

# ***Wallenpaupack Area School District***

## **COURSE:** Band 7/8 Concert Band & Symphonic Band

**GRADE LEVEL:** Seventh and Eighth Grade

**LENGTH OF COURSE:** 180 Days – One 70 minute band rehearsal every four days for each performing ensemble (Symphonic Band students also must participate in Concert Band)

**TEXT:** Variety of band arrangements and *Essential Elements 2000* – Book I & II

**PUBLISHER:** Hal Leonard Corporation

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Band 7/8 is the second and third level of instruction of instrumental music. Concert band is an elective course of study and is open to all qualified instrumental students in the seventh or eighth grade. Concert Band meets for one 70-minute band rehearsal every four days in a four-day rotating cycle. Student participation in the full band ensemble provides an outlet for the demonstration of instrumental skills and the experience of performing as a team of student musicians. Symphonic Band is an elective course of study taught at the middle school and is open to all qualified instrumental students in the seventh or eighth grades. Entrance into Symphonic Band is based on competitive auditions. Band students at these levels perform in a Winter Concert, a Spring Concert, school assemblies, and possibly two music festivals. Students are assessed and graded each quarter according to attitude, organizational and performance skills.

### **AREAS OF STUDY:**

### **CURRICULUM WRITING TEAM:**

John Maza  
Richard Rusnak

### **DATE OF REVISION:**

2004

# *Wallenpaupack Area School District*

**Course:** Band 7/8

**Grade Level:** Grade 7 and 8

**Unit:** Small group performance

**PA Standard:** 9.1.8.B

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| <b>Topics:</b><br>Continue to perform alone and with others in small, homogeneous or heterogeneous groups | <b>Skills:</b><br>Play alone and with others on like instruments in a band lesson<br>Perform "section features" in public (Winter and Spring Concerts)<br>Perform alone and with others in a mixed-instrument ensemble |
| <b>Activities:</b>  | <b>Performance Assessment:</b><br>Teacher observation<br>Student performance   |

# *Wallenpaupack Area School District*

**Course:** Band 7/8

**Grade Level:** Grade 7 and 8

**Unit:** Large Group Performance

**PA Standard:** 9.1.8.B

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| <b>Topics:</b>  | <b>Skills:</b>  |
| Continue to perform in a large, heterogeneous ensemble (Concert Band, Symphonic Band) | Rehearse interdependently in the full band ensemble<br>Perform in the Winter Concerts, Spring Concerts, and possibly a music festival |
| <b>Activities:</b>  | <b>Performance Assessment:</b>  |
|   | Teacher Observation<br>Student Performance  |

# Wallenpaupack Area School District

**Course:** Band 7/8

**Grade Level:** Grade 7 and 8

**Unit:** Technique, Music Reading,  
and Artistic Expression

**PA Standard:** 9.1.8.B

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| <b>Topics:</b><br>Continue to develop instrumental technique, music reading skills, and artistic expression within the large ensemble | <b>Skills:</b><br>Assign band music practice as part of the students' overall practice regiment<br>Drill individual and group technique during band practices<br>Practice and perform a variety of band music (different levels of difficulty) that challenges students to develop accurate music reading skills<br>Direct students to recognize, identify, and utilize expression marks (dynamics, tempo, and articulation as a way to enhance the artistic expression of music performed |
| <b>Activities:</b>  | <b>Performance Assessment:</b><br>Teacher observation<br>Student performance   |

# Wallenpaupack Area School District

**Course:** Band 7/8

**Grade Level:** Grade 7 and 8

**Unit:** The Conductor

**PA Standard:** 9.1.8.G

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| <b>Topics:</b><br>Continue to recognize and understand the conductor's role and directions within an ensemble | <b>Skills:</b><br>Describe through teacher demonstration<br>Perform in public demonstrating an understanding of the conductor's directions (Selected, Winter and Spring Concerts)<br>Participate and perform in music festivals (Middle Grades Music Festival, PMEA District 9 Band Fest) under the direction of different conductors |
| <b>Activities:</b>  | <b>Performance Assessment:</b><br>Student performance   |

# Wallenpaupack Area School District

**Course:** Band 7/8

**Grade Level:** Grade 7 and 8

**Unit:** The Player

**PA Standard:** 9.1.8.G

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| <b>Topics:</b><br>Continue to recognize and demonstrate the player's role in an ensemble and understand the function of the rehearsal | <b>Skills:</b><br>Utilize student input to compile list of student responsibilities as a band member<br>Discuss the effectiveness of each band practice and the goals accomplished within the rehearsal<br>Participate in regularly scheduled band rehearsals<br>Discuss the importance of cooperation, team work, commitment, dedication, and good citizenship |
| <b>Activities:</b>  | <b>Performance Assessment:</b><br>Student writing samples<br>Student performance  |

# *Wallenpaupack Area School District*

**Course:** Band 7/8

**Grade Level:** Grade 7 and 8

**Unit:** Concert Performance

**PA Standard:** 9.1.8.B

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| <b>Topics:</b>  | <b>Skills:</b>   |
| Continue to create concert events by performing in a variety of public programs | Winter concerts<br>Spring concerts<br>Music festivals (Middle Grades Music Festival, PMEA District 9 Band Fest)<br>Community programs and events – community outreach<br>School assemblies |
| <b>Activities:</b>  | <b>Performance Assessment:</b>   |
|   | Student performance  |

# Wallenpaupack Area School District

**Course:** Band 7/8

**Grade Level:** Grade 7 and 8

**Unit:** Music Listening and Evaluation

**PA Standard:** 9.3.8.A

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| <b>Topics:</b><br>Continue to listen to a variety of instrumental music examples and critically discuss issues of style, interpretation, and historical difference | <b>Skills:</b><br>Play accompaniment CD recordings from the Essential Elements Book I and Book II method book and discuss performance goals based on what students hear<br>Play recordings of music that the band is performing and establish strategies for improving the ensemble sound of the band<br>Have students analyze recordings of individual instruments using musical terms<br>Have students write their impressions about recorded performances using musical terms |
| <b>Activities:</b>   | <b>Performance Assessment:</b><br>Student writing samples<br>Student performance   |

# *Wallenpaupack Area School District*

**Course:** Band 7/8

**Grade Level:** Grade 7 and 8

**Unit:** Audience Behavior

**PA Standard:**

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|---|---|
| <b>Topics:</b>  | <b>Skills:</b>  |
| Continue to recognize and demonstrate appropriate audience behavior at musical events | Have students compile a list of appropriate audience behavior practices and print in concert programs<br>Demonstrate proper audience behavior at school assemblies and concert performances |
| <b>Activities:</b>  | <b>Performance Assessment:</b>  |
|   | Student writing samples   |