

Tetzlaff Advanced Band 2015-16 Syllabus

Class Information

The advanced band is the top performing band class at Tetzlaff Accelerated Learning Academy. We participate in numerous performances including parades, festivals, theme park performances and concerts both at Tetzlaff and throughout Southern California. This band also has required after school rehearsals during the fall and occasionally during the spring. All rehearsal schedules and performances will be posted and updated online and it is each student's responsibility to check for updates to the schedule. Because this class operates so much as a team and has such a heavy reliance on each individual member, attendance at all performances and rehearsals is required. If one member of our team isn't there, it makes it very difficult for our team to be successful!! Students in this class will build incredible teamwork skills, learn individual responsibility, and have the chance to enjoy experiences rarely offered to students at the middle school level!!

Website/ Contact Information

Website- www.tetzlaffmusic.org : This website is your go to place for all class information. This website has updates and reminders about upcoming events, a calendar and gmail calendar that can sync with your personal calendar, downloadable forms and documents, online resources, contact information and more!!

Email- matthew.gullett@abcusd.us : This is the preferred form of communication for anything you may need. I check my email constantly and am usually able to respond to anything within 24 hours.

Facebook- Tetzlaff Trojan Band and Colorguard: Our band program has a facebook page!! This page has updates about what is happening in our band program throughout the year. It will also be a great place for finding out specific information about performances such as start times at parades and more specific arrival times back at school!

Schedule Information and Performance/ Rehearsal Requirements

The schedule of rehearsals and performances can be found on our website under the schedule tab at the top. Students will have practice after school 2 days per week beginning the second week of school. That schedule will be passed out the first day of school. There is a google calendar available on the website that reflects all band and colorguard after school performances and rehearsals (as they are added)

Performances and rehearsals are mandatory and are a part of your grade!! Our group relies on EVERY member of our team and when one student is missing, it severely impacts the sound and quality of the group. Please plan ahead so that you will not miss any rehearsals or performances. If you will be missing, written notification is required from a parent/ guardian **at least 2 weeks before the performance or rehearsal date**. This gives the group enough time to adequately prepare to for a successful performance! If you provide written notification as requested, a makeup assignment will be given that is the equivalent length of time as the performance missed (ex. If the concert would have been 2 hours, an assignment approximately with approximately 2 hours of work will be assigned).

While every student is expected to be at each performance, competition performances will not necessarily include every member. Any student who is not achieving the necessary musical or marching level required to perform in competition will not perform during that portion of the parade. If the event is a “competition only event,” the student will still be expected to support their teammates at the event even though they may not be performing. Students at risk of not performing in the competition will be notified in writing a week before the competition, and verbally throughout the semester. If the student does not increase their performance level in the week before the competition, they will not compete at the event.

Practice/ Expectations

Our advanced band at Tetzlaff performs challenging and rigorous music throughout the year. To successfully perform this music, each student is expected to practice **a minimum of 3 times per week, for no less than 30 minutes per day.** If a student is struggling with parts, additional practice time may be necessary to make sure they do not fall behind. There are no regular practice logs assigned weekly or monthly to assess practice (logs can be assigned at parent request). Students instead are assessed on their practice through regular playing quizzes on assigned music. If a student is not practicing or regularly struggling in these quizzes, a parent meeting may be requested to discuss how to make improvement. If no improvement is made, a change to intermediate band or another elective may be necessary.

Advanced band students are also responsible for maintaining a certain academic level and code of conduct. Students are required to maintain a 2.0 GPA, work well as a team, show respect towards all members of our team, our school, our equipment and themselves and to represent our program positively. Each student will sign a contract agreeing to uphold these requirements of this class. If students do not uphold the contract, a parent conference will be held and if no action is taken to improve the problem, you may be removed from the band.

Concert/ Performance Dress

Many performances will require a uniform dress that all members will wear to make sure that we look as professional as possible and that our clothing does not distract from the performance.

Parades (Oct- Nov)- Marching Uniform and black marching shoes (Provided for use by Tetzlaff Band), black socks (students provide their own).

Festival Performances (Mar- Apr) - White long sleeve dress shirt, black pants (no jeans), black socks, black shoes (marching shoes OK!). Black Dresses or skirts below the knees when sitting and short sleeve blouses for girls are also acceptable.

All Other Performances (throughout school year)- Blue Tetzlaff Polo Shirts (Provided by band), Black pants, black socks, black shoes. Black skirts below the knees acceptable.

Grade

This class is a largely performance based class where we work towards performance oriented goals. The grading scale and breakdown of how a students grade is calculated is as follows

Grade Scale

89-100 = A
79-88 = B
69-78 = C
59-68 = D
58 and below = F

How Your Grade Is Calculated

Performances/ Rehearsals- 35%
Tests/ Quizzes- 25%
Homework/ Projects- 15%
Active Participation- 15%
Class Preparation- 10%

Materials

- 1- 1 ½ inch binder. Please have a separate binder for music than for your other classes. You will place the binder on your music stand, while you play, and if it is too heavy with work from other classes, it will cause the stand to tip over.
- Pencil (at least 2)
- Instrument (can be provided by school)
- Instrument Supplies (Valve oil for brass, swab for woodwinds, sticks for percussion etc)
- Metronome!! (Smart Phone App OK, ex. Practice +)
- Tuner!! (Smart Phone App OK, ex. Tonal Energy)

Please make sure to have materials at EVERY class period. Exceptions will be made for instruments if yours is in the repair shop, however it is important to plan taking instruments to the shop for maintenance well in advance of performances!

Transportation Contribution

Our advanced band travels and competes throughout Southern California. We have to pay for all busses and truck rentals for equipment ourselves or we are no longer able to offer students these opportunities. We ask all advanced band students to give a \$150 transportation contribution to help offset the costs associated with our travels for the year. We can accept cash or check made out to Tetzlaff Middle School, and money can be turned in to Mr. Gullett before any rehearsal or at Pre- Registration. If giving this contribution in the beginning of the semester will cause a severe financial hardship, please contact Mr. Gullett.

Please tear off and return

By signing this form, I acknowledge that I have read and understand all requirements of this class. Please tear off and return this form to Mr. Gullett by Friday, 9/6/13.

Student Name (Print) _____ Class _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____