

## Instrumental Brass Major

### Description and general information:

This is a vocationally focused, four-year sequential program for the serious brass instrumentalist (Instruments studied include trumpet, trombone, French horn, baritone, and tuba). The primary concentration of this course is the development of total musicianship for the brass player through experiential learning in brass instrument technique, repertoire, performance practices, critical thinking and other aspects of musicianship as well as career and professional organizations. The students in this program must also register for the appropriate levels of VPA Music History, VPA Music Theory, and RBR Band. AP Music theory is the required in the fourth year of the program.

### Scope and Sequence of study:

9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Brass Major 1* Band	Brass Major 2* Band	Brass Major 3* Band	Brass Major 4* Band
VPA Music Theory 1	VPA Music Theory 2	VPA Music Theory 3	AP Music Theory
VPA Music History 1	VPA Music History 2	VPA Music History 3	Composing & Arranging^

\*Indicates class meets daily for 82 minute block (both A & B Day)

^suggested elective/course for this major

### Application/Audition/Interview/Portfolio requirements for Brass Major:

#### Part I\*

Applicants are required to prepare two pieces of contrasting styles and period. (These pieces should be of comparable difficulty to the Intermediate All-Shore Band solo or Youth/Regional Orchestra solo.)

#### Part II

Applicants must also play major scales (6 sharps-6 flats) memorized, in the pattern of a quarter note followed by 6 eighth notes. We follow the range requirements of CJMEA which can be found under "audition information" on their website: [www.cjmea.org](http://www.cjmea.org)

#### Part III

All prospective instrumental candidates will take a written music theory/history placement exam to test their previous musical knowledge. Although students will not be expected to know everything on the exam, it will include notation, musical terms, symbols, key signatures, chords, scales, form, analysis, rhythmic reading and ear training.

The history portion will include questions about composers, time periods and genres, musical styles, performance practices and terminology.

\*Your present music teacher should be able to assist you in the selection of these pieces