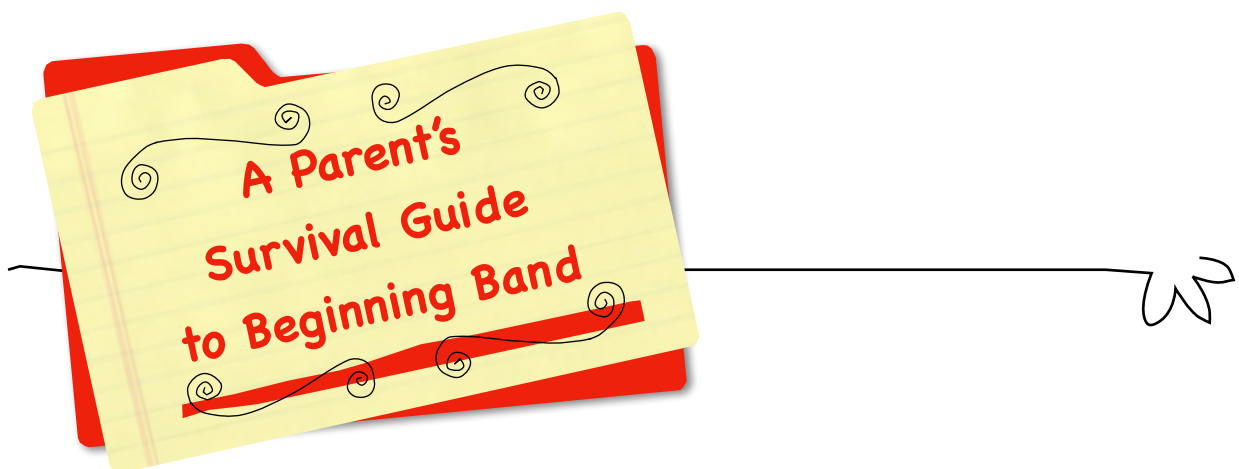


2023 - 2024

District 140 Bands

HELP!

MY KID JOINED THE
SCHOOL BAND, BUT I
ONLY PLAY THE RADIO.



DO NOT FEAR, HELP IS HERE!

Many parents think that if they know little or nothing about music, they cannot help their child who is learning a new instrument. This is not true. Your involvement in your child's music education is key to his or her success. Here are a few things you CAN do, even if your greatest talent is playing the radio.

1. LISTEN

While this may seem hard at first, I promise it will get easier. It is important that the students practice a recommended 20 minutes a day to build confidence, coordination, and consistency. Pretty soon, you'll start to hear music!

2. WATCH

You can check your child's posture while they are practicing. Check to see that their back is straight and they are not hunched over at the shoulders. They will have a better airstream when playing. There are diagrams in your child's band book on the first few pages showing proper posture and playing position.

3. ENCOURAGE

A kind word will go a long way. If your child is improving, you will HEAR the results!



4. CHANGING THE STATION

Each week, your child receives a weekly assignment in the front of their band book. The assignment contains a variety of exercises and songs from class. If you are hearing the same thing over and over, ask him or her what they are working on in class. Chances are, your student is playing only what they have mastered, instead of working on things that could use more attention.

5. BRUSH OFF THE TARNISH

After the newness of the instrument wears off, sometimes it takes a little motivation to keep at it. Learning an instrument is not an “instant gratification” activity such as playing a video game. Keep them practicing and keep them involved. They may not thank you for it now, but they will later on.

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- Visit www.myeelibrary.com for the FREE Essential Elements practice tracks to use with the exercises in the book and video resources. You will need the “Student Activation Code” printed on the first page of your Essential Elements band book.

BEGINNING BAND

WEEKLY IN-SCHOOL LESSONS

Band meets at each elementary school once per week for a thirty minute lesson during the school day. Band members are placed in small groups of like instruments. The student's band time is on a rotating schedule as to not miss the same class each week. Students will need their instrument, book, and a pencil at every lesson. Keep your folding music stand at home.

Tuesdays - Fernway

Wednesdays - Bannes, Keller, Millennium

Thursdays - McAuliffe

AFTER SCHOOL REHEARSALS

Posted at www.ksd140.org/band/beginning-band and included at the end of this packet.

Starting the week of November 6, 2023, all band members will also meet as a full band after school. Band members will attend after school band rehearsal on either Mondays at Grissom or Tuesdays at Prairie View in the band room. Rehearsals run from 4:15 PM to 5:15 PM. Parents are responsible for providing transportation to and from rehearsals. Carpooling is encouraged. *(Please do not block the bus lanes when dropping off your student.)*

DAILY AT HOME PRACTICE

To attain musical success, we request 20 to 30 minutes of daily practice. Each week students will receive instruction on how and what to practice for the following lesson. Remember to “count, clap, sing, finger, play” and use www.myeelibrary.com



PERFORMANCES

Save the date on November 8, 2023, for our annual Beginning Band Parent Night at Grissom.

Group 1: 6:30 – 7:15 PM for FLUTE, TRUMPET, and PERCUSSION

Group 2: 7:30 – 8:15 PM for ALTO SAX, CLARINET, and TROMBONE/BARITONE

All District 140 Beginning Band members will perform together for two concerts this school year. The dates are January 24, 2024 and April 24, 2024. In addition, students will present a concert in their respective schools in May.

Concert Uniform

Boys: white, button-down shirt, black dress pants, black socks, black dress shoes (tie is optional)

Girls: white blouse or dress shirt, black dress pants/skirt (or a black dress), black socks/nylons, black dress shoes

Learning an instrument is a lifetime activity.

It should be something that grows and matures with the student! Learning to play an instrument also utilizes higher thinking skills daily, stretching your child's brain.

Being a member of band opens up a whole new world of friendship and fun for everyone -
it isn't just a class!

District 140 Bands

LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION?

- BAND WEBSITE at www.ksd140.org/band for news updates, events, practice tips, & music resources

BAND INSTRUCTORS

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