

# Syllabus – Symphonic Band – Fall 2016

Mr. Champagne  
3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> period 12:26-2:00pm

## New and improved band website

Please visit [www.mcneilband.org](http://www.mcneilband.org) for access to the band master calendar, course syllabi, band handbook, game/contest day schedules, private lessons, and any other pertinent information.

## Grading

**Daily/Materials/Participation (30%)** – Everyone is responsible for having their **instrument, pencil, flip folder, music binder and all section-specific materials**. It is important that all items are labeled with your name:

Brass – buzz aid/BERP, valve oil/slide cream, tuning slide grease, cleaning/polishing cloth

Woodwinds – 4 or more working reeds (2 for double reeds), reed guard/case, swab

Percussion – Assigned instrument, stick bag with all required sticks and mallets, practice pad and stand

*Attendance at all sectional and marching band rehearsals.*

*We play every day, and will always need instruments. If your instrument is in the shop or missing, please email a director immediately.*

**Playing Grades/Formative Assessments (30%)** – Play-offs of marching show music, region band music, and major scales, etc.

**Performances (40%)** – Attendance at all performances, contests, concerts and events. Since we are a performance based class, performances are critical to our curriculum, as defined as part of the Fine Arts TEKS.

Advanced members of the McNeil Symphonic Band are encouraged to participate in Region Band auditions in December and to perform a solo at the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest in February.

## Miscellaneous

**Sectionals** - Symphonic Band sectionals will take place during concert season one hour before or after school, once a week per instrument category. These rehearsals allow us to assess individual performance and focus on section-specific pedagogy during a time that does not interfere with general class instruction. These sectionals are mandatory and part of the participation grade. Please take the necessary steps to schedule all appointments around this crucial instruction time. It is wise to contact other members of your section to arrange carpools as these occur outside of scheduled RRISD transportation times.

**Google Classroom** – The Symphonic Band class utilizes the RRISD Google Classroom account for online video assessment through mobile devices. Any smart device that has access to apps and can shoot video will be able to upload these assignments. This process will begin during concert season and it will be used to evaluate fundamentals, scales, and UIL contest music. The online option gives students unlimited attempts to master a particular skill or passage without taking away from full-class instruction. Students are also able to pass-off material during sectional time or outside of class.

**Private Lessons** – It is strongly recommended that all musicians in the McNeil band program take private lessons. Our lesson faculty are professional musicians and offer 30 minute one-on-one lessons during the school day. Any financial issues can be addressed with Mr. Dimiceli. Everyone should use the online enrollment on [www.mcneilband.org](http://www.mcneilband.org).

**Practice** - In addition to private lessons, four hours of total practice per week would be a minimum expectation for members of the Symphonic Band. Many students will practice more than this amount, but this should be a minimum for the varsity group.

**Eligibility** - All students in the Symphonic Band are expected to remain academically eligible ALL THE TIME. Losing eligibility for a grading period in any class will result in being considered for removal from this class and being placed in another band.

### Tentative grading and performance schedule –

Week	Dates	Focus/Assignments	Events/Performances
1.1	8/23 - 8/26	School Song. Fight Song	Game (8/26)
1.2	8/29 - 9/2	Next Chapter: Part 1	Game (9/1)
1.3	9/6 - 9/9	Next Chapter: Part 2	Game (9/9)
1.4	9/12 - 9/16	Next Chapter: Part 3	Game (9/16)
1.5	9/19 - 9/23	Make-ups	Game (9/23), Host BOA-Austin (9/24)
1.6	9/26 - 9/30	All-State (optional) MusicFirst submission at 60%	Game (9/30), BOA-Conroe (10/1)
2.1	10/3 - 10/7	All-State-1st cut 75% (MusicFirst)	Fest. of Bands (10/3), Game (10/6), TMC (10/8)
2.2	10/11 - 10/14	All-State-2nd cut 75% (MusicFirst)	Game (10/14)
2.3	10/17 - 10/21	All-State-3rd cut 75% (MusicFirst)	No Game, UIL (10/22)
2.4	10/24 - 10/28	All-State Etude 1 - Live	Game (10/28), UIL Area (10/29)
2.5	10/31 - 11/4	All-State Etude 2 - Live	Game (11/4)
3.1	11/7 - 11/11	All-State Etude 3 - Live / Master Classes begin	Region Orch. Auditions (11/12)
3.2	11/14 - 11/18	Perform etude for class / Master classes	Perc/DR Orch. Auditions (11/14), Region Orch. Concert (11/19)
3.3	11/28 - 12/2	Perform etude for class / Master classes	Region Band Auditions (12/2, 12/3)
3.4	12/5 - 12/9	Concert Music	Winter Concert (12/7)
3.5	12/12 - 12/15	Solo and Ensemble Solos (optional)	Final Exams