

Band Syllabus

Ryan Gillis, Director

gillisrc@pwcs.edu

703-441-4303

*****Keep this syllabus in your music folder for your reference, you only need to turn in signature page!**

I. Band Events 2018-2019

All County Band Auditions	Stonewall Jackson HS	11/28/2018 4-8PM
Winter Concert Rehearsals	Potomac Senior HS	12/3-12/5/2018 CB 2:15-4:00; SB 4:15-6
PSHS Winter Concert	Potomac Senior HS	12/6/2018 7:30PM
District Band Auditions	Manassas Park HS	12/8/2018 8:00AM
All County Band Event	Osborne Park HS	1/10-1/12/2019 all day
All District Band	Hylton HS	2/1-2/2/2019 all day
Band Pre-Assessment Rehearsals	Potomac Senior HS	2/7,8,11,12/2019 CB 2:15-4:00; SB 4:15-6
Band Pre-Assessment Concert	Potomac Senior HS	2/13/2019
District Band Assessments	Woodbridge HS	2/18,3/1-3/2/2019 TBD
AIA Indoor Competition –Mandatory!	Potomac Senior HS	Date TBD
Band Solo and Ensemble	TBD	Dates TBD
Spring Concert	Potomac Senior HS	5/9/2019

Events will be added or changed as necessary. Check email and SLMS Page.

II. About The Bands

Concert Band

The Potomac Senior High School Concert Band consists of members of the intermediate band and advanced percussion classes. These students will perform music on the grade 2,3, and 4 levels. Students who show extreme growth and ability may be invited to perform with the Symphonic or Festival Bands. The purposes of this ensemble are to learn to play with good technique and tone quality, to learn to read music effectively, and to perform music from the band repertoire.

Symphonic Band

The Potomac Senior High School Symphonic Band consists of members of the advanced band and advanced percussion classes. At times, students who show extreme growth in other ensembles may be invited to perform with the Symphonic Band. Students in Symphonic Band will perform music on the grade 2, 3, 4, and 5 levels. These students are expected to work at the highest level within the band program. The purposes of this ensemble are to learn to play with good technique and tone quality, to learn to read music effectively, and to perform music from the band repertoire at the highest level the group can achieve.

Percussion Ensemble

The Potomac Senior High School Percussion Ensemble consists of members of the Concert Band and Advanced Band. The purpose of this ensemble is to represent the Band Program in concert and to perform music for percussion that is separate from the music for the Concert and Symphonic Bands. Students in this program will attend VBODA District Assessments in the Spring. Students in Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Percussion Ensemble will be invited to perform with this ensemble based on achievement and ability as determined by the director. When needed, auditions will be given.

III. Grading & Expectations

Grading

Student grades will be determined using a weighted system consisting of the following categories:

30% Rehearsal Skills (Given daily, includes preparation and achievement for daily class rehearsals)

60% Assessment (Playing quizzes, Quarterly Benchmark Assessments, and written work)

10% Concerts (Includes All Concerts, District Concert Assessment, and this signed syllabus)

The Potomac Senior High School Band Program follows the Prince William County School Board Policy, wherein:

“Members of performing musical organizations are to be present at all public performances except when excused by the music teacher and/or principal. An unexcused absence from such a performance may lower the achievement grade which the student would have normally received not more than one letter grade for the grading period and in no case fail the student for the year.”

ALL CONCERTS ARE MANDATORY. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Practicing

Since there are no written homework assignments in this class, the bulk of your grade will be directly reflective of your practicing at home. Information on what to practice will be given each class and be posted on the whiteboard in the classroom. **Practicing** is what we do at home, **REHEARSING** is what we do together. Don't waste your classmates time, prepare for class **EVERY** day. Great rehearsals make great performances!

District IX Band Assessment

District Band Assessment is an adjudicated event where bands perform music of a specific grade level (I through VI) for a rating (I through V) from three judges with I being the highest rating and V the lowest. A fourth judge will adjudicate the sight-reading portion of the Assessment. This is an extremely important event (**the “Music SOL’s”**), and attendance requirements will be the same as those for Concerts. The required Assessment times for each group will be announced as soon as they are available.

No food, drink, or gum will be allowed in class with the exception of bottled water. EVER.

If a student accumulates ten or more absences (excused or unexcused), the student will be in danger of failing this course for the year.

Above all, RESPECT all those around you, and treat them as you wish to be treated. Inside and outside of the rehearsal room, band students are expected to abide by ALL Potomac Senior High School Rules and Policies.

Please do not hesitate to come to me with any problems, questions or concerns you may have. My door is always open. After-school help is available upon request and some required sectional time may be added as needed.

A Note to Parents:

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have concerns over your student's progress or anything concerning class involvement at gillisrc@pwcs.edu or 703-441-4303.

