



Band Class Syllabus

Department: Fine Arts/Instrumental Music 2024 - 2025

COURSE TITLE: Advanced Band (Wind Symphony), Intermediate Band (Symphonic) Band, Beginning Band (Concert Band)

INSTRUCTORS: Mr. Eulas Kirtdoll/Mr. Endre Jenkins

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BAND WEBSITE: <http://www.pebblebrookbands.com>

SCHOOL WEBSITE: <http://www.cobbk12.org/Pebblebrook/>

PHS SCHOOL VISION: Inspiring life-long learners who will positively impact their communities.

PHS SCHOOL MISSION: *To Serve our community by embracing cultural diversity and fostering relationships that creates opportunities, builds character, and promotes success,, leading to life-long achievements.*

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Pebblebrook High School 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, marching band, jazz band, small ensembles, solos, auditions and other extracurricular activities.

Classes Offered

The Wind Symphony is the flagship ensemble of Pebblebrook High School. Students in this ensemble display the highest level of musicianship, capable of performing Grade 4, 5 and 6 literature. Membership in this ensemble shall be by audition and may be revoked at any time due to lack of preparation or discipline issues. Students in this ensemble will prepare and perform literature of the highest difficulty and work to meet the Pebblebrook High School "Advanced" Level Requirements. Students in this ensemble are encouraged to audition for the GMEA All State Band and District 12 Honor Band.

The Symphonic Band is the performing ensemble at Pebblebrook High School where students display a high level of musicianship capable of performing Grade 3, 4, and 5 literature. Students in this ensemble will prepare and perform literature of the highest difficulty and work to meet the Pebblebrook High School “Intermediate” Level Requirements. Membership in this ensemble shall be by audition and may be revoked at any time due to lack of preparation or discipline issues. Students in this ensemble are encouraged to audition for the GMEA All State Band and District 12 Honor Band.

The Concert Band is the performing ensemble at Pebblebrook High School where students display a skill level of musicianship capable of performing Grade 2, 3, and 4 literature. Students in this ensemble will work to meet the Pebblebrook High School “Beginning” Level Requirements. Students in this ensemble are required to attend all after school rehearsals, concerts, and Large Group Performance Evaluation (LGPE) in March. Students in this ensemble are encouraged to audition for the GMEA All State Band and District 12 Honor Band.

CHARACTER

Members of the Pebblebrook Band will be held to the highest standards of character at all times. Students will be continually instructed on how to be model citizens in the band, school, and community. Should a student act in a way that does not conform to the expected standards, he/she will be subject to discipline within the band program and/or through school administration. Student’s who do not exhibit the highest levels of character may also be removed from the program at the directors’ discretion.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

Instruments: Although we are fortunate to be able to provide instruments without charge to students, we recommend those that own a personal instrument use it to ensure there are enough instruments for all students. **Students that use school owned instruments must complete the CCSD instrument agreement form** and are responsible for returning the instrument in a good working condition. Students may be liable for loss or damage to an instrument they have been issued. Students may also be asked to purchase upgraded mouthpieces, instruments, and reeds to achieve mastery of the standards.

Woodwind students should supply reeds (size 3 or 3 1/2 strength Vandoren) and instrument swabs for their instruments. Brass students are asked to supply valve oil or slide oil (trombones). Students should bring these supplies to class daily.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS:

General Classroom Behavior Expectations

1. Bring **ALL** appropriate materials to class daily
2. Raise your hand and be recognized by the teacher before speaking
3. Be respectful and polite to **ALL** people

4. Play instruments **ONLY** when instructed
5. Obey **ALL** school rules or be subject to consequences of inappropriate behavior

Consequences:

- 1st offense-Verbal Warning
- 2nd offense- Alternative Assignment/Mark against rehearsal preparation grade
- 3rd offense- Parent phone call/teacher conference
- 4th offense- Teacher referral
- 5th offense- Administrative referral

Class Rehearsal Preparation Guidelines: In an effort to create a positive learning environment and provide more efficient rehearsals the following policies will be in effect:

1st Bell - Students should enter the room, immediately get their instrument by sections and find their seat.

Tardy Bell – classroom door locked/students must be seated and warming up individually.

5 Minutes after Tardy Bell - Group Warm-up will begin/students must have warmed up for at least 5 minutes by this time.

End of Class Bell - Pack-up/Dismissal

Additional class procedure guidelines:

Students are to make no more sounds on their instruments after dismissal.

-Tardies for class will be assigned according to school policy.

