

# Cherokee 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Calendar and Syllabus

Welcome Cherokee's 8<sup>th</sup> grade and 2014 band class of Kickapoo High School! I hope you all had a restful and musical summer. This begins an exciting time in your band career where you build on your knowledge base and work toward performance perfection. The first several weeks in band will be spent reviewing skills learned last year and getting back into the practice habit. Pep band auditions will be in a couple of weeks for those new to Cherokee or those who did not participate last year. Honor Band try-outs are at the end of October for those who are interested in auditioning for a spot. Listen in class for details.

Our first performance is the middle of September!! Please bring your Band Expressions Book II to class everyday.

It is very important that you read this letter for important details of the band program and concert dates that effect the entire year.

**Major Instructional Goal's** – go to <http://springfieldpublicschoolsno.org> under the curriculum button to view Major Instructional Goals.

## **Supplies needed:**

- 1" wide 3 ring binder with inside pockets – put name on binder
- 25 top loading clear plastic sleeves (non-glare is best)
- Pencil to be left in binder
- Band Expressions Book II – put name on book
- Name on outside of instrument case

## **Grading Policy\*\***

- 20% - practice records
- 40% Class participation/conduct
- 40% Test – (playing tests and written test).

Skills are discussed and demonstrated in class, but must be worked on individually at home. Private lessons are always encouraged! Individual practice is necessary to improve. Several choices may be offered for practice record credit during the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters.

Plagiarism – please refer to the plagiarism section in the Cherokee student planner.

**\*\*An unexcused absence from an evening or off campus performance will reduce the participation points by 50%, thus lowering the semester grade two complete letter grades. An unexcused absence from an assembly will reduce the participation points by 20%, thus lowering the semester grade one complete letter grade.** Excused absences will be given a make-up assignment. Director reserves the right to determine excused or unexcused.

Grading Scale: A 94-100%; A- 90-93%; B+ 87-89%; B 84-86%; B- 80-83%; C+ 77-79%; C 74-76%; C- 70-73%; D+ 67-69%; D 64-66%; D- 60-63%; F Below 60%. (This is district mandated.)

## Tardy Policy to class

- 1<sup>st</sup> Tardy – Warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tardy – Warning
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Tardy- Lunch Detention
- 4<sup>th</sup> Tardy – Lunch Detention – Call Parents
- 5<sup>th</sup> Tardy – After School Detention
- 8<sup>th</sup> Tardy – ISS

Tardies will go back to Zero at the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester

## Required Performance Attire

Every time the 8<sup>th</sup> grade band performs we will wear the following “uniform.”

**CMS Music Department Polo shirt.** (Order forms for shirts will be sent home soon. The shirts will be approximately \$20.)

**Solid Black dress pants\*** – plain conservative dress pants. No **jeans**, silk, leather, stretch, pin stripes or shiny material. Please purchase just plain twill “docker style” dress slacks.

**Totally Black dress shoes and socks.\***

A **black** short sleeved t-shirt may be worn under the shirt during cooler weather. No other t-shirt is acceptable!

**\*The above clothing items will be needed for the September 18<sup>th</sup> performance.**

## Off Campus Travel

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade concert band members travel away from the Cherokee campus several times during the school year to give community performances and compete in various music festivals. An information sheet with rehearsal behavior expectations will be sent home for your signature after Spring Break for the April trip. Students must meet those requirements and the following criteria to earn the right to travel with the band. Any infraction may result in the loss of travel privilege. A small travel fee will be required to off set charter bus fees. This will be nonrefundable should you lose travel privileges.

1. Must **not** have excessive class or school absences. Students in question will have their attendance reviewed on an individual basis. Review will begin about 4 weeks before travel.
2. May not have any unexcused absence from a band performance. Director reserves the right to determine excused or unexcused.
3. Students with discipline referrals (in any class, not just band) or poor class participation will be reviewed on an individual basis. Review will begin about 4 weeks before travel.
4. Must wear music department attire.

## Band Room Rules

1. Water only - No food, drinks, candy or gum in the band room.
2. Keep hands off things that do not belong to you.
3. Do not play, talk or get out of your chair without permission.
4. Keep hands and feet to yourself.
5. Treat school property and equipment with respect (chairs, stands, instruments and music).
6. Keep the band room and instrument locker clean.
7. Respect others.
8. Be prepared! Have instrument, music, reeds, valve oil, pencil, etc., daily. Instruments in the repair shop need a note from home and a repair receipt upon return.
9. Have patience during the construction!

