Strike Up the Band

Tuesday, August 27th, 2024

Informational Letter

Dear Prospective Band Parent(s),
Welcome to the Lapeer Band family! Please take a moment to read through all the information below and if you have any further questions please contact us, Lyniece.Fenner@lapeerschools.org, Alexis.Johnson@lapeerschools.org Stephanie.Harrington-Shellhaas@lapeerschools.org.
We look forward to exploring the world of music with you and your student(s) this year.

Lynch/ Turrill Band Class Times

Tuesday – 7:20 to 8:20
Wednesday – 7:20 to 8:20

Murphy/Schickler Band Class Times

Thursday – 7:20 to 8:20
Friday – 7:20 to 8:20

Informational Zoom Meeting
We will answer all your questions regarding band, attendance, supplies, instruments and options for getting one.

Thursday, September 5th
Zoom ID – 281 905 7041
PASSWORD - Band

What Instruments Are Played in a Band?

flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone and baritone.
Percussion- both snare drum and xylophone

Lapeer Instrumental Rental and Supplies N

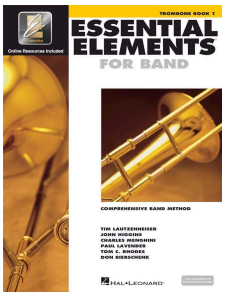
If you would like to rent and instrument the Lapeer Band Department hosts a rental night for all beginning band students.

This year it will be Monday, September 9, beginning at 5pm in the Rolland-Warner cafeteria. The evening usually ends between 7:00 and 7:30pm

If you have instrument rental questions you can contract Port Huron Music at (810) 984-5081 or visit their website at http://www.porthuronmusic.com/t-RentalDescription.aspx

(Please note that the band director does NOT sell instruments.)

All students will need a band book. These can also be obtained from Port Huron Music or you can order it online. The book is called Essential Elements Book 1 (yellow) and make sure to get the book for the instrument your student will be learning.
Example of the trombone book.



Instruments

You have several options for obtaining an instrument. Please take a moment to consider which option is the best fit for your family. Your student(s) will need to have their instrument, book and supplies by **Tuesday, September 10th** in order to stay on pace and not get behind.

1) Rental from Port Huron Music
(810) 984-5081

or visit their website at http://www.porthuronmusic.com/t-RentalDescription.aspx

2) Already owned family or friend instrument. If you already have an instrument please make sure that it is in **good playing condition**. If it needs repair or conditioning Port Huron Music can take care of this.

For the clarinet, oboe or saxophone make sure that they have several good reeds and a cleaning kit.

Trumpets, French horns and trombones should have valves oil and slide cream.

3) Renting or purchasing from someone other than Port Huron Music. If you choose this route please make sure you do some research first to find a reliable instrument.

Beware, there are inexpensive instruments out there (Amazon…. Walmart…) and that includes the quality. They tend to break easily, are beyond repair or will be expensive to repair. Some beginning/student model recommended brands would be….

FLUTES: Pearl, Gemeinhardt, Yamaha, Armstrong, Emerson

OBOE: Yamaha, Loree, Selmer, Jupiter

Bb CLARINET: Yamaha, LeBlanc, Artley, Buffet

ALTO & TENOR SAXOPHONES: Selmer, Yamaha, King

TRUMPET: Bach, Yamaha Getzen

DOUBLE FRENCH HORN: Holton, Conn, Yamaha

TROMBONE: Bach,Yamaha, King

PERCUSSION KIT (snare and bell/xylophone): Pearl, Ludwig PLK, Yamaha

Parent Involvement

While the purchase or rental of an instrument is a big responsibility, it will not be your most important responsibility. The role of the parent is more than simply providing an instrument for a child.

Problem Solving

It is inevitable that at some point your student will “hit the wall”, get student or frustrated. It happens to the all of us at some point. Before allowing then to just quit try problem solving first. Most times the frustration is the result of something that can be fixed easily. Some suggestions are….

- Contact the band director.
- Setup an after school, one on one, lesson with the band director. This allows your student to get the full attention of the band director.
- Seek private lessons.
- Check to make sure the instrument is not broken.
- Clarinet, oboe and saxophone parents check to see it the reed is broken and a new one is needed.
- Trumpet parents check to see if the valves are the correct cases.
- Continue to be encouraging.