

# AMERICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

## BAND

### 2019-2020 Beginning Band Syllabus

This course is designed to give the student an enriching, comprehensive and relevant instrumental music education. This class provides many performance opportunities for the student in a variety of settings. The daily objective of the course is to foster and promote an appreciation and love for instrumental music as a performer and an active listener.

As a member of the band program, group effort and cooperation are necessary to create a successful program. Band is a skilled effort in which each student is expected to show technical and musical growth throughout this course.

#### **American Leadership Academy Mission Statement**

To provide the best educational experience to as many students as possible in a moral and wholesome environment.

#### **American Leadership Academy Band Mission Statement**

The mission of the ALA Eagles Band Program is to achieve the highest standards of music education and performance; and to instill in our students the significant role that music plays in the cultural, intellectual, and social lives of young adults;

- To Foster RESPECT, fellowship and goodwill among its members;
- Inspire students to strive for personal ACCOUNTABILITY and INTEGRITY;
- Promote SERVICE by providing music in our community;
- Provide its membership with opportunities for personal EXCELLENCE, growth and leadership.

**RAISE Values:** On top of providing a high-quality education, ALA Eagles Band wishes to further develop the contribution our students will make in society through the integration of the RAISE Values into our curriculum. Using the RAISE Values in our lesson plans *every day* will help us create a band culture that will be second to none.

## RESPECT

#### **Classroom Policies**

##### **Please Do:**

- Come to class with a positive attitude.
- Seek out those that need your friendship.
- Come to class prepared with your materials *every day*.
- Make sure that your personal playing space is left clean and that chairs and stands are placed in the correct spot every day before you leave.
- Let Mr. Krites know if you have a planned absence.
- Be Exceptional. Always.

##### **Let's Not:**

- Chew gum in Band. Ever.
- Talk to your neighbor when the director is giving instruction or we are in the middle of rehearsal.
- Eat in the Band Hall. We don't want bugs. We already spit on the floor. Also, eating food and then playing your instrument is gross. Just think about it for a minute.
- Drink anything other than water in the Band Hall. Sugary drinks not only do bad things to our floors, but it corrodes the insides of your instruments and does terrible things to the pads (if you have them). Don't ever drink anything other than water before playing your instrument!

## ACCOUNTABILITY

#### **Required Materials (All Students)**

- Black 1-inch binder with some page protectors and white lined paper
- Korg TM -50 or TM - 60 Combo Tuner Metronome (With Microphone!!) (Faster to purchase on Amazon)
- Your Instrument
- Method book "The Standard of Excellence: Book 1" - for your instrument (Faster to purchase on Amazon)
- Mechanical pencil- dedicated to your binder
- Instrument cleaning supplies
- Percussionists need a practice pad: Vic Firth double sided practice pad 12 in. Sticks: Vic Firth Corpmaster "Ralphie Jr." (white stick)

**Required Performance Attire: (Due by**

- Boys: White Dress Shirt, Black Tie
- Girls: White Dress Shirt, Scoop neck (no “v” neck), Cap sleeve minimum length
- Black Dress Pants
- Closed toe, black dress shoes
- Black socks (if worn)
- Black belt

**Class Fees**

There is a \$50 Class Fee for the year. (It is broken up into \$25 per semester)

- The cost of the class fee goes toward the purchase of music and communal class instruments and materials. This fee is paid through INFINITE CAMPUS.
- There will be at least one class trip this year. Cost of this trip will be disclosed once the details of the trip are announced.

## INTEGRITY

**Attendance**

Commitment to 100% attendance is extremely important to the success of the band as a complete ensemble, in addition to the student’s individual growth on their instrument. In band, most students play a part that is entirely their own. If the student is absent from a rehearsal, important cues that the other ensemble members rely on will not be heard. Each student is incredibly important.

Attendance is mandatory for all performances. Make up assignments will be issued on an individual basis. Only illness, death in the family, and an immediate family wedding will be accepted as an excuse for being absent from a performance.

**Late Assignment Policy**

With instructor approval, assignments may be accepted for up to one week after the due date, however, 10 points per day will be deducted.

Extenuating circumstances may be determined on rare occasions and an extension allowed without a deduction, but only at the sole discretion of the instructor. No assignments will be accepted after the last day of the course (end of term).

**Academic Integrity**

Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated at any level on any assignment. The reality of cyberspace has made academic dishonesty even more tempting for some, but be advised that technology can and will be used to help uncover those engaging in deception. If you ever have a question about the legitimacy of a source or a procedure you are considering using, please ask Mr. Krites

## SERVICE

**Service Through Performance**

Students may sign up to perform at either a children’s hospital or a retirement home this year! More to come as those dates are booked.

**Band Council/Section Leaders**

Service the band through leadership opportunities! We will be choosing these leadership positions during the first two weeks of school.

## EXCELLENCE

### REQUIRED PERFORMANCES

**Concert Band Performances (500 Points per performance)**

All concerts begin at 7pm

- Fall Concert: October 1 at 7:00pm. (Combined Orchestra and Band Concert)
- Winter Concert: December 12 at 7:00pm
- Spring Concert: February 24 at 7:00pm
- Final Concert: May 14 at 7:00pm

Illness is an acceptable reason to be absent. Make up work will be required if a performance is missed.

### GRADING STANDARDS:

Grades for each student will be entered Friday each week.

