

NEMS Beginning Band

Narrows Elementary/Middle School

(540) 726-2391

Mr. Tim Woolwine, Director



5th grade is the **BEST** time to sign-up for band because the Beginning Band class introduces students to the basics of reading music and playing the instrument of their choice! It is difficult to join later on, so students with even the slightest interest are encouraged to try band in 5th grade. Beginning Band also prepares them for additional performance opportunities in the 6th and 7th grade, including the NEMS Jazz Band!

"How do I get an instrument?"

Often students pick-out the “ultimate instrument” only to find that it wasn’t what they expected, so students are encouraged to rent or borrow an instrument. Arrangements for instrument rental should be made by the **beginning of September**

▲ Here are some options to consider: ▲

Instrument Rental Program Through Music Doctors

575 North Franklin Street

Christiansburg, VA 24073

(540) 381-2767

School Band Specialist: Jeff Martin

Instrument Rental Program Through Bridge Kaldro Music

2890 North Franklin Street

Christiansburg, VA 24073

(540) 381-8383

School Band Specialist: Laura Cox

Borrow A School Owned Instrument

NEMS has a **limited** number of school owned instruments which may be loaned to a student on a “first come, first serve” basis. There is a \$15.00 Instrument Rental Fee which covers basic maintenance and cleaning. Students wishing to play larger instruments such as the tuba, baritone, french horn, etc., will need to borrow a school instrument instead of renting.

Borrow An Instrument From Someone You Know

You may wish to check with family members, friends, etc. to see if they may have an instrument they would let you use. There are a lot of students who are using an instrument played by their siblings, parents or grandparents when they were in school, so it doesn’t hurt to check!

Purchase An Instrument (OPTIONAL)

Beware of purchasing new instruments sold at extremely low prices because they tend to be of poor quality and require frequent repairs that add up in the long run. It is also difficult to acquire replacement parts for many of these instruments, plus many local repair shops will not service them. You should also use caution when purchasing instruments over the internet. Students put a lot of wear and tear on their instruments each day; therefore, it is important for them to have an instrument that is well constructed. **Please speak with the band director BEFORE purchasing an instrument outright.** Below is a list of instrument brands that are highly recommended:

YAMAHA

CONN-SELMER (spelled with an E, not an A!)

PEARL

BACH

LEBLANC

LUDWIG

GEMEINHARDT

JUPITER

HOLTON

"What other supplies do I need?"

Students are responsible for purchasing their own reeds, cork grease, valve oil and slide oil. Mr. Woolwine will have a small variety of supplies on hand for emergencies only.



"Why is music education important?"

Music Education Provides Important Experiences

Musical activities provide children with important experiences that can help them develop physical coordination, timing, memory, visual, aural and language skills. When they work to increase their command of music and exercise musical skills in the company of others, they gain important experiences with self-paced learning, mental concentration and a heightened personal and social awareness.

-Frank R. Wilson, M.D.; Associate Clinical Professor of Neurology- University of California School of Medicine in San Francisco; AMC 1998 Publication: "Music and Your Child."

Music Education Develops Quick and Decisive Thinking

During musical performances, children must constantly turn their thoughts into action. Thought structures continually have to be updated and adjusted. The combination of constant vigilance and forethought coupled with ever-changing physical responses is an educational experience of unique value.

-Frances Rouscher, Ph. D., University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh; NAMM 1997 publication: "Making Music Makes You Smarter."

We encourage students with even the slightest interest in music to sign-up for band for at least 1 year. It's a terrific experience that's worth a try!

www.greenwaveband.org

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION, NEWS, AND EVENTS

NEMS Beginning Band

Please Check the Band Instrument You are Most Interested in Playing



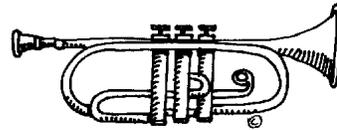
Flute



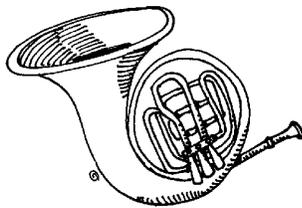
Clarinet



Saxophone



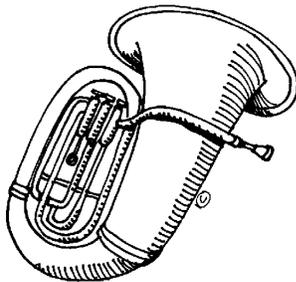
Trumpet



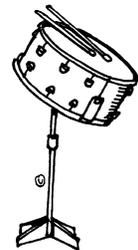
French Horn



Trombone



Tuba - or - Baritone



Percussion

*Only a limited number of percussion spots available.

*Percussionists will start out playing mallets.

Oboe*

Bassoon*

*Private Lessons are HIGHLY RECOMENDED