Please leave books, food, bags, and other personal items in areas designated by the teacher.

-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. No Talking

-The time in between agenda items should be **silent** and should require **minimal movement**.

-ALL students must have their own music, music folder, instrument, and pencil each day.

-Students may only use the restroom during the first 15 minutes of class. All other time is considered dead time and students may not leave the class.

Students can earn 100 points per week (20pts. per day) for rehearsal preparation and rehearsal performance etiquette. These 20 points per day shall be used to assess the above policies. These policies are the same expectations of a professional music ensemble and should be viewed as an effort to educate our students on being professional in their approach to rehearsal, not as punishment. Examples of rehearsal preparation and performance etiquette are being prepared for class (with instrument, instrument accessories, music folder complete with all music) and following class procedures. Students may earn additional points for tests and quizzes.

Everyday is an audition – students will be evaluated daily on their individual musical skills and personal contributions to the ensemble. Formal playing assessments will be held

periodically in-person and video/audio submissions. Select formal playing assessments will serve as chair placement auditions as well. Auditions will take place for class placement each semester.

Band students are required to attend all performances and rehearsals for each music ensemble upon which they participate, including before and after school performances and rehearsals. Absences from a concert or other performances will only be excused in the case of an emergency. Prior commitments, family functions, and other performance events will not be considered excused absences. The band performance calendar is posted on www.pebblebrookbands.com website and the Band App.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Class Requirements

1. Students in band class will prepare and present multiple concerts per year, as notated in the calendar on the pebblebrookbands.com website.
2. Students in band class will participate in before/after school sectionals, as determined by the directors.
3. Students in the Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band will participate in the GMEA District and All-State Materials.
4. Students in band class will participate in the Concert Band Clinic in February and Large Group Performance Evaluation in March (this includes any extra sectional or ensemble rehearsals).

Important Events

1. **Jan Fest, University of Ga Honor Band:** (Thursday, January 16th - Saturday, January 18th, 2025) is an honor band for selected high school band students. Students selected will spend the weekend rehearsing, performing, and hearing other performances on the University of Georgia campus. There is a registration, hotel lodging, and transportation cost that students will be responsible for upon being selected to participate in JanFest. Please be mindful the Janfest nomination is a very high distinction and only band students in the top 10% (music performance and model behavior) of their band class will be nominated.
2. **District Honor Band:** (February 7th thru February 9th) is a district wide honor band for students who auditioned for all-state and qualified for a seat in one of the CCSD Honor Bands. Students will spend the weekend rehearsing, performing, and listening to music performances on the campus of North Cobb HS.
3. **PHS Concert Band Clinic:** (Saturday, February 1st) is an annual event for all PHS band class students attending LGPE. A schedule for specific report times for each band class will be sent out at a later date.
4. **LGPE (Large Group Performance Evaluation)** (March 20th, 21st, and 22nd) : Large Group Performance Evaluation (LGPE) is an annual event in which the concert band classes prepare music and perform for district music evaluation.

5. **Spring Concert:** (April/May 2025) This concert will count as the major graded performance for the semester for all band classes.

Band Fees for 2024 - 2025 Concert Bands

We do ask for minimal monetary contributions to the band program specifically for the concert band classes of \$50 per student.

Payment Due: \$50. Friday, January 24th. This fee will be paid on the student's CutTime Account.

Concert Band Class Fee covers the following costs:

Concert Band Clinic Sessions: (taking place periodically during spring semester) The concert band clinic is a series of rehearsal sessions for all students to fully prepare themselves for Large Group Performance Evaluation and the Spring concert. Each section will receive instruction from professional musicians on their respective instruments. This fee is included to bring the best possible music enrichment experience for our students.

Concert Attire: *Freshmen and New Students. - The appropriate concert attire for band students is black tuxedo jacket and pants, white tuxedo shirt, black bow-tie, black dress shoes, and black dress socks (young men); long black formal gown and dress shoes (young ladies). This Concert Attire Page of the band website has direct links to the uniforms. - www.pebblebrookbands.com/concert-attire

Instructions are listed below:

Boys Tuxedo

1. Go to the website - <http://www.pebblebrookbands.com/concert-attire>
2. Click *Poly Peak Tuxedo – Coat and Comfort Fit Trousers* - \$99

Girls Dress

1. Go to the website - <http://www.pebblebrookbands.com/concert-attire>
2. The ***Caitlen (preferred)*** i dress for Pebblebrook - \$60

PARTICIPATION: Class participation is an important component of the Advanced Band, Intermediate Band, and Concert Band curriculum. Much can be learned from the exchange of ideas that occurs during class rehearsals. Frequent absences SERIOUSLY jeopardize your success in this class. The participation grade will be based on the degree of student involvement in the learning activities, including attention to and participation in written and oral exercises, class discussion, class performance and establishment of an out of class practice routine. To reiterate: If you do not participate in daily class rehearsals, you will not receive a passing grade for that day. Students that are “sick” and present in band class must submit a signed note from a parent to turn into the band director at the beginning of class. Students that

fail to notify the band director of their sickness and verify with a parent notice will not receive daily points for rehearsal preparation and performance etiquette.

