



Dear Parents:

As a rising 6th grader, your child has the opportunity to do what so many successful students have done before them: Be Part of the Band!

We know that for some of you, this will be your first exposure to music education, and I wanted to take a brief minute to share some information with you.

Attached to this letter is information regarding our program and the different opportunities it provides for your child. It's time to think about the options your child can have at both the middle and high level. If after reading these materials you still have questions, please feel free to contact me at any time using the info listed below.

Music education is more than just playing an instrument. It is immersing your child in a culture of successful students and teachers who care about education. It challenges each child to use the creative side of his or her brain while, at the same time, learning a foreign language...MUSIC.

All of the current data clearly states that students involved in music education academically outperform their non-musical counterparts. But, more importantly, studies are showing that music students are less likely to engage in risky behaviors such as drugs and alcohol.

Every destination starts with a decision to embark on a journey. Now is the time to start your child in middle school music and *Bryan County Middle High School* is the place to do it. We are excited to welcome a new class of musicians into the program!

Sincerely,

Avery Gallups
Director of Bands
Bryan County Middle/High School
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Schedule of Courses

- As a rising 6th grader, your student will have the opportunity to join our beginning band! In this band, students will learn how to play the instrument they are placed on. From learning to play their first notes, to putting on full concerts by December, both you and your student will be proud of the progress they have made.
- Following their 6th and 7th grade year, students are able to join the symphonic band, marching band, pep band, and jazz band.
- It all starts with the first steps your student takes in beginning band, and I encourage you to take the leap and join our band family at Bryan County Middle High School.

Picking the Instrument

- Students are encouraged to visit bepartofthemusic.com and watch the videos of each instrument. The student will then pick their top 3 choices for the instrument they would like to play.
- Instrument testing happens at the beginning of the year; students will then be placed on one of the 3 instruments they selected based off their testing results. We try to place students on their top choice, but sometimes another instrument is a better fit, and they will have more success on that instrument.
- We start students on the following instruments: Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, and percussion (mallets and snare drum).
- Please refrain from buying/renting your student an instrument until the beginning of the year. We will hold a rental meeting with Pladd Dot Music where all of your questions can be answered.
- If an instrument rental is something that you don't think you can afford that's okay! We can work together to find a quality and affordable used instrument for your student to use. We also have a limited amount of school owned instruments that we can lend out in extraordinary circumstances. Please reach out to me to discuss.

To register for Beginning Band, please scan the QR code below and fill out the google form.



<https://tinyurl.com/2p9h5aan>