

Dear Beginning Band Parents

We have included some information that we think you would find helpful about how to get an instrument, our summer band lessons, and band class in the fall. You can find additional information on 6th Grade band on our website wamegobands.org. We hope you find it useful. Please let us know if you have any questions.

6th GRADE BAND

Here's what to expect and items that they will need to be successful.

Students who are unable to attend summer band will still be able to start in the fall.

If you are having difficulty getting an instrument, we will work with your student to get them caught up once they have their instrument.

Band class will start on Wednesday, August 18th. **Students will need their instruments or books in class by the following Wednesday, August 25th.** They may bring their instruments before the 25th and store them in their band locker if they would like.

We recommend bringing a standard **combination lock** to secure your student's instrument in the storage lockers. No key locks please.

Students will need to purchase a band book: Essential Elements for Band – Book I. Students who rent/purchase an instrument from a music store will have a book provided for them. Otherwise, you may purchase this book from the Glenn's Music or Manning music, make an order through the school once school starts or purchase on Amazon – Just make sure it's the for the instrument your child plays and is in English.

We would also recommend a **folding music stand** for your child to practice at home.

Mr. Richmond and I are looking forward to a great musical beginning with your son or daughter. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact either one of us via email or telephone. We will be glad to help!

HOW TO GET AN INSTRUMENT:

If you have not purchased or rented an instrument you can do that through Glenn's Music (Manhattan) (785) 539-1926, Manning Music (Topeka) (785) 272-1740, Manning Music in Manhattan (785) 539-5900, or Senseney Music (Wichita) 800-362-1060.

Before purchasing an instrument, be sure to consider which instrument is your child is interested in playing, and if that instrument was recommended for them.. **Please do not purchase an instrument that wasn't recommended for your child without talking to the directors.**

If you already own an instrument, it is very important that it is in good working order. If it has not been checked out, please contact us directly to set up a time to drop off your instrument at WMS.

Some instrument brands are more reputable than others. There are some brands that music stores **will not** repair, making a broken instrument un-usable. Remember you get what you pay for. If it's cheap, it may break easily and have to be replaced in a short time and you are out double the money. **Here are some reputable instrument brands:** Bach, Bundy, Conn, Selmer, Yamaha, Buffet, Artley, Gemeinhardt, Pearl, Ludwig. If you are shopping online and are not sure if it's a reliable brand, please contact us to ask.