

Frequently Asked Band Questions.....

“What if I don’t play an instrument?”

Great! We start from the ABSOLUTE beginning! Everyone will be in the same boat. ☺

“What if I don’t know how to read music?”

Also not a problem! You will be taught to read music. If you already know, it will be even easier for you!

“Can I play sports and be in band?”

YES!! If anyone tells you otherwise, they are incorrect! Band students are often involved in other activities. Some of the band staff were even athletes in school! Ask them. ☺

“What if my child wants to play an audition instrument?” (saxophone, oboe, bassoon, French horn, baritone, tuba, percussion)

We advise your child to have a second choice of instrument as a backup. Again, the ultimate goal is *success* for your child!

“Why can’t each student just play what they want?”

This is a common question regarding band. The best comparison is quarterback on the football team. You can’t have a football team with all quarterbacks, and no one else. The same is true for band instrumentation. We want to set our students up for maximum success. Sometimes this means that they need to play an instrument that they did not intend on playing initially. Great care will be taken in considering the students preference, however, instrumentation is set at the directors’ discretion. We simply will not be able to achieve group success with only percussionists, or saxophone players, etc.

“Do I have to have my instrument the first day of school?”

It is preferred that the students have their instruments during the first week of school. They will be provided information on the first day regarding when they should have their instrument and required materials in class. There are a multitude of things that are to be learned and the sooner we can start, the more successful the students will be. If you are interested in playing an audition instrument, those auditions will take place during the first few days of school. As soon as placements are set, instrument rentals or purchases NEED to be made within the first full week of school.

“Is there a specific uniform I have to purchase?”

For most performances the band members will wear concert black, which consists of black button down shirt or blouse, black slacks, black socks and black dress shoes. Slacks **MUST** be worn for all performances.

“Where will I store my instrument during the day?”

In the band room. Drop it off before school starts....pick it up before you go home every day.

“Will my student be required to take their instrument home every day?”

Absolutely! We want the students in the band program to be successful. This requires practice be done on a daily basis at home. Students will have assignments due periodically and will need to be prepared to achieve a high level of proficiency for each one.

“Is band during the day, or after school only?”

Band is an enrolled class that meets during the regular school day. The only after school events for 7th graders are concerts and the rehearsals needed to prepare for the concerts (usually two or three), and they are scheduled *well* in advance.

“My friend is not in band, but they heard how fun it is! Is it too late for them to join?”

It’s not too late! Students can still enroll in band during the first few weeks of school in 7th grade, but they’ll need to hurry! Have them touch base with the band director and the counseling center.

“How can I stay up-to-date and current on events happening within the band?”

There will be a bi-weekly band bulletin that will have all upcoming events as well as information needed for students to be prepared for assignments, test, concerts, etc. A calendar of events will be sent home the first day of school and will also be available online on our website. You will be given all of the information you need to plan for well in advance.

“What if I have questions for the band director?”

Please feel free to call or email with any questions!

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