

**The Department's Educational Philosophy**

Education in the Arts plays a major role in three general areas of education. Students gain knowledge of events and historical movements that shaped society. The arts help to develop critical and creative thinking skills. The arts can provide the means for communicating thoughts, emotions, and ideas that cannot otherwise be expressed.

**Guiding Principles**

For those students interested in developing skills in voice, instrumental, and drama performance, the Performing Arts Department offers courses and activities of considerable variety. Performance material is selected to: meet the varied needs and skill levels of the students, provide cultural enrichment for the students, help students develop aesthetic, make provision for technical growth of the students, provide for school and community service, and create interdisciplinary relationships.

## **COLOR GUARD: COURSE #882**

**Course Frequency:** 2 days per week (fall semester)

**Credits Offered:** 2.5 credits

**Prerequisites:** None

### **Background to the Curriculum**

Our high school color guard is a long-established course offering. It has played an integral role in the development of the individual performance skills of our students and has provided our school and community with an outstanding support vehicle. Over the course of the fall semester, the color guard performs with the marching band for all activities. Throughout the years, the color guard has earned many honors and awards.

The color guard curriculum is aligned with standards 1 (Movement Elements and Dance Skills), 3 (Dance as expression), 4 (Performance) and 5 (Critical Response) of the Massachusetts Arts Curriculum Framework. In addition to the frameworks, our color guard program encourages tremendous personal growth in the form of teamwork and leadership skills.

### **Core Topics / Questions / Concepts/ Skills**

By the completion of this course of study, the student should be able to:

- Apply musical and movement concepts to their performances
  - ~ Dynamics
  - ~ Phrasing
  - ~ Tempo/rhythmic acuity
  - ~ Agility
  - ~ Ensemble presence
  - ~ Projection of performance
- Continue growth in
  - ~ Equipment techniques
  - ~ Performance technique
  - ~ Acquired overall skill level
- Understand and perform advanced marching techniques and maneuvers
- Understand the intricacies of working in a large group setting
- Take pride in their accomplishments
- Develop Esprit de Corps
- Understand and develop leadership qualities

## **Course-end Learning Objectives**

*Students will learn to:*

- 1] Apply musical and movement concepts to their performances
  - Dynamics
  - Phrasing
  - Tempo/rhythmic acuity
  - Agility
  - Ensemble presence
  - Projection of performance
- 2] Continue growth in
  - Equipment techniques
  - Performance technique
  - Acquired overall skill level

## **Assessment**

Students will be assessed on their preparedness, performance practice, attendance, attitude and care of equipment.

## **Materials and Resources**

Color Guard carriage will be written for each fall season to correspond with the marching band's field show. Additionally, members will be introduced to traditional techniques of the color guard.