

# BUFORD HIGH SCHOOL BAND

*Wallace Conrath*

## SCALE TESTS

### Grading rubric

7	6	5*(standard expectation of ninth grader)	4	3	2	1	0
Level 5, <b>plus</b> Memorized <b>and</b> two octaves	Level 5, <b>plus</b> memorized	One octave with arpeggio. No stops; no note mistakes; Minimally acceptable tone quality	One stop <b>or</b> One mistake <b>or</b> Less than standard tone quality	2-4 problems; includes stops, mistakes, tone	4-8 problems	More than 8 problems	Not played

This rubric is also used with any digital pattern to be tested. In that case, the highest level possible is a “6”.

9<sup>th</sup> graders must play all scales at a “5” level to receive 100%. 10<sup>th</sup> graders must play all scales at “6” level to receive 100%. 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders must play some selected scales at “7” level and the rest at “6” level to receive 100%. **However, all students may attempt scales at a “6” or “7” level for seating placement. Students’ raw scores form the basis for seating placement.**

Another option with this rubric is to add a specific tempo (eg. quarter note =120 beats per minute, played on eighth notes with a designated rhythmic pattern).

A strict percentage grade is then assigned to the raw score. If a student attempts all scales on a given test, he/she is not assigned a grade lower than 50%. Since test grades make up only 20% of my final grade, most students don’t worry about this testing process and perform much better then if it was a higher stakes grade.