

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 Wind Symphony Description

The wind symphony is a select auditioned group open to all 10th – 12th grade band students that 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. Auditions for this ensemble will occur each spring. The marching band season - including summer camps and fall performances - is a required unit for students enrolled in this course.

Students will...

- Perform musical literature appropriate for the advanced high school / collegiate musician
- 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
- 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 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.