

Dear Incoming 5th Grade Band Parents,

As the school year comes to a close, we wanted to take a moment to look towards next year. Being a member of the Band is a commitment that shouldn't be taken lightly. We will need to work together to ensure that your children are practicing and getting as much as they can out of their instrumental experience. This letter contains information regarding the materials that your child will need.

1. Instruments should be rented by the beginning of the school year so that we can get started as soon as possible. All instruments can be rented from any music store. Rental vendors will be available at our open house on **Thursday May 12th at 6pm** in the Large Cafeteria at GFMS. (Immediately following this will be the orientation presentation in the auditorium from the GFMS administration)

Here are some suggestions for places to look:

Barcone's Music: (845) 331-6089:
R&D Music: (845) 225-4515:

They will deliver directly to the school
Local off of Fair Street

2. If you would prefer to purchase an instrument, that is also acceptable. We **HIGHLY** recommend, however, that you check with one of the middle school band teachers to make sure that you are purchasing an instrument that will hold up to the wear and tear of a 5th grader. We have some **specific** brands that we recommend depending on the instrument. Please contact one of us for recommendations based on your child's specific instrument.
3. All students must purchase the **Measures of Success Band Book** for their instrument.
4. Additional REQUIRED materials:

Flute Players

A cleaning rod
A handkerchief

Clarinet Players

10 #2 Reeds (1 box)
A cleaning swab

Cork Grease

Runyon Mouthpiece
Cushions/Patch

Saxophone Players

10 #2 Reeds (1 box)
Cork Grease
A cleaning swab

Runyon Mouthpiece
Cushions/Patch

Trumpet Players

Valve Oil

French Horn Players

Valve Oil

Trombone Players

Slide – o - mix

Baritone Players

Valve Oil
Mouthpiece

Tuba

See Baritone Players
PLEASE NOTE: purchase a
TUBA Measures of Success book

Percussion Players

(see explanation below)

Percussionists: Percussionists must be skilled in a wide variety of instruments including, but not limited to, bass drum, snare drum, cymbals, triangle, tympani, cow bell, bells, xylophone, marimba, claves, etc.

All 5th grade percussionists must obtain a portable drum pad and bell set.

(**note it may be cheaper to purchase then rent**)

There are many different percussion kits; these are some that we recommend: the CB Combination Snare and Percussion Kit, Yamaha SPK250 Jr. Percussion Kit, or Ludwig LE2482R Percussion Learning Center Combo Kit. Please make sure that these kits include a bell set with mallets, AND a portable drum pad with sticks. The kits come with sticks but we also require purchasing an extra pairs of Vic Firth 5B drum sticks.

Please Note:

It is very important that you label your child's instrument case as well as write his/her name inside the book.

If you have any additional questions, please contact your child's band teacher at the e-mail addresses listed below or at (845)228-2300 ext-542. We understand how daunting this process can be and we would like to help in any way possible. We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming concerts and school activities!

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