

LMS Beginning Band Start-Up Info

Please refer to the information below to help you and your student get started with band at LMS. If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Jones at becky.jones@usd469.net.

What you should do before school starts:

- Talk to your student about what they would like to play and start researching the best path for acquiring an instrument for them (Please see below for more detailed info about this process)
- Get a folder and pencils for them to use in class
- You are welcome to get an instrument prior to the start of school but we will not start playing until after Labor Day

What you should do if student is currently enrolled in the wrong band class or no longer wishes to participate:

- Please contact Mrs. Botts AFTER August 12th to get your child’s schedule changed. PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT HER BEFORE THAT DATE!

Knowing what instrument your student should play:

Most students were fitted for an instrument last year during school. I have a listing of their 1st and 2nd choices if they forgot but I would encourage you to talk to them about it to help them get excited for starting band.

What you should know about getting an instrument:

Most affordable and reliable long-term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent an instrument from the Tune Shop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monthly payments (rent-to-own) ○ Cheaper maintenance ○ Reputable brands ○ More durable
For those not wanting to rent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check eBay, Facebook Marketplace, Craigslist or pawn shops for used instruments • Reputable brands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Flute: Yamaha, Gemeinhardt, Pearl, Armstrong, Jupiter ○ Clarinet: Yamaha, Vito, Selmer, Bundy, Buffet ○ Trumpet: Bach, Yamaha, Selmer, Bundy, Holton, Conn ○ Trombone: Bach, Yamaha, Holton, King, Conn • Contact Mrs. Jones if you have questions about an instrument you are looking at purchasing and are not sure if it is worth what the seller is asking for it
Less cost-effective with more risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instruments found on Amazon or through large discount stores • Usually cheaply made • Prone to breaking • Many music repair techs will not work on these when they break • Contact Mrs. Jones for a listing of brands to avoid

Percussion Auditions:

Students who are planning to audition for percussion will do so during the first full week of school. Those students should hold off on renting an instrument until they know if they will be playing percussion. 10 students will be selected to play in the percussion section for each beginning band. If you have questions about this process, please contact Mrs. Jones.