

Beginning Band FAQs

“Are summer lessons available?”

Yes, and they're very strongly recommended. Small-group lessons will take place on August 2-5, one 30-minute lesson per day for 4 days. Flexible scheduling is available-- there are times available from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. I would really love to have all beginners participate if at all possible, so that we can hit the ground running in the fall. School-year lessons are only 15-20 minutes at a time, once per week, so if they start in the fall, it would take almost the entire first quarter to learn as much as they could before school starts! The cost is \$45 (total for 4 lessons). Please contact me if the cost presents a hardship-- payment plans or free or reduced-cost lessons are available in cases of financial hardship. I do not want the cost to prevent anyone from taking lessons. [Here is a link to the registration](#) (lessons are run through Community Ed).

“When do we need to have an instrument?”

If your child is taking summer lessons, he/she will need an instrument by August 1st. If not taking summer lessons, please do your best to have one by Open House in the end of August so I can look it over before school starts to make sure it is in good working condition, and so I can order any supplies or accessories you might need.

“What supplies or accessories will we need for band?”

- 3-ring binder (provided by the school for 5th grade only)
- Name tag for case (or at least a piece of tape with the student's name on it) (percussionists will put the tag on their stick bag, not their practice kit)
- Lesson book: Essential Elements Interactive
- Music stand for practicing at home
- Other items specific to each instrument-- click your instrument below for a link

[Flute](#) [Clarinet](#) [Saxophone](#) [Trumpet/Cornet](#)

[French horn](#) [Trombone](#) [Baritone/Euphonium](#) [Percussion](#)

“Where do we get the supplies/accessories?”

If you get your instrument from a music store:

Many of the supplies/accessories will come with the instrument. When it is delivered to the school, I will check to see if you need anything else, and email you to let you know, and then I can order it for you and put the charge on Infinite Campus, unless you would prefer to order it yourself. I can send you links if you want to order it yourself.

If you get your instrument somewhere other than a music store:

I will send you a checklist, and you can see what items you need. I can order them for you and put the charge on Infinite Campus, or you can order them yourself if you would prefer. I can send you links if you want to order it yourself.

“How often will students need to take instruments home in the fall?”

Students will be required to take instruments home for practicing every weekend at the very least. It would be best if they could take them home every day, because frequent practice is needed in order to build facial muscles and work on technique.

“Are concerts required? What is the dress code for concerts?”

COVID-permitting, we will have 3 concerts during the school year (in December, March, and May), which will be required. Dates will be announced the first week of school. The dress code will be matching t-shirts, which cost \$10, with black pants and black shoes that you would provide (let me know if this presents a hardship).

“What if I have other questions or concerns?”

Please feel free to contact me at tcederstrom@isd717.org. If you are unable to email, you can reach me on my cell phone at 612-581-4576.