

Covington Middle School Bands

6th Grade Band

June 29, 2020

Introduction

Hello! I am the Music Director for Covington Middle School and Covington Community High School! You are receiving this letter because your student has expressed interest in 6th Grade Band at CMS! Needless to say, we are absolutely excited about the opportunity to have your student be a part of such an enriching program! Included in this will be all of the information that you need.

Why band?

1. **Band is an incorporation of every subject:** Music incorporates skills from math, science, literature, history, and culture in a unique and creative way. Each student encounters each of these subjects and learns in their own way through their instrument.
2. **Band is a unique outlet that shapes a student:** Music has a way of introducing students to new and creative ways of expressing themselves. It all begins with their choice of instrument, the voice that they choose to express through.

What opportunities does band offer my student?

As a member of the CMS band, students have first and foremost, the opportunity to learn an instrument and gain a new skill set. In addition, your student will have ample opportunities to display their musical growth and talents. In middle school, this includes concerts and Solo and Ensemble contest, then eventually concert band and marching band contests around the state.

Milestones to look forward to as a band member

1. The First Concert, October 2020

At this first concert, not only will you as parents be able to witness your student's new skill, it will also be your student's world debut as a musician. A proud moment for all!

2. The Spring Concert, May 2021

3. 7th and 8th Grade Band

4. Marching Band and Concert Band Contests

Choosing an instrument

How can I go about getting an instrument for my student?

As a member of CMS Bands, there are several options available to you.

1. **Paige's Music:** Paige's Music and CMS have a partnership that gives you several options towards receiving an instrument.
 - a. **Rent to Own:** Monthly payments toward an instrument that your student will eventually own. As a great bonus, if your student decides to switch instruments after you've started making payments, Paige's will make the instrument switch and transfer all payments made towards the new instrument.
 - b. **Purchase up front:** Possible, but much pricier up front.
2. **Other, through direction of Mr. Hartzog:** There is an abundance of music stores around, and many can offer you quality instruments. Mr. Hartzog can guide you to instruments that will be worth every cent and guide your student to success.

What will this cost to me?

If you choose to go the Paige's route, they offer several plans to make this experience for your student pleasant on all accounts.

When will more information be made available to me?

Instrument Introductions: At this time, the week of July 20 is slated to have our 6th Grade Band Introduction Week. During this time, each student will have a one hour group lesson each day with Mr. Hartzog (groups being flutes, clarinets, etc.) The time slot will be shared soon.

Parent Meeting with Paige's: This meeting will take place at 6pm on Thursday, July 23. Location is TBD.

Where do I go if I need more information?

Mr. Hartzog: If you have any more questions that this flyer does not cover, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Hartzog at hartzogk@covington.k12.in.us at any time!

We are all excited for the chance to have your student in band next year! Thank you and Happy July!

Musically yours,

Mr. Kyle Hartzog

Music Director

Covington Middle School, Covington Community High School