

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are glad to hear that your student is interested in joining Central Middle School Band. Before you start looking for an instrument, let's make sure you understand how the band program is structured. Students who are joining band with no prior experience will be pulled out of class for a lesson once a week on a 4-week rotating schedule during periods 5, 6, 7 or 8. 6th and 8th grade students who are not able to be pulled out of class for band lessons have the option of taking lessons during study hall (this is not an option for 7th grade students because we teach a full class every day during 7th grade study hall).

Regarding the purchase or rental of an instrument; most parents get an instrument through the rent-to-own program provided by our school's musical instrument dealer, Quinlan and Fabish. We recommend the rent-to-own program because you do not have to come up with the entire instrument purchase price all at once, and the rental instruments are covered by Quinlan's insurance program to cover any required instrument repairs. To learn more about the rent-to-own program, including specific pricing details, please call Quinlan and Fabish at 1-800-637-6872. If you call them and order an instrument over the phone, they will deliver the instrument to the school and we will deliver it to your student. If you would like to search for an instrument through the internet, please let us know what instrument your student wants to play, and we will give you a list of recommended brand names. Please do not purchase a brand new instrument online without checking with me first, as the internet is flooded with poor quality instruments that are not acceptable for school band participation.

All beginner band students are required to have the following supplies for band classes; instrument and accessories (such as reeds, valve oil or drum sticks), the Essential Elements lesson book 1 and a pencil.

If you have not already signed your child up for band this year, the next step is to contact one of us with the provided information below. We look forward to creating a fun and enriching experience for your student in music! Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

*Mark Dreyer*

Mark Dreyer

Director of Bands

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