**2016-2017 Blue Valley West Symphonic Band Syllabus**

Attendance expectation: Students are expected to attend class and be on time if they are present at school. Attendance is taken at the beginning of the class period (see class times below) and students not in their seats within a minute of the tardy bell will be counted late or absent. Points will be deducted from the Daily Basics for tardies and two tardies in one week will result in a loss of all Daily Basics points for that week. (see grading policy below)

Attendance at all required events (listed under “performance schedule”) serve at part of the students overall grade. If an event will be missed for any reason, an absence form must be submitted. They can be found on the bottom of every page on the BVW band website: [www.bvwestband.com](http://www.bvwestband.com). \*Missing a required event for any reason means the student does not get credit for the event. An alternate assignment will be provided if a student misses for a reason that is excusable (illness, conflict with another BVW activity, death in family).

Rehearsal expectation: Students will have all materials for rehearsal (instrument/supplies, music, pencil, tuner). They should be engaged during the entire rehearsal. Phones are to be used as tuners only unless specified otherwise.

\*Each student in this class will be provided a copy of “Measures of Success.” We will use this book on a daily basis. They will need to return it intact at the end of the school year for future use. Any lost or damaged book will need to be replaced. They cost $7. Students are welcome to purchase their own copy if they wish. Students will also receive a black leather folder to keep their music in. These cost $10 to replace if returned damaged.

Performance expectation: Students will attend the below performances as part of their letter grade for the course. This includes showing up on time and properly dressed (see below for dress code). All listed events are required. Optional events such as NEKMEA All Region Honor Band, Sousa Honor Band, and Solo and Ensemble Contest are encouraged but not required.

Behavior expectation: Students are to be respectful and kind to every human they come in contact with including other students, master class teachers, administrators, parents, etc. Any issues should be handled in a courteous and professional manner. *Bullying of any kind will not be tolerated and will result in removal from the ensemble.*

Regular school schedule: 2nd block: Tuesday 7:45-9:19 AM, Thursday 9-10:27 AM, Friday 8:41-9:31 AM

Performance schedule: \*all listed events are required, specific times will be in weekly newsletter

FALL: Sept 1 ftbl game SPRING: Jan 17 Sound Byte Recruitment Concert

Sept 9 ftbl game Mar 2 Spring concert

Sept 10 Old Settlers’ Parade Mar 23 West Area Festival

Sept 22 ftbl game Apr 12 KSHSAA Large Group Festival (usually during school day)

Oct 7 ftbl game May 9 Final concert

Oct 25 Fall concert

Dec 13 Winter concert

Dress code: This ensemble wears all black for performances unless specified otherwise. Men are to wear long sleeves (they can be rolled up as long as it looks neat) with shirts TUCKED IN to black slacks with a black belt. Shoes and socks should be black (wearing your marching shoes is ok as long as they are clean!). Ties/bow ties are ok but should be all black. Ladies can wear pants OR a skirt. Skirts should be AT LEAST knee length and should always be accompanied by black hose/tights. Sleeveless tops are only ok with a cardigan or cover of some sort. Jewelry is ok but should be moderately conservative. The point of this dress code is to take emphasis off the individual and place it on the ensemble as a whole-use this to help determine your attire.

Grading policy: Grades will be determined using the following categories and weights:

Daily Basics-20% (includes being on time, present, having materials)

Assignments-30% (there will be 2 or more playing or written assignments each quarter-details below)

Performances-50% (see schedule above)

Possible assignments (more to be added):

First quarter assignments: Handbook acknowledgement form, chromatic scale playing test (submitted via Charms)

Second quarter assignments: Major scales playing test (submitted via Charms), playing test over assigned music, composer profile

Third quarter assignments: Scales/thirds playing technique (submitted via charms), listening journal/assignment

Fourth quarter assignments: audition music for 2017 ensembles (submitted via charms)