Pebblebrook High School Band Concert Make Up Policy

Absences from concerts will only be excused in the case of an emergency (illness or death in the family). Prior commitments, family, functions, and other performance events will not be excused. There are no make-up assignments for unexcused concert absences. In the case of an excused absence make up points may be earned by writing a typed research paper on any composers from a historically significant time period (Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, 20th Century/Modern) and a music check either by recording or with an individual appointment with the band director. Guidelines for reports are as follows:

- The paper and music check together will be worth the student's concert performance grade.
 - Technique (25 pts)
 - Font must be 12 pt. Times New Roman and SINGLE spaced
 - Paper must be at least 2 pages in length
 - Graphics are not allowed as part of the required report length
 - Research (25 pts)
 - Work should include multiple sources
 - Work should paraphrase other sources, not merely cut and paste
 - A formal bibliography containing a minimum of 3 sources should be included.
 - Writing (25 pts)
 - Work should be written in complete sentences.
 - Work should reflect some original thought based on research, in addition to factual information.
 - Students will be held accountable for grammar, spelling, punctuation and writing standards according to the English classes for their own grade level.
 - Music check (25 points)
 - Students may either make a recording or come in to play the repertoire for the band directors.
 - Students will be graded on accuracy of notes, rhythms, tone, and music expression.
- Students may write on multiple composers to gain the required length if necessary. The same technical, research and written requirements apply.
- Due date for the report is five school days after the student returns to school. One letter grade will be deducted for each day late
- Paper may be submitted to the band directors either electronically or paper copy.
- Reports that do not meet the required minimum length due to incorrect font, spacing, graphics or substance will NOT be accepted and will be given back to the student for resubmission.

TARDY POLICY:

To avoid being counted tardy, **students must be seated and ready for class when the bell rings**. School policy states that students may receive detention, In-School Suspension, and Out-of-School Suspension for repeated tardiness.

EXTRA HELP:

Students that may need extra help should notify the band director and make arrangements to attend morning or afternoon sessions.

Morning Session: 7:45 AM to 8:15 AM

Afternoon Session: By appointment

STUDENT COMMITMENT: Students are expected to participate in the marching and concert bands during their entire high school matriculation. One of the main goals of the Pebblebrook Band is to develop the “whole” musician by providing a variety of musical experiences for our students to participate in. Furthermore students that take part in both marching and concert band throughout high school at PHS will have fulfilled the prerequisite for eligibility to audition for college band scholarships, as those institutions expect students to participate in marching and concert band on the collegiate level as conditions of the band scholarship.

CCSD Fine Arts Diploma Seal: The Department of Education and the Cobb County School District awards select band seniors with a Fine Arts seal for their Diploma. In order for band seniors to qualify for the seal the following requirements must be met:

- Enrollment and participation in band class during entire high school matriculation
- Complete and submit the capstone project designated by the Band Director(s)

Band Stole Requirements: The Pebblebrook High School Band program traditionally awards band seniors with a band stole to be worn at the graduation ceremony. Requirements to obtain a stole are as follows:

- Participation in **marching and concert band the entire duration** of their high school matriculation
- Fulfillment of all financial obligations to PHS band program

FINAL THOUGHTS:

We are looking forward to making this year our best yet in the band! In order for that to happen please remember COMMUNICATION IS KEY!! If you are unsure about what you are being asked to do, don't be afraid to ask for clarity. We are here to help you reach your full potential. Immediately share dates and information about class with your parents/guardians. Remember in order to be successful on your music instrument you must develop a regular practice routine. And last but not least, periodically check grades in Synergy.

*****Please sign acknowledgement form on the page below*****

SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

Complete this page and return signed by Monday, January 13th.

We have read and understand all policies set forth in this band class syllabus.

Student Name: (print) _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Name: (print) _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Cell Phone Number: _____

Parent Email (print): _____