

Band Department Philosophy Statement

The Waukeee 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.

8th Grade Band Description

This **daily** course is a continuation of skills and techniques learned in 7th Grade Band. The course focuses on proper playing technique on a chosen band instrument, tone production, reading of music notation and symbols, music composition, and proper ensemble performance practice. Grades will be based on periodic performance assessments. These may include scales, method book exercises, solo and ensemble literature, honor band audition material, and concert music check-off. In addition to the regular band program, students will have the opportunity to participate in honor band and solo/ensemble contests. Students interested in participating in jazz band must be enrolled in this band course. ***8th/9th Grade Band builds upon concepts learned in band class in previous grades.***

Students interested in joining Band who do not have previous experience in a band class and/or those who are new to playing wind or percussion instruments should contact the Band Director to discuss enrollment options prior to registration.

Students will...

- Perform expressive qualities of music
- Perform music with technical accuracy
- Evaluate musical performances
- Write using standard notation

8th Grade Band Course Components

- Music Theory/Literacy: learning fundamentals; practicing scales, rhythms and intonation exercises.
- Guided Practice: developing skills during individual, small group and whole group lessons.
- Work on Ensemble Pieces: repertoire rehearsals leading to 3 formal concerts (fall, winter, spring).
- Music Exploration/Discussion: listening and responding to performances.

Waukeee CSD 6-12 Guiding Principles

- Responsive instruction and ongoing assessment are necessary for all learners to grow and progress.
- A body of evidence is used to determine proficiency.
- Course grades accurately communicate only academic achievement of the standards.
- Equitable practices and opportunities exist across all classrooms.