

Natoma Music Program

Purpose

Since music is a universal language, one purpose for being able to sing or play music is to express and communicate alone or as a group. We, the instructors, want the students to be able to sing and/or play an instrument and experience music.

Through this experience, our goal is to help the students see themselves as valuable, one of a kind, having gifts no other person has in the world. They will be encouraged that they can make a difference and we want them to feel good about themselves and their ability to produce music.

The purpose of this syllabus is to establish guidelines and procedures for a successful music program at Natoma Jr./Sr. High School.

Classroom Policies and Procedures

1. Enter the classroom in an orderly manner, using the South Door, & on time!
2. Be in the correct seat with music and/or instrument when the bell rings. Bring pencil to rehearsal daily.
3. Gum, candy, etc. will not be allowed in class.
4. Swearing, cruel teasing, rude gestures, and put-downs are not allowed.
5. Keep hands feet, and other objects to yourself.
6. Students must keep instrument clean and in good playing order.
7. Rehearsals will end when the director indicates the period is over. The instruments will be stored in a proper location and music put away. Students are to leave the room in an orderly manner.
8. Detentions will be assigned for infractions of "Classroom Procedures."
 - a. Warnings need only be verbal.
 - b. Detention shall be served within 2 days of its assignment.
 - c. Detention will be served in the music room under the supervision of the director.

Concert Wear

CHOIR- For most concerts, the choir will wear choir robes unless otherwise stated. Everyone must wear concert black underneath.

Men – Black slacks, black socks, black shoes, white tshirt

Women – Black pants or skirt, black hose or socks, black shoes, white top

BAND – For concerts the band will wear black slacks or skirts, black shoes, black socks and white shirt or blouse. A black dress is also fine for the ladies.

PEP BAND – Music shirt and jeans or jean shorts

*Spring Concerts may vary.

Lettering requirements

In order to receive a letter in band and/or choir a student must meet the following criteria:

1. The student must have been a member of the group for the entire school year.
2. The student must be in good standing with the group (no unexcused absences from class or concerts, shows leadership and a positive attitude).
3. The student must also perform a solo or ensemble at the regional solo/ensemble contest.

Directors reserve the right to withhold lettering for other reasons such as excessive “excused” absences from performances etc.

KMEA Northwest District Activities

All HS & JH band and choir members are encouraged to obtain copies of the audition material from the director and prepare the music for the District Auditions. The auditions for JH are taped and due in early September. Choir members are selected by audition by the vocal director.

The HS auditions are live on a Saturday in early November for choir students, and will be taped for band students. Students selected through the audition process will perform in the District KMEA Choir and Band performance in early December.

KSHSAA High School Solo and Ensemble Festivals

Students are encouraged to participate in the Kansas State High School Activities Association Solo and Ensemble Festival . To participate in this activity the directors will help you select a solo or ensemble for several of you to prepare for the festival. The solo or ensemble will be performed with an evaluation and a rating being given by a qualified music educator provided by the State. Those who receive a 1st division rating qualify for the State Solo and Ensemble Festival to be held in April in Wichita.

*JH contests are in the Spring at LaCrosse. Students are encouraged to participate in solo or ensemble. The choir and band will also perform.

VOCAL

Course Descriptions

High School Choir

Music is the universal language. No matter what our background or native tongue, our emotions, feelings, and moods can be expressed in music.

This class rehearses varied vocal selections for league clinic, KMEA, school programs, and contests. Ensembles and solos are selected to add variety to rehearsals and performances. Good singing habits are taught and encouraged. Multiple part singing is also introduced, along with a cappella singing.

Music is often referred to as food for the soul. Without music, our lives would certainly lack color. Hopefully this class will give students musical knowledge and confidence to share their musical gifts with the church, family, and community.

Junior High Choir

In this class, we strive to learn the fundamentals of good singing including: diaphragmatic breathing, articulation, expression and good tone production. All styles and kinds of music are introduced. At least one of the district KMEA selections is rehearsed and performed at a contest or concert. Many solos and ensembles are chosen from the group which then perform at contest and school concerts.

PERFECT DAILY PRACTICE AND REHEARSING promotes PERFECT PERFORMING. We strive for perfection while making it fun and educational and encourage numerous performance opportunities.

