STAFFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Curriculum Overview
Seventh Grade Band

Course Description:
Students continue to learn proper playing technique and develop ensemble skills through method book activities and age appropriate sheet music. Evaluation of progress is based on individual playing tests, written work, and daily class participation. Daily at-home practice is necessary to continue mastering playing technique. Performance opportunities will increase. Since performances are an integral and vital extension of this course, participation in performances is strongly encouraged.

Essential Skills/Processes: Students will—

Technique:
● Demonstrate proper posture and playing position
● Demonstrate by proper breath support and embouchure, a tone consistent with the nature of the Instrument
● Demonstrate through performance, appropriate musicianship and interpretation of literature
● Demonstrate correct tonguing, slurring and fingerings/stickings in a consistent manner
● Demonstrate knowledge of alternate fingerings and advanced percussion rudiments

Music Theory:
● Demonstrate through counting and playing, simple rhythmic notation and recognize the following time signatures: 2/4, 3/4, 4/4 and cut time
● Name and recognize notes as well as enharmonic tones in all music performed
● Demonstrate the C, F, Bb, Eb, G, D and A Major scales
● Recognize key signatures and accidentals
● Demonstrate chromatic scale within practical range of instrument

Ensemble Skills:
● Distinguish if two notes are “in tune” or “out of tune”
● Respond to basic conducting gestures
● Demonstrate cooperative attitude and actively participate in class activities & performances
● Perform music at appropriate speed or tempo

Music Literature:
● Listen to, perform, compare and/or contrast music representing musical periods and styles
● Demonstrate through playing and discussion, standard music literature such as march style and variations, as well as music of diverse world cultures
● Discussion of biography of composer, music history and styles as related to music studied

Musical Analysis and Listening Skills:
● Demonstrate through performance, a four-measure phrase and view the phrase as a musical idea

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• Express critical judgments and evaluate their own performances
• Discriminate between melody and harmony
• Recognize form of music being rehearsed/performed

**Technology:**
• Explore available CD’s, CD-ROMs, Videos and laserdiscs, cassettes etc. to enhance musical knowledge and skills
• Explore and observe available computer technology in the field of music

**Instrument Care and Maintenance:**
• Demonstrate proper procedure for handling and storing instrument
• Perform simple maintenance and cleaning as required for each instrument
• Begin to recognize malfunctions in individual’s instruments and be responsible for prompt repairs

**Music Careers:**
• Provide opportunities for professional musicians to speak to and/or perform for students
• Introduction to career opportunities in music

**Essential Knowledge:** Students will—
• Understanding the role of music in our society
• Appreciate the work/study ethic
• Appreciate different cultures and customs
• Acquiring stage presence and decorum
• Encouraging creative experimentation
• Sharing the talents of others
• Fostering a spirit of cooperation

**Resources:**

**Curriculum Connections:**
*Language Arts:* musical terms and vocabulary  
*World Language:* Musical terms in various languages  
*Health and Physical Education:* aerobic activity is required for performance of an instrument  
*Mathematics:* Rhythmic counting and various meters (fractions)  
*Science:* acoustics and physical properties of sound.  
*Social Studies:* music history in relationship to general historical events.

Stafford County Public Schools:
[https://www.staffordschools.net/](https://www.staffordschools.net/)

VA Standards of Learning:
[http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards-docs/fine_arts/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards-docs/fine_arts/index.shtml)

School Report Card (VA Department of Education):

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