

Trumbull Public Schools Elementary Band Instruction, 2020-21

All grades 4-5 TPS learners, both virtual and in-school, are eligible to learn to play a band instrument, regardless of previous experience. (Please note that students may choose band or strings, but not both.)

Band instruction is \$125 per student per year; it may be paid in two installments of \$62.50. (The Superintendent of Schools may grant a waiver of the fee which will be based on need. Please contact the Superintendent's Office at 203-452-4301 or dfaiella@trumbullps.org for additional information.)

To enroll your child, please [fill out the online registration form by clicking here](#). Registrations should be completed no later than Tues., Oct. 13. If you register your child, you will receive an invoice by the end of October; the fee will be paid online.

Prior to the first lesson:

- Get an instrument. See below for a list of instrument dealers who sell and rent instruments and accessories. Be sure your child's name is on the instrument case.
- Get a metronome or metronome app, and a music stand. These will be for your child's use at home.
- Purchase the *Standard of Excellence* method book by Bruce Pearson. Write your child's name on the title page.
- For saxophone and clarinet, be sure to buy extra reeds.
- For trumpet or baritone horn, be sure that valve oil is included in your child's instrument case.
- For trombone, be sure that slide lubricant is included in your child's instrument case.
- For drums, students should get a drum pad and drum sticks. Write your child's name on the pad and on both sticks. You do not have to buy a drum.
- For bells/glockenspiel, students only need a bell kit. They do not need a case that includes a drum pad and sticks.

Additional safety requirements for this year:

- Students who are physically in the school building for band classes must adhere to the following requirements:
 - Wind instruments: Students must wear a mask with an opening for the mouthpiece. (Flutes can simply slide the instrument behind a regular mask.)
 - Wind instruments: Students must use a bell cover. (Flutes will need a small end-cover or "flute sock.")
 - Percussion (drums and glockenspiel/bells): Students can wear the same masks they normally wear.
 - All instruments: Students must not share drumsticks, mallets, valve oil, cork grease, books, or any other accessories.
- Please consider this additional safety recommendation:
 - Saxophone, clarinet, and flute: Students can use a bag-like instrument cover.

On the first lesson day (week of Oct. 19):

- Band classes take place during the school day, so please send your child to school with the instrument and all other items listed above (except for the metronome, metronome app, and music stand, which can remain at home). Remote learners will attend band instruction via the link at the band teacher's Google Classroom. Band teachers will send parents a schedule and a link.
- Keep doing the above every lesson day.

Obtaining instruments:

Instruments can be obtained at the following music stores:

- [The Creative Music Center](#), 701 Main Street, Monroe, CT. 203-261-7301.
- [Bethel Music Center](#), 103 Greenwood Avenue, Bethel, CT. 800-276-7974.
- [Music and Arts Center](#), 1863 Post Road, Fairfield, CT. 203-255-2881.

If you choose a different vendor, it is important to consider what ongoing support they will give you should your instrument need repair.

If you have any questions, please email your school's band director:

[Dave Turechek, Band Director](#)

for Booth Hill, Frenchtown, Jane Ryan, Middlebrook, & Tashua

[Mike McGrath, Band Director](#)

for Daniels Farm