

Flossmoor School District 161

5th Grade Students & Parents:
This is your chance to sign-up for
Beginning Band!

Information Meeting!

Tuesday, September 7 from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Zoom Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/99320353573>

INSTRUMENTS AVAILABLE

Flute, oboe, clarinet, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone and tuba require no try-out or previous musical experience.

Saxophone – Our limited number of saxophone students need to be musically strong students willing to participate in jazz band in 6th grade. For this reason, **students wishing to play the saxophone must start on the clarinet**. Recorded auditions (on the clarinet) for the saxophone positions will be accepted at a later date. Previous ownership of a saxophone is not a consideration in who is selected to switch.

Percussion – Students who wish to play percussion **must try out for us virtually**. Please contact me at bclark@sd161.org to arrange a virtual audition. Our percussionists play a full range of mallet and auxiliary instruments, as well as the snare drum. Interested students will be assessed on their rhythm and note reading skills. **Percussion positions are limited**, so all students who wish to tryout for percussion will also be asked to choose a woodwind or brass instrument. Students who are not chosen for the percussion section may participate in band on their other instrument choice. All students trying out for percussion will be notified as soon as possible so that rental can begin in time for the first lesson.

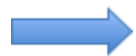
SIGNING UP

You will sign up for Beginning Band via a google form. Please copy and paste this link:

shorturl.at/opDQ6

You will need the following:

1. A digital device to complete sign-up via this Google Form: shorturl.at/opDQ6
2. The means to obtain an **Essential Elements Book, music stand and accessories** (these can be ordered from Quinlan and Fabish)
3. A way to obtain an **instrument** for your child (see information on other side of this page).



SIGN UP DEADLINES

Please come to our informational meeting on Tuesday, September 7 from 6:30 to 7:30pm. Once again, the link is: <https://zoom.us/j/99320353573>

Be sure to obtain your student's instrument, Essential Elements Book 1 (make sure you purchase the book for the correct instrument), and music stand by Friday, September 10. Please wait to have the students put the instruments together until you receive further instructions. If your child is interested in percussion or tuba, please email bclark@sd161.org as soon as possible.

OBTAINING INSTRUMENTS, BOOKS AND ACCESSORIES

Quinlan and Fabish (www.QandF.com), a reputable music company that services our school, will be present at our Beginning Band Information Meeting. They will present information to you regarding instrument rental and purchase. You are not obligated to rent or buy your instrument through this company. However, Quinlan and Fabish provides quality instruments and makes weekly service visits to our school, which makes repairs and maintenance very easy and convenient. You can contact Quinlan and Fabish to make financial arrangements to reserve an instrument, books, accessories and music stand, which are required for your child's first lesson.

If you already have an instrument, please contact bclark@sd161.org so that I can help you determine if this instrument is in good working condition and ready for lessons.

Do not purchase an instrument at a Big Box (non-music) store. If you choose to purchase or rent an instrument elsewhere, please contact us for guidance. Reputable brands are: Yamaha, Selmer, Gemeinhardt (flute), Buffet (clarinet), King, Conn and Bach (brass instruments), Holton (F horn), Fox (oboe), Ludwig and Pearl (percussion.)

The School District has a few instruments available for use by students who qualify for free lunch. If you are interested, please contact Mr. Clark or Mrs. Reid as soon as possible.

ONCE YOUR CHILD IS SIGNED UP FOR BAND

Band students will receive one 25 to 30 minute pull-out group lesson per week. The lesson schedule will be emailed shortly.

HELPING YOUR CHILD SUCCEED

Even if you have no musical background yourself, you can still help your child succeed in instrumental music. **One of the first things you can do is help your child learn to read the first five notes, found at the top of page 6 in the book.**

Each week your child should mark the book each time an exercise is practiced, and you should sign the book before each lesson.

Students also need a music stand at home, good lighting, and positive feedback. The first sounds you hear might not sound musical to you, but give it time, insist on consistent practice, remain positive, listen for improvement, and **soon your child will be making music!**

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