

Marsh Jr. High Band

Course Outline

Teacher: Austin King

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Marsh School Phone: (530) 895-4110

Class Description and Objectives: Band is an ensemble class that provides students with learning and performing opportunities on wind and percussion instruments. The primary focus is on the development, continuation, and expansion of basic skills that are necessary for effective instrumental music performance. In addition to the large group ensembles, individual growth and achievement are encouraged through participation in adjudicated solo and ensemble contests, honor bands, and private lessons. Topics/skills covered include:

- Embouchure and tone development
- Counting, timing, and rhythmic development
- Reading and notation skills, including sight-reading and singing
- Introduction of major and minor scales
- Basic music theory
- Development of an extensive vocabulary of musical terms and symbols
- Ear training and listening skills
- Equipment care and maintenance
- Effective practice habits

Music Event Calendar

TBD	PVHS Jr. High Band Day Football Game (Concert Band)
October 29rd, 5 p.m.	HS Halloween Choir Show @ Chico High (Choir only)
Oct. 30th, 2 p.m.	Treat Street Halloween Performance @ Downtown Chico Plaza (Concert Band only)
December 10th, 6 p.m.	Marsh Winter Concert @ Marsh Jr. High School (All Bands/Chorus)
Jan. 22nd-23rd, 11 a.m. Friday - 6 p.m. Saturday	CMEA Northern Section Jr. High Honor Band and Choir (open to all students selected by audition)
February 25th, 8:30-1:30	Elementary Band Tour (Concert Band only)
March 5th, 8:45-1:30	Region III Choral Music Festival @ Butte College (Chorus only)
March 12th, 8:30-1:30	Region III Instrumental Music Festival @ Butte College (All Bands)
April 9th, 8:30-1:30	Region III Jazz Music Festival @ Butte College (Jazz Band Only)
April 15th, 8:00-1:30	CUSD Choir Day (Chorus only)
TBD	CMEA Solo and Ensemble Festival
April 22nd, 6 p.m.	Marsh Spring Concert @ Marsh Jr. High School (All Bands/Chorus)
Wed. June 3rd, 6 p.m.	8th Grade Promotion Ceremony @ Marsh Jr. High School (All Bands)

Performance dates and times are subject to change. Additional performance opportunities may be announced throughout the year. I will make sure to communicate any changes as soon as possible.

Concert Uniform

Formal:

Marsh Band polo (provided by the instructor and to be turned back in at the end of the year)

Black pants, black shoes, black socks

Casual:

Marsh Band t-shirt (may be purchased for \$10 at student store)

School appropriate bottoms, comfortable shoes

Materials

Students are to be in their seats with all of their materials ready when the bell rings. Those materials include:

Instrument

Music/Method Book

Black 3-ring binder w/ apx. 50 clear sheet protectors OR simple folder for music

Pencil

How Students Are Graded

1. Participation

This one is easy! Just show up to class, with your instrument and materials, and give your best effort.

2. Performances (see schedule)

Being a performance based class, it is vital that ALL students participate in our public performances. Excused absences are limited to sickness and/or family emergencies. Alternative assignments will be given for performance absences. When possible, please have students communicate any scheduling concerns as early as possible. This allows me to make any necessary changes to the concert. Performances will be given different point values depending on the situation (e.g. Formal concerts are worth more points than rallies).

3. Benchmarks

The benchmarks are short pieces of music that students perform in front of the class to demonstrate their mastery of particular skills. The benchmarks are assigned as we progress through our method book and they become more challenging as you progress through them. They are assessed on tone, rhythmic accuracy, melodic accuracy, and musicality.

For those who are nervous of performing in front of the class, video submissions are acceptable, but it is highly recommended that you attempt them in front of your supportive peers.

4. Music Theory/Music Composition

Students will be assigned music theory and composition projects to help further develop their understanding of the music they are playing.

Instruments

The instruments played in band are:

Flute

Clarinets

Saxophones

Trumpet

Trombone

French Horn

Euphonium

Tuba

Percussion (keyboard percussion to begin for Beginning Band)

We do our best to accommodate students' first choice of instrument, but sometimes due to limited supply or band balance issues a student may have to play on a second or third choice. School instruments are provided at no cost, but require a signed instrument borrowing contract.

Families may choose to rent an instrument from an online vendor or a local music store, or provide a student with a purchased instrument. I recommend two options for rental:

1. Music Connection, (530) 898-0110, themusicconnection@gmail.com
 - a. 341 W 3rd St, Chico, CA 95928
2. Sweetwater Online Instrument Rental Program
 - a. <https://www.sweetwater.com/instrument-rentals/rent/select-school/88036>

Both of these rental programs include **Rent To Own** features which allow you to use at least some of the rental fees towards the eventual purchase of that instrument. Rental instruments are often newer and in better shape than the instruments we are able to provide from the school. Please contact me if you have any questions about acquiring instruments.

Rules

1. **Be respectful. Be responsible. Be safe. THE GATOR WAY!**
2. **Phones** are to be powered down and in a backpack during the school day. Phones that are being used are subject to confiscation and may be retrieved from the office at the end of the day.
3. **Food, drinks** (other than water), **and GUM** are not allowed in class.
4. **Bathroom breaks** are not to take place during the first or last 10 minutes of class. Students will receive 5 bathroom passes per semester and should otherwise plan to use the restroom in between classes.

Failure to follow the rules will result in:

1. Verbal warning
2. Take 5 slip (to be signed by parent/guardian)
3. Detention/Referral/Meeting with administrator

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at aking@chicousd.org. I am here to help you/your student succeed!

-Austin King