**Participation: 5 points a day (25 points a week)**

- Binder
- The KORG Metronome
- Pencil
- Music (IN BLACK BINDER, never lose!)
- Instrument

**Assessments: (50 points per each assessment)**

An assessment will be given once a week. The assessment will always be based on the rehearsal map which will be handed out at the beginning of each quarter. We will rotate the following assessments, one per week in the following order.

- **Playing Tests:** The student will be asked to play the excerpt from the rehearsal map.
- **Scale Tests:** The student will be asked to play the scale as noted on the rehearsal map. Mastery, not memorization, is required during standard scale tests.

**Midterms/Finals: (500 Points each)**

Concerts/Performances are weighted as Midterm/Finals

**Written Assignment: (250 Points each)**

Students will be required to submit two written assignments this year, one in each semester. The students will have a rubric and an assignment description to work from. Since this is not an English class, the students will not be graded on grammar, punctuation or spelling; rather the content and fulfillment of rubric objectives.

- **Written Assignment 1: My Instrumental Mentor!**
  - Choose a RECORDED ARTIST who plays your instrument and write a paper on what makes them special to you.
  - A rubric will be given as a guide.
- **Written Assignment 2: My Favorite Band Piece**
  - Go onto Youtube and find a band piece that you really like and write a one page paper about the piece.
  - A rubric will be given as a guide.

**Extra Credit:**

-In order to ensure ALA's lessons, assignments, and assessments truly reflect student mastery, ALA's academic program does not include extra credit offerings.

**Test Retake**

-All students will be given multiple opportunities to demonstrate proficiency with all Priority Standards for each class, recognizing that students learn at different rates and times.

-Retakes are for formative assessments only. Summative exams such as unit tests, mid-terms, and finals are not eligible for retakes.

-For a student to retake a specific assessment, either in whole or in part, the student needs to:

--Demonstrate readiness to retake, through a study plan, additional practice, and/or parent communication (A study plan may vary teacher to teacher, but needs to include the priority standard(s) being reassessed, and identify what practice or additional study the student needs to do before retaking the assessment)

--Work with the teacher to schedule a time to retake the assessment at a time that will best meet the needs of both the teacher and student (Such as during class, before or after school, or during lunch)

--Retake the assessment within the grading period it was first given (exceptions will be made for extended absences or other exceptional circumstances)

--Retakes of specific assessments must allow students to demonstrate mastery of the standard, not memorization of a previous assessment (In other words, students will not just be given the same test again)

--Teachers will provide reteaching for both retakes and additional assessments

**Make Up Work**

-Homework that is due the day that a student is absent is due upon return.

-Assignments missed due to an absence will be given an equal number of school days to complete assignments.

-Missed assignments may be picked up at the end of the school day.

-Students or parents/legal guardians must request make-up work 24 hours in advance of pick-up.

**PAR**

-Class absences due to PAR will be marked as unexcused absences and will count toward the state-mandated threshold for credit withholding.

-Students sent to PAR for being tardy will be permitted to make up missed work in accordance with the Make Up Work policy as listed in the handbook

**Cell Phone Policy**

-Cell phones and smart watches are allowed on campus; however, they must be turned off and out of sight from the time they come on campus until the end of the school day.

-We will be enforcing this rule strictly this year as we found that cell phones were becoming a significant distraction to student learning and our campus environment.

**Earbud / Headphones**

-Like cell phones, earbud, air pods, and other headphones became a distraction last year.

-This year, earbuds/headphones are NOT allowed to be used during school hours and may not be worn on any part of a student's body during school hours.

## Assignments At-A-Glance

### Quarter 1 and 3

Assignment/Activity	Qty.	Points	Total Points
Weeks 1-8: Participation	8	25 per week	200
Weeks 1-8: Assessments	8	50 per week	400
Semester 1: Mid-term (Fall Concert)	1	500	500
Semester 1: Written Assignment	1	250	250
<b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>	1350		

### Quarter 2 and 4

Assignment/Activity	Qty.	Points	Total Points
Weeks 1-8: Participation	8	25 per week	200
Weeks 1-8: Assessments	8	50 per week	400
Semester 1: Final (Winter Concert)	1	500	500
<b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>	1100		

### Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage
A	90 to 100%
B	80 to 89%
C	70 to 79%
D	60 to 69%
F	≤ 59%

You will be able to see your child's grade updated every Friday on Infinite Campus

### How to Contact Mr. Krites and How to Keep Informed

Having a consistent and open line of communication with the parents of my students is very important to me.

- We have a **WEBSITE** for our band which will always have current information. On it, you will find calendar events, forms to download such as permission slips, class descriptions, etc.

Please visit: <http://gnbands.alaschools.org>

- **Phone:** The fastest way to reach Mr. Krites is through email and remind text.
- **Email:** [jkrites@alaschools.org](mailto:jkrites@alaschools.org)...
- **Reminder Texts:** This is for up to the minute reminders for call times, changes in activities and playing text reminders! PARENTS AND STUDENTS should join. I will also give updates as to where we are and what we are doing on class trips through this app. You really need to utilize this!
  - o Download "Remind 101" App
  - o Create a regular text (outside of app) and:
  - o Enter this number: 81010
  - o Text this message: @eaglesbegb
  - o Follow the prompts to complete registration