hours, has one coaching session with Mr. Westmoreland, and does one public performance outside of the school day
3. Participate in a ensemble outside of the school day that meets regularly & attend appropriate performances (must be cleared with Mr. Westmoreland ahead of time)