

Delsea Regional Middle School  
Instrumental Music Department

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**CONCERT BAND SYLLABUS**

**Instructor**

Mr. Vincent S. Du Beau,  
Director of Instrumental Activities, ext. 386

**Meeting Time**

Monday-Friday  
Period 1/2

**Required Materials**

Student instrument/stick bag (percussionists)

Band folder

Metronome

**PENCIL**

**Provided Materials**

Band folder

Metronome

Reeds

Stick bags/mallets

\*Large instruments (bass clarinet, baritone saxophone, percussion instruments)

**Purpose**

Middle School Band is open to any student with some level of previous instrumental experience, though performance in elementary band is always preferred. The primary focus of the band is to expose students to new music that offers new and exciting challenges. New rhythms and musical styles, as well as scales will be the backbone of those challenges. Students will meet daily as a class, with lessons provided at various times each day. Over the course of the year, students can expect to perform in two formal concerts, several spring assemblies, and a middle school band workshop at Rowan University. Students may also audition for All-South Jersey Junior High Band (see page 3, **ASJ Band**), and interested students should see Mr. Du Beau for more information.

Various opportunities for performance or study of music outside of band class are available, including solos, small ensembles (duets, trios, quartets, etc.). Independent study on secondary instruments may also be available with the instructor's approval.

### Classroom Policies

Above all else, the policies set forth for the Delsea Regional Middle School student body will be adhered to at all times. Beyond those policies, several classroom policies have been put in place to ensure the most productive, fun, musical experience that we can offer. Those include:

1. Upon entering the classroom, students must take out their instruments and proceed to the stage to warm-up.
2. Any instrument questions, repairs, or malfunctions should be brought to Mr. Du Beau prior to the start of rehearsal when possible.
3. **BAND IS FUN!** In keeping with New Jersey and district policies, any students found guilty or suspected of *harassing*, *bullying*, or *mocking* another student in **any** way will be subject to disciplinary action.
4. Food and beverages are not permitted in class at any time (THIS INCLUDES GUM!). Students may have unrestricted access to the water fountain in the music room.

### Lessons

Lesson periods will be available each day for students to work one on one or in small groups. Both Mr. Du Beau and Mr. McCarron will be available for lessons throughout the day. A list of periods will be available to you during the second week of school. Lesson periods may change with the change of the marking periods, but generally there are several lesson periods available each day.

### Grading

The current grading policy of Delsea Regional Middle School reflects a 70/30 breakdown as follows:

**70% Assessments** - Concerts & performances; scale tests; marking period assessments (MPAs)

**30% Classwork/Homework** - Weekly participation; take-home assignments

With regards to assessments, when a student fails to complete a scale test or MPA, the highest score they can receive is a 65 for that assignment. If the missed test or MPA is completed within the allocated time of an excused absence (see DRMS Student Handbook), the student is eligible for the total available points. In the event a student fails to complete the missed test within the allocated time of an excused absence, but before the end of the current marking period, the highest grade they can receive is a 75. **In the event a student is unable to attend a concert performance**, an alternate assignment will be provided. Failure to complete the assignment will result in a zero for the assessment.

### Scale Testing & Marking Period Assessments

During each marking period, students will be required to complete a series of scale tests, as well as one marking period assessment. The scale tests are graded on a rubric that each student will receive during the first week of school. MPA's often change from year to year, but they are generally performance-based and are also graded on a rubric.

### **Performance Attire**

All students are required to wear a DRMS Music Department polo shirt and black pants during performances. In the past, the cost of these shirts has been \$10.00. Details of the shirt purchasing will be sent home in the first few weeks of school, with any updated pricing. Pants are to be supplied by the student, and should be accompanied by black dress shoes. Girls are welcome to wear a dress sandal, but flip flops, UGGs, slippers, sneakers, etc. may not be worn in concert.

### **All-South Jersey (ASJ) Junior High Band**

Each year, the South Jersey Band and Orchestra Director's Association (SJBODA) hosts the All-South Jersey Junior High Bands concert. The concert consists of two (2) concert bands of equal size and talent, comprised of students from all over southern New Jersey. Auditions for the bands take place in January, and are in three parts:

1. Scales (memorized)
2. Solo
3. Sight-reading

While it may seem like a lot of work, the ASJ bands continually provide exciting experiences for students and feature great conductors and teachers from our area. Many Delsea students have successfully auditioned for the bands and have had only positive experiences to bring back to the middle school. Could you be next?!

### **Instruments**

If you would like to purchase an instrument, be it new or used, please refer to the attached "**Suggested Instrument List**". This list is by no means comprehensive, but provides a basic list of instruments trusted and recommended by music educators. After consulting the list and doing some price shopping, please contact Mr. Du Beau for a list of reputable vendors from which to consider purchasing your instrument. In many cases, educators and professionals may be able to take advantage of better deals and lower prices not advertised to consumers.

### **Accessories**

While DRMS will provide students with reeds or a mallet bag at no additional cost, it is always recommended for students to begin investing in their own equipment, especially once upgrades or intermediate models are warranted. Please refer to the "**Suggested Accessories & Equipment**" list for items trusted and recommended by music educators.

### Suggested Intermediate Instrument Manufacturer List

<b>Flute</b>	Yamaha Gemeinhardt Jupiter
<b>Clarinet</b>	Yamaha Buffet Jupiter
<b>Alto Saxophone</b>	Yamaha Jupiter
<b>Trumpet</b>	Bach Yamaha Jupiter
<b>Horn</b>	Conn Yamaha
<b>Trombone</b>	Bach Yamaha Conn
<b>Euphonium</b>	Yamaha Conn
<b>Tuba</b>	Yamaha
<b>Percussion</b>	See Mr. Du Beau.

### Suggested Accessories & Equipment List

<b>Reeds</b>	Vandoren Traditional Vandoren V12 (clarinet) Vandoren ZZ (saxophone) Rico Royal
<b>Mouthpieces</b>	Bach (3C, 5C, 7C) Yamaha (3C, 4C, 5C, 7C)
<b>Ligatures</b>	Vandoren Optimum Rovner Dark
<b>Cases</b>	Pro-Tec SKB Gator
<b>Tuners &amp; Metronomes</b>	Korg TM-40 (Metronome & Tuner)
<b>Sticks &amp; Mallets</b>	Vic Firth SD-1 Sticks Vic Firth M5 Med-Hard mallets Vic Firth M15 Soft poly-ball mallets Vic Firth T1 General Timpani mallets