IV. Equipment Policy

Everyday Rehearsal Equipment (YOU MUST HAVE THIS STUFF EVERY DAY)

1. Your instrument
2. Required Reeds, Mouthpiece, Valve Oil, etc. If it makes your instrument play, bring it every day.
 - a. Woodwind players are required to have a minimum of 2 good reeds every class.
 - b. You are required to purchase reeds, there will not be any made available at school.
3. Pencil
4. PSHS Band Folder and ALL music (*Even if your stand partner "always has it"*)
5. Cleaning supplies for your specific instrument
6. Method Book and warm-up handouts (price and availability TBD)

Rental

Prince William County Public Schools has an instrumental rental program. For a \$60 fee, students who do not own an instrument may rent them from the school *if instruments are available*. If you play an instrument that is too large to carry home, a second instrument can be rented to keep at home pending availability for an additional \$30.

Repairs

Please notify me immediately if a repair needs to be made on your instrument, whether it is a rental instrument or student owned. Rental instruments that need to be sent to the repair shop will take a few days to return. If you are without an instrument due to repairs, **you** are responsible for finding an instrument to use while yours is being repaired. **Not having an instrument for class will directly affect your grade.**

V. Uniform Policy

A uniform is a vital part of any performing ensemble. It shows visual solidarity between all members of the group. Each member of the band is required to purchase a uniform. Some uniform components will need to be ordered directly by the school, while others will need to be provided by the student. The uniform will be used for each year the student is in the band program at Potomac. Uniforms will be used at all concert and assessment events.

It is your responsibility to have the uniform parts purchased and on hand prior to the first concert on December 7, 2017. Failure to be in full and appropriate uniform will result in a grade deduction as it is part of the performance.

In general, the company we use can usually turn orders around in 2 weeks. Please keep in mind that uniforms may have to be hemmed and adjusted in order to be fit to the individual student. These uniforms were selected because of their availability, professional look, and low cost. Uniform information is listed on the next page.

Uniform Purchasing Information

Items to Purchase: Boys Website: www.formalfashions.com

Package: \$42 3-pc package

1. Go to search box and type in EXACTLY this: 2109BK

Or – type this address in your browser: <http://www.formalfashionsinc.com/41-3-pc-package-9615.html>

And skip to step 3.

2. 3 options should appear. Select the \$42.00 3-pc package.

3. Select Black Pants Size (see chart below)

4. Select Black Shirt Size (see chart below)

5. Select Royal Blue Tie

6. Select Adult Size

3PC Package comes with Pants, Shirt, Tie for \$42.00

Guys Pants and Shirt sizing:

ALL BOYS MUST WEAR BLACK DRESS SHOES AND DRESS SOCKS. PLEASE SEE MR. GILLIS WITH ANY QUESTIONS!

Items to Purchase: Girls Website: www.formalfashions.com

SKIRT: 504FAA-E – A-Line Skirt Floor Length

1. Go to search box and type in exactly this: 504FAA-E

Or, type this address in your browser: <http://www.formalfashionsinc.com/style-504faa-e-a-line-skirt-floor-length.html>

and skip to step 3.

2. Select the 2nd option that says black-knit in the description.

3. Select your size.

SHIRT:

1. Go to search box and type in exactly this: 9733 AA-E

Or, type this address in your browser: <http://www.formalfashionsinc.com/style-9733aa-performance-knit-blouse.html>

and skip to step 3.

2. Select only available option: Style 9733 AA-E Performance Knit Blouse

3. Select size. *if you see multiple color options, you are on the wrong page.

Sizing information is available on the formal fashion webpage.

SHOES SHOULD BE BLACK FLATS, PLEASE SEE MR. GILLIS WITH ANY QUESTIONS!

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My student and I have read the 2018-2019 Potomac Senior High School Band Syllabus. We understand the director's responsibilities and our responsibilities to the Band program at Potomac Senior High School.

Student Name (Printed)

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Instrument Storage Policy Agreement

September 2018

Dear Music Student and Parent(s):

Prince William County Public Schools makes every possible effort to provide a safe, clean, convenient, and comfortable environment for its students to study the disciplines of music. Part of this convenience is the use of storage facilities where the students may choose to leave their personal instruments either during the school day or overnight. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the school district's policy regarding responsibility.

Instrument storage spaces and rooms are for the convenience of students. Prince William County Public Schools will do everything within reason, to provide lockable places to protect personal instruments; however, a complete and foolproof system of protection is not possible. For this reason, the Prince William County School District will not accept responsibility for replacing or repairing a privately owned instrument.

The theft of an instrument is often covered in a homeowner's insurance policy. Owners of instruments should check with their insurance company to determine if coverage is available.

Sincerely,
Ryan Gillis

I have read the document above and understand its terms and implications.

Parent/Guardian Signature