## Earning a Music Letter

Earning a music letter is an honor for students who distinguish themselves through performance and contribute to the band above and beyond the normal classroom expectations.

To earn a Letter you must make some kind of “A” each semester in band **and** do at least **three** of the following:

- ♪ Be a member of jazz band with attendance to rehearsals and performances.
- ♪ Audition for and be selected as a member of the district honor band. Must attend rehearsal and performance.
- ♪ Be a member of the Pep Band (and attended at least 80% of the games without an unexcused absence for the seasons you participate in)
- ♪ Take private lessons on your band instrument for an entire year (Must bring a note from private teacher by May 14, 2010)
- ♪ Perform at solo and ensemble festival and earn a I rating on an ensemble or at least a II rating on a solo. (only counts as one on music letter regardless of how many events you participate in)
- ♪ Sell at least 20 items for the Music Department Fundraiser or a donation of \$60 or more is acceptable.

## Music Fundraiser

Participation in the music department fundraiser is very important because it generates money to provide new music, instruments, awards, and equipment. In addition, the transportation costs and entry fees associated with travel are paid for with fundraiser money. Last year’s travel cost alone exceeded \$5,500. Please plan to support our fundraiser on October 8th which allows us to cover our department expenses.

## Communication

Please neatly fill in your email address below. We use email as a primary form of communication. Please make sure the email is correct and can be read easily.

## Contact Information

If you would like to contact us: Email address – Mrs. Wells: [bwells493@spsmail.org](mailto:bwells493@spsmail.org) or phone 523-7200 ext 46142 (still having phone issues, please try to use email if possible!). Mr. Zinecker: [jzinecker@spsmail.org](mailto:jzinecker@spsmail.org) or phone 523-7200 ext 46144.

## Important Dates

September 18, 2009 – Friday – the band will be a guest with the Kickapoo band at the football game held in Pottenger Stadium. The Cherokee Band will perform The Star Spangled Banner and KHS fight song by memory at pre-game then sit in the stands with the band until after half time is over – **attendance is required**. CMS uniform is your ticket in – parents will have to pay gate price to get into the game.

October 10, 2009 – Saturday - perform at The Kickapoo Friends and Family Show. Both bands will perform The Star Spangled Banner and KHS fight song by memory with the KHS band for the friends and family show– (approximate 5:20 pm arrival time it will conclude around 7:30pm) Kickapoo Stadium – all 8<sup>th</sup> band students – **attendance is required** details will come closer to event. Must wear CMS uniform.

October 8, 2009 – Music Department Fundraiser kick-off – all music students – no instruments

October 21, 2008 – Audition tapes due for District Honor Band Audition (I hope all band students!) Make sure rehearsal and performance date (Nov 22) is free on your calendar from 8:30 am – 5 pm before you audition.

November 12, 2009 – Veterans Day Assembly, time TBA in the Cherokee Gym – 8<sup>th</sup> grade music groups

November 21, 2009 – 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Honor Band rehearsal (all day) and concert (by audition only)  
Evangel University (tentative)

December 17, 2009 – Winter Concert – 8<sup>th</sup> Band, 8<sup>th</sup> Choir and 8<sup>th</sup> jazz band – 7:00 p.m. in Cherokee Gym

December 18, 2009 – Winter Assembly, 8:30 a.m. in Cherokee Gym – 8<sup>th</sup> music groups

February 27, 2010 – Solo/Ensemble contest (select students) – held at Pershing Middle School

March 19, 2010 – Solo/ Ensemble Assembly for 8<sup>th</sup> grade Band, Orchestra and Choir two assemblies TBA in the Cherokee gym (select 8<sup>th</sup> grade students)

April 22, 2010 – College of the Ozarks Band Festival and Silver Dollar City – 8<sup>th</sup> Band, Orchestra and 8<sup>th</sup> Choir (all day) – (must meet travel guidelines)

May 20, 2010 – Spring Concert – 8<sup>th</sup> Band, 8<sup>th</sup> Jazz Band, 8<sup>th</sup> Choir – 7:00 p.m. in Cherokee Gym

Please sign and return the form below. It's going to be the best year ever!!

Mrs. Wells and Mr. Zinecker