Grading System

Performances (programs, clinics, etc) – 50 pts

Singing Test (Option) – 10 pts. Max

Based on the following:

1. Tone – vowel sounds
2. Notes
3. Rhythm
4. Diction
5. Phrasing

Daily Grade – 5 pts.

Folder Check – Each selection must have student's number written on it, facing forward, right side up, and a pencil must be in the folder. The director will make periodic checks. – 5 pts.

POINT DEDUCTIONS

Not being prepared for rehearsal (no music, no folder)

Not being attentive or giving effort

Disrupting the class or delaying the progress of the class

Not listening and not knowing where to begin

Not raising hand to speak

Not sitting in the correct chair

Not putting your folder in choir cabinet at the end of class

National School Choral Award

The award recognizes a graduating senior who is the finest example of a Natoma High School citizen. Criteria for the award include character, integrity, trustworthiness, courtesy, dependability, cooperation, and faithfulness to the NHS Tiger tradition. This student will have lettered for the current year.

BAND

Expectations and requirements:

*Performances-

-Football Games – 40 points

-Basketball games – 40 points

-Concerts – 50 points

*Playing tests (3-6 per semester) – 20 points

- 1 point extra credit for every 100 minutes of practice time logged

*Pencil/Folder Checks (randomly) – 5 points

*Weekly participation/preparedness – 10 points

Pep Band Procedure:

Meet in designated area 30 minutes prior to game time.

-Music Room for Football games

-Gym for Basketball games

Be prepared with music and instrument.

Band will sit together in designated in assigned area.

The band always sticks together! No playing individually.

No gum, candy or food will be used while we play. Water only to drink!

Have fun!

Kansas Lions Band

Each summer the Natoma Lions Clubs of the State sponsors one or two band students. A State Convention Band will meet and rehearse for the State Convention in early June. A band member may also attend the International Lions Convention in July. Contact your director for further information in early September.

Summer Band Camps

There are several band camps available in the state for continued development of musicianship. Bethel College, Kansas University, Kansas State University and the

High Plains Band Camp in Hays are examples of these activities. Contact the band director for details if you are interested.

John Philip Sousa Music Award

The John Philip Sousa Band Award is the pinnacle of achievement for high school band students. Created in 1955, the award honors the top student in a high-school band and recognizes superior musicianship and outstanding dedication. It was developed with the cooperation of Helen Sousa Albert and Priscilla Sousa, daughters of the famous composer and bandmaster.

To be eligible for this award, the student must be:

- an outstanding performer in the concert band and or wind/ensemble
- a Senior

The award is voted on by concert band members, and final selection is made by the Band Director. The recipient will receive an award to keep and his/her name will be placed on a plaque in the music room.

Performance Dates 2015-2016

Monday, September 7	Labor Day Parade
Friday, September 11	Football Game
Wednesday, September 16	J.H. District Band Auditions Due
Friday, September 25	Football Game
Friday, October 16	Football Game
Friday, November 6	Veteran's Day Program
Saturday, November, 7	J.H. Dist. Band/Choir in Hays
	H.S. District Band Auditions Due
November 13 and 14	"Grease" the Musical
Monday, November 23	HS League Choir in Thunder Ridge
Friday, December 4	Basketball
Saturday, December 5	KMEA HS District Band and Choir
December 7-11 – This is the week of the Tiger Classic Tournament. We will probably not know game days or times until that week. There will most likely be 2 games, so please try to keep your schedule open.	
Monday, December 14	USD 399 All School Christmas Music Concert
Friday, December 15	Basketball
Thursday, January 28	Real Men Sing @ Bethany College, Lindsborg
Friday, January 29	Basketball
Monday, February 8	HS League Band
Friday, February 12	Basketball
Friday, February 19	Basketball
Tuesday, February 23	6,7,8 Pre-contest Recital H.S.Music Room
Friday, February 26	Basketball
Saturday, February 27	5 th Grade and others – Lions Pancake Supper
Friday, March 4	6,7,8 Lacrosse J.H. Music Contest
March	5 th Sylvan-Lucas Music Contest
Thursday, March 24	H.S. Pre-Contest Recital in Music Room
Saturday, April 2	H.S. Regional Music Contest
Monday, April 18	6-12 J.H./H.S. Spring Concert
Saturday, April 23	H.S. State Music in Wichita
Tuesday, April 26	Pre-K-5 Spring Concert