



## Who can participate in Band? **EVERYONE!**

Famous People who were in band:

Jimmy Kimmel -Clarinet  
Halley Berry -Flute  
Julia Roberts -Oboe/Clarinet  
Keesha -Trumpet/Saxophone  
Lil Wayne -Cymbals  
Nelly Furtado -Trombone  
Nora Jones -Saxophone  
Alanis Morissette -Flute  
Samuel L Jackson-French Horn  
Lionel Richie-Clarinet/Tenor Sax

Just to NOTE:

McDonald's Corporation surveyed 500 chief Executive Officers of Fortune 500 companies and 500 U.S. Congressmen. Ninety percent said that playing a band instrument helps build character and leadership skills. When asked if they would encourage their children to pursue music as part of a school's curriculum, 100% of the congressmen and 98.6% of the businessmen said yes.

## Come Join the Wildcat Band

Be a part of something very special as we begin our 80th year of Band in the Belmont Schools.

All instruments are available and we hope you will choose to be a part of our program.

Research shows that students who participate in Band are more likely to:

- ♪ Have fewer discipline issues
- ♪ Score higher on all standardized tests
- ♪ Show a higher level of focus in all classes
- ♪ Develop teamwork skills needed for today's society
- ♪ Have more self confidence
- ♪ Make friends that will last for a lifetime
- ♪ Have more FUN!

**GET EXCITED!!!!!!**



# Belmont Middle School Band

Home of the Wildcat Band

## A Guide to Joining the Band!

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# WHY MUSIC? WHY BAND? It might be more appropriate to ask: WHY NOT MUSIC?

It is evident music education should be experienced by every student. We, as a culture, will be best served if the hearts and minds of our youth are filled with the knowledge and the understanding of MUSIC. The time has come, the time is now:  
**STRIKE UP THE BAND!**

In the next few weeks, the Belmont Middle band director will visit the feeder elementary schools to recruit for the beginning band program. This brochure will hopefully answer many of the questions you may have about band. Learning an instrument is very exciting.

Researchers have found that band participation:

- ✧ Enhances high brain function.
- ✧ Improves reading and math performance.
- ✧ Raises IQ scores and proficiency scores.
- ✧ Provides important experiences that can help physical coordination, timing, memory, visual, aural and language skills.

✧ Enhances cooperation and builds teamwork skills. Learning an instrument is also an activity that can be enjoyed for a lifetime.

## COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT BAND:

**I want to sign up for band, but I don't know how to play an instrument. How can I be in band?**

99% of all beginners have never played a wind or percussion instrument in their lifetime. Beginning band is designed to teach you everything you need to know to play an instrument and be in a performing band.

**What about home practice?**

All band students are expected to practice each week on their own which will improve their skills.

**There are many things I want to do in middle school. How can I be in band and all those other activities?**

Band kids are involved kids. We encourage our students to do a variety of activities. We will have many students who go out for football, basketball, track or other school sports, as well as participating in one or more of our many clubs. Being well rounded and experiencing many different activities is part of the middle school experience and we encourage it. Since the majority of learning in band occurs during the school day, conflicts rarely arise. And when they do, we can work them out.

**Will my child have band every day?**

Yes, it is a graded, academic class that is part of the Every Student Succeeds Act and is 45 minutes each day.

## WHAT ARE MY INSTRUMENT CHOICES?

Band offers several choices of instruments for your child to play.

**Woodwind Instruments include:** Flute, Clarinet, and Alto Saxophone

**Brass instruments include:** Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Baritone and Tuba

**Percussion instruments include:** Snare Drum and Bells (these instruments will be selected by audition in January)

**How to determine which instrument to play.**

In April and May, Mrs. Lineberger will travel to the elementary schools to have instrument fittings. Your child will try out the instruments that interest them. Most students will get to play what instrument they wish, but sometimes physically there is a need to choose the recommendation of the director.

**I know what instrument my child wants to play, should I purchase or rent that instrument before classes start?** I highly recommend waiting until instrument fitting has occurred. Nothing is more frustrating for children than trying to learn an instrument that they are not physically suited for.

**Upcoming Dates:**

**Band Interest Survey Due: April 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Instrument Fittings: April 15<sup>th</sup>-May 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Band Info Meeting at Belmont MS:  
May 28<sup>th</sup> 5-7pm in the Band Room**



