

Hello parents,

Last spring your student tried out a variety of instruments which included flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, and trombone. He/she was then placed on the instrument that he/she would have the most success on if choosing to join beginning band. Well, this is the time to officially join beginning band.

Why should your student join band, you ask?

Band will make you smarter. When a person plays a musical instrument almost every area of the brain is involved. Both sides of the brain work together to process information and create music. This allows the brain to work faster and retain more information. Playing an instrument will help your student in all other academic subjects!

Band is social. It is a place where your student can participate with his/her peers to develop a product that they all can be proud of. Band is an activity where no one sits on the sidelines. Everyone that practices will perform. You do not need to have any prior musical training to join band. Since band is a class, it does NOT interfere with other sports or activities. No matter their skill level, other activities, or personality, **EVERYONE** can find their place in the band!

What will be expected from my student?

Your student will be required to obtain an instrument, book, and accessories from a local music store (Beckerdite Music, Palen Music, Springfield Music, or Hoover Music) before Wednesday, August 27. Or you may wait until August 26 when I will be hosting an instrument rental night here in the HHS Band Room at 6 pm. Hoover Music will be here to take care of all your rental/purchase needs. They will have all instruments, books and accessories that you will need for class. If you have financial difficulties and cannot afford an instrument, please contact Mrs. Norris ASAP! I have a limited number of instruments for those that need help.

Your student will also need a pencil and three-ring binder.

The 6th Grade Beginning Band will perform at three concerts during the year. They are Fall Concert (Oct. 7 at 6 pm), Christmas Concert (Dec. 4 at 5 pm), and Spring Concert (May 7 at 6 pm). The band will perform then stay as a group to listen to the JH and HS bands. Band is a performance based class; therefore, these concerts are required and graded.

Just like any other class, there will be small homework assignments. The homework consists of quarterly practice records. Each quarter your student will be required to practice for 90 minutes each week with a total of 810 minutes per quarter. This may sound like a lot but the only way to learn something and improve upon it is to practice. Occasionally, we will have playing tests that will also count for a grade.

My student wants to join band, what do I do now?

Now is the time of commitment. If your student has chosen to join band please fill out the contract on the next page and turn it in to Mrs. Norris. Then he/she will go to band class at the end of the day and

learn the basics about reading music until August 27 when we will learn how to put instruments together and make our first sounds!

I am really looking forward to teaching and getting to know your student this year. I hope that you strongly consider having your child participate in band. If you would like more information about the band program, please visit our website: <http://hartvillescreamingeagleband.weebly.com/>. If you have any questions, whatsoever please contact me.

Musically,

Mrs. Kristy Norris
Hartville Band
norrisk@hartville.k12.mo.us
417-741-7676 ext. 211

Please sign and return to Mrs. Norris

-Band is a full year class. My student will be a member of the band for the entire 6th grade year.

-My student will have an instrument and all required accessories by August 27.

-I understand that my student will be required to practice on a regular basis and perform occasional playing test.

- My student will be required to attend all concerts.

Student Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____