



Holly Grove Middle School Bands

Beginning Band at Holly Grove Middle School

Basic Requirements

- ☐ ANY child can take Band. No prior music knowledge is necessary.
- ☐ Each child must provide his/her own instrument and method book, but will not need either prior to the school year beginning.
- ☐ Students should have a good attitude and work ethic. Band students are usually the most responsible and disciplined students of a school

Scheduling

- ☐ Students must take 6th grade band to be eligible for band in 7th or 8th grade. If they decide not to continue beyond 6th grade, they can take another elective; however, they cannot join band in 7th or 8th grade without having played in band the previous year. Parents and students often say that they wish they had given it a try when they had the chance.
- ☐ Band is a scheduled elective. Students are not pulled from other classes to take Band.
- ☐ Band takes place during the school day.
- ☐ Band meets daily for the full year.

Instruments

- ☐ Sixth graders may begin on Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone (provided their hands are large enough), Trumpet and Trombone. We will introduce more instruments in the second semester (Oboe, Bassoon, Bass Clarinet, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Horn, Euphonium, Tuba and Percussion). Students will sign up in the second semester for the instrument they are interested in switching to; however, we have a limited number of spots for each instrument. Auditions will be held for instruments with more students signed up then we have spots available.
- ☐ Music and Arts Center, a local music instrument dealer, will hold a rental meeting in the HGMS Auditorium within the first few weeks of school, so no action is required on your part before that time. This rental meeting is provided simply as a convenience to our band parents. You are under no obligation to obtain an instrument from any particular company.

Benefits

- ☐ Learn to read music- a lifelong benefit.
- ☐ Learn to play a music instrument- a skill that can be enjoyed for a lifetime!
- ☐ Feeling of belonging to a valuable and respected group.
- ☐ Develop self-confidence in learning new skills.

Common Myths About Band at Holly Grove Middle School

“You need to know how to read music”

We teach you how to read as you learn an instrument. No prior knowledge in reading music is needed.

“You can’t play sports and be in band”

Many of our band students are key members of athletic teams. Because band is a class during the school day, it does not interfere with after school athletics.

“There’s a limit to who can join band”

Anyone who wants to learn an instrument may join the class. There is no limit on class size.

“It’s expensive to be in band”

One month’s instrument rental (about \$30) is the same cost as:

- ☐ A half tank of gasoline
- ☐ Half of a new PlayStation 3/ X-Box game
- ☐ A Fast Food Dinner for a family of 5
- ☐ Half of a month’s smartphone fee

“You have to rent an instrument”

No. There are various ways to get an instrument. Make sure to communicate with the band director if you have questions.

There will be a parent meeting regarding how to obtain an instrument during the first few weeks of school in July.

For more information visit the band website www.hollygrovebands.com or contact Adam Capps, HGMS Band Director, at phone# 919-567-4177 ext. 20470 or email acapps@wcpss.net.