

STHS SYMPHONIC BAND

September 2019



Meet your Band Director!

Mr. Chuck Gottesman is the director of the STHS Symphonic Band and he serves as the K-12 Music Curriculum Coordinator for the School District of Springfield Township. Mr. G has taught music in Springfield for over 25 years, and outside of school he is a professional trumpet player, a motorcycle rider and a dad. You can reach Mr. G using the info below.

Email: chuck_gottesman@sdst.org

Phone: 215-233-6030 x2052

What is Symphonic Band?

Symphonic Band is an elective course at STHS for students who study a musical instrument. This semester, the class meets on Day 1 during B Block. Students earn grades based on their progress at rehearsals and lessons using the STHS Instrumental Ensemble Rubric, available online. The group performs Hallway Holiday concerts in December, at the Winter and Spring Concerts in January and May, and at the Woodmere Chamber Recital and Commencement Exercises in June. Students are encouraged to participate all year long by volunteering at morning rehearsals during their off semester.

MAKE A NOTE:

PMEA District 11 Auditions

Sat., December 14, 2019

8am Upper Dublin HS



Holiday Hallway Concerts

Friday, December 20, 2019

Outside Main Office

STHS Winter Concert

Thursday, January 9, 2020

7pm at STHS Auditorium





GIMME MORE!!

Other opportunities for Springfield's instrumentalsists

Pep Band

The Pep Band is a lighthearted group that performs at home varsity football games and at other spirited events in school or in the community. Check the posters or the website for the rehearsal schedule.

Jazz Band

Jazz Band rehearses on Tuesday evenings from 7-9pm beginning in late October. Members are selected by a competitive audition. Auditions will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 22 and 23rd. Pick up audition materials and sign up for an audition time as soon as they are posted.

Montco Band

Montco Band is a collaborative band festival between Springfield and 6 Montgomery County High Schools. Each winter, we send our most dedicated band members to rehearse a challenging program and perform in a gala concert for family and friends. This year's festival is hosted by Plymouth Whitemarsh High School, with the concert on Friday, February 7, 2020. If you would like to be selected this year, get involved in as many music activities as possible and sign up when a sheet is posted.

DID YOU KNOW that the School District of Springfield Township has been named a Best Community for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants every year since 2014?

<http://bit.ly/STHSSymphonicBand>

IMPORTANT BAND INFO:

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL:

When you arrive to class, please set up your instrument, chair, and music stand immediately. Then, use the next 5 minutes to use the lavatory, get a drink, and warm up individually on your instrument. Use proper warm-up technique that will benefit the ensemble as a whole. Mr. Gottesman will provide adequate time for you to pack up your gear at the end of the period. Please be sure to put your instrument away in a locker or closet and LATCH ALL LATCHES on the case. If extra time is available, please wait inside the band room until dismissed.

HALL PASSES:

Students using the bathroom or water fountain at the end of the Performing Arts Hallway will not need a pink hall pass. Anyone who wishes to travel beyond the boundaries of the music area will need a pink hall pass at all times.

EATING:

Due to persistent problems with rodent infestation, Students will not be permitted to eat in the band area at any time. Please be sure all garbage is disposed in the correct container and that the floor is clear of debris before leaving class for the day.

SMARTPHONES and DEVICES:

Students may use appropriate smartphone apps during class. Appropriate apps are tuners, metronomes, pitch pipes, and audio/video recorders. Devices are not to be used during class for social media, texting, or gaming. Students will receive one warning to put the device away. Further tech disruptions will result in secure storage of the device during rehearsals.

SCHOOL-OWNED INSTRUMENTS:

If you are using a school-owned instrument this year, please make sure to communicate that with Mr. Gottesman. It is critical that all school-owned equipment be accounted for at the end of each year. If the instrument is accidentally damaged, the repair cost is will be covered by the school. If the damage is a result of gross negligence or deliberate vandalism, the student will be fully responsible for the cost of repair or replacement.

GRADING:

Your grade for Symphonic Band is based solely on your daily rehearsal technique and your attendance at all rehearsals and performances. Please refer to the attached rubric for reference. You will be assessed using the rubric twice per marking period. During the second marking period, you will also be submitting two video assignments demonstrating your progress with the Grand Master Scale.

CONCERT ATTIRE: White top, black bottom, dress shoes, gentlemen wear long ties. Please take care of your shopping needs as soon as possible!

STHS Instrumental Ensemble Grading Rubric

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Tone Quality	Student has full, clear tone on the instrument, appropriate to grade level.	Student has some problems producing the best tone quality on instrument.	Student has substantial problems producing the best tone quality on the instrument	Student is unable to produce an acceptable tone on the instrument.
Note Accuracy	Student consistently performs correct notes on instrument.	Student performs correct notes on instrument with few errors.	Student often plays wrong notes on instrument.	Student is unable to perform correct notes on instrument.
Rhythmic Accuracy	Student performs passages with rhythmic accuracy at conductor's tempo.	Student performs passages with few rhythmic errors at conductor's tempo.	Student performs passages with many rhythmic errors at conductor's tempo.	Student is unable to perform passages without errors at conductor's tempo.
Articulation	Student performs with attention to articulation markings provided in the part or by the conductor.	Student performs with attention to articulation markings provided in the part or by the conductor with few errors.	Student performs with attention to articulation markings provided in the part or by the conductor with many errors.	Student is unable to perform correct articulations.
Punctuality	Student always arrives at rehearsal ready to play by the conductor's downbeat.	Student usually arrives at rehearsal ready to play by the conductor's downbeat.	Student sometimes arrives late to rehearsal and is not ready to play by the conductor's downbeat.	Student often arrives late to rehearsal and is not ready to play by the conductor's downbeat.
Posture	Student always uses correct playing posture for instrument.	Student usually uses correct playing posture for instrument and corrects problem when reminded by conductor.	Student often uses inadequate playing posture for instrument.	Student consistently uses inadequate playing posture for instrument.
Eye Contact	Student always watches the conductor.	Student usually watches the conductor, and corrects problem when reminded.	Student rarely watches the conductor, but corrects problem when reminded.	Student does not watch the conductor.
Preparation	Student always brings instrument, music and accessories needed for the ensemble and keeps instrument in excellent condition.	Student brings instrument but often forgets music and accessories needed for the ensemble and keeps instrument in good condition.	Student sometimes forgets instrument, music and accessories needed for the ensemble and keeps instrument in adequate condition.	Student often forgets instrument and accessories as needed for the ensemble and keeps instrument in poor condition.
Focus	Student is focused and attentive during class.	Student is usually focused and attentive during class, but sometimes is distracted by others.	Student is sometimes focused and attentive during class, but is easily distracted by others and sometimes distracts others.	Student is rarely focused and attentive during class. Sometimes disruptive to rest of class.
Home Practice	Student displays evidence of consistent home practice.	Student displays some evidence of home practice.	Student rarely displays evidence of home practice.	Student displays no evidence of home practice.