



Clayburn Middle School - Band Information Letter (New Student)

What is band class? Does my child need to know how to play music to join band?

- Band class is an **optional** class that students can take at Clayburn Middle.
- Students choose the instrument that they will learn how to play from the Concert Band family which includes:
 - Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Double Bass & Percussion
- Many students who join band have never seen a musical note or played an instrument before.

Does my child need to take private music lessons?

- Band class is a teacher-directed group lesson. There are usually between 30-60 students in a band class.
- Private music lessons are not required, however, some students find the additional one-on-one support helpful.
- Here are some ideas and suggestions for private lessons:

Sibling or Peer	King's Music	Long & McQuade	A&D Sound	Abbotsford Community Music School
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Are there any fees or costs associated with band class at Clayburn Middle?

- There is a fee of \$20 for Band which helps cover the costs of the textbook, sheet music and supplies
- Students are expected to acquire their own instruments. King's Music provides instrument rentals at a low cost.
- Clayburn owns and provides the following larger more costly instruments in **limited quantities** to students:
 - Tubas / Baritones / Bass Clarinet / Saxophones* (\$160/year) Double Bass (Free if it stays at School)
 - Clarinet / Trumpet / Trombone* (\$80/year)

*Mr. Long prioritizes saxophones and trombones for students that are enrolled in Jazz Band.

I don't know which instrument to choose. Can you help me?

- Tom Lee Music has a great online resource for exploring band instruments. Search for "Tom Lee Instrument Safari" on the web or use the following the link:
 - <https://tomleemusic.ca/instrument-safari/>

How are learning goals and homework communicated to students and parents?

- Learning goals and homework will be communicated using email.

Are there other music performance groups?

- We have one extra-curricular group that goes on trips/tours and performs throughout the community
 - Jazz Band - Practices once a week. See schedule for more information.
- Jazz Band focuses on high quality performances.
- The music is more difficult & performance expectations are higher than in Grade 6/7/8 band class.

When do band classes take place and what are Band PODs?

- Students who **sign-up for band** are organized into class groups of 15-25 students.
- Each band class group is combined with other students (not in band) and form a band POD (60 students)
- Every other day, band students leave their regular classroom to attend band class in the music room.
- The regular classroom will engage in alternate learning activities during band.

Band Sign-ups are DUE the 2nd Friday of June.



Summary of Information

Band PODs	Students will be organized into Band PODs. We intend to have 2 Band PODS per grade. Each POD will have approximately 15-25 band students out of 60 total students.
Form Due Date	Students interested in band next year need to complete the online band sign-up form. Band Sign-ups are DUE the 2nd Friday of June.
Music Fee	There is a band fee of \$25 that covers Grade 6, Grade 7, Grade 8 and/or Jazz Band.
Concerts, Trips & Events	All bands will perform at both the Winter Concert (4th Thursday of January) and Spring Concert (2nd Friday of June). Grade 8 Band will also perform at the Remembrance Day Assembly and the AMEA Middle School Band Night. Jazz Band will also perform at the AMEA Nights of Music, go on a 2-3 day festival trip and also perform at some elementary schools.
Jazz Band	Jazz band is an enrichment performance group for band students. Students are required to be enrolled in Grade 6, 7 or 8 band in order to participate. Jazz Band Sign-ups are in the Fall.
Online Form Submission	Band Sign-ups can be completed online using the following link: bit.ly/clayburnmiddleband

*Current Music Schedule (Final schedule will be published in September)

	Day 1	Day 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:15 - 8:15 am			*Jazz Band (Extra Rehearsal Notice will be given)		Jazz Band (Doors open at 6:45am)		
Lunch							
12:30 - 1:25 pm	Grade 6-1 Band	Grade 6-2 Band		Grade 6 Percussion (As Needed)	Grade 7 Percussion (As Needed)	Grade 8 Percussion (As Needed)	Jazz Band Rhythm (As Needed)
1:25 - 2:16 pm	Grade 7 Band	Grade 8 Band					
2:30 - 3:30 pm			*Jazz Band (Extra Rehearsal Notice will be given)				