

Band Department Philosophy Statement

The Waukee Band Program provides all students with opportunities to develop lifelong appreciation of music, take ownership over their own accomplishments, and contribute to something larger than themselves.

HS Concert / Symphonic Band Description

This ensemble is open to all 10th – 12th grade band students and performs at home football games and concerts throughout the year as well as at area festivals and competitions. In addition to receiving individual lessons, students are encouraged to participate in various honor bands and solo and ensemble contests. The principles of musicianship are taught as they relate to intonation, phrasing, tone, color, balance, and blend. Chair placements for this ensemble will occur as a result of auditions each spring. The marching band season - including summer camps and fall performances - is a required unit for students enrolled in this course.

Students will...

- Develop and refine instrument skills such as tone quality, articulation and finger dexterity
- Develop and refine the student's ability to sight read a piece of music
- Expose students to new music theory concepts
- Practice ensemble rehearsal skills
- Practice active listening to a wide variety of repertoire
- Explore and perform music from a variety of global communities and historical time periods, and music reflecting composers of varying backgrounds
- Gain performance experiences of varying contexts throughout the year

Concert/Symphonic Band Units

- 1) Marching band, which includes June and August band camp along with performances at all home football games and area festivals.
- 2) Three concert cycles, which include performances at home concerts and area festivals.
- 3) Individual lessons, which include regular one-on-one instruction with one of the band directors to better facilitate individualized instruction, feedback, and growth
- 4) Honor Bands, including opportunities for interested students to participate in All-State and all District (SCIBA) honor bands as well as honor bands sponsored by area colleges and universities.

Waukee CSD 10-12 Guiding Principles

- Differentiation of instruction and assessment is necessary for students to grow and progress.
- Multiple data points are used to determine the summative grade.
- Course grades accurately communicate only academic achievement of the standards.
- Independent practice is meaningful, purposeful, and tied to standards
- Students are given multiple opportunities to show proficiency through ongoing assessment.