

Homewood Middle School Band

Dear 6th grade band parents,

Congratulations on becoming a part of the Homewood Band family. We are very excited about having your child in band next year at Homewood Middle School and look forward to meeting and working with each one of you.

We have provided you with a "Preferred list of Instruments" that we have found are the best quality and will give you the best value for your money. You may purchase or rent an instrument from any music store you like, however, we ask you to inquire about service and repair when getting your child's instrument.

Amazon instruments are generally not going to meet our requirements or provide your student with an instrument that will allow them to be successful. These recommended instruments will more easily play in tune, produce a better tone, and will be a good value. Please check with one of the directors before purchasing on instrument not on the list or not from one of our music stores. If you find a great deal at a local discount store, please contact one of the band directors before purchasing.

In the past we have had students simply sitting in class for several weeks because of an inferior instrument or an inferior purchase source. This scenario could prove to be detrimental to the learning process. Generally the shipping and handling to return a warranty problem is done so at your expense.

Instruments come in three categories: Student Model, Intermediate Model, and Professional/Artist Model. Student model instruments prove over and over to be inadequate for second/third year band students, but will get your child started in the right direction. The intermediate model instruments are very appropriate for middle school band and will carry them into the first year of high school. The Professional/Artist models are recommended for the High School/College and professional player.

We feel the instruments we have on our recommended list are fairly priced and are more than adequate for your child to carry him or her from day one in band on into the first couple of years of High School Band. The music stores all offer instruments to purchase, rent, and rent to own. Please contact us if you have any questions about renting or purchasing an instrument.

Musically yours,

Terrance Cobb
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Lauren Bearden
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Ryan Murrell
Assistant Director
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John Bradley
Band Coach
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Recommended Instrument List Homewood Middle School Band

FLUTE (open hole models preferred with plugs)

Armstrong
Yamaha
Gameinhart
Jupiter

OBOE

Selmer
Yamaha
Fox

Tuba/French Horn/Baritone

Standard mouthpiece.

CLARINET (Wood clarinets preferred)

Yamaha
Buffet
Artley
Selmer
Jupiter

Saxophone

Yamaha AS1 Advantage
King
Selmer

All Sixth Grade Band students will need to purchase: **The Essential Elements Book 1** for their specific instrument. This will be their book for 6th grade band.

TRUMPET (Silver finish preferred)

King
Blessing
Getzen
Bach
Yamaha
Conn

TROMBONE (Silver finish preferred)

King
Blessing
Getzen
Yamaha
Bach
Jupiter

PERCUSSION KIT

All Percussionists will be required to buy a 12 inch Real Feel Practice Pad with a Concert Snare Stand, mallet bag/snare sticks, timpani sticks, yarn mallets and rubber mallets.

SUGGESTED OPTIONAL SUPPLIES:

Maintenance/Care Kit
(Wind players)
Metronome/Tuner

Fold up Stand for home practice