

WELCOME TO THE VALLEY CENTER HORNET 6TH GRADE BAND!

We're very excited to give the opportunity to be part of the Valley Center Band Program as 6th Grade Beginners.

We will be holding an instrument try-out the first day of school (Thursday Aug. 12th) during the 6th Grade Band Period. There, you will be able to try different instruments such as flute, clarinet, trumpet, and trombone.

Valley Center Instrument Displays for 5th and 6th Band Students will be held Monday Aug. 23rd or Tuesday Aug. 24th from 5-7pm held in the VCIS Band Room. You and your parents will be able to look into purchasing or leasing a band instrument to use for the 6th Grade Band Class.

Here is a list of supplies you will need in order to start the year off in the right direction. **Parents, please make sure your child's name is tagged on ALL instrument cases and written on ALL folders, books, reed cases, etc.!!

All Band Students:

- Traditions of Excellence Book 1 for chosen instrument.
- Traditions of Excellence Book 2 for your instrument (due by March 7th)
- Binder Notebooks with pockets (for band books and sheet music)
- Pencil (encourage your student to leave it in his/her case!)

Woodwinds Instruments:

- Instrument (Flute, Clarinet, or Sax)
- At least 3 working reeds at all times for clarinets/sax players. (Rico reeds are a good brand that may be more budget friendly).
- Cleaning Kit.

Brass Instruments:

- Instrument (Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Baritone, or Tuba.)
- Valve oil and Slide grease for brass players.
- Cleaning Kit
- Cleaning cloth (old t-shirt cut into 12"x12" square works well)

Percussion:

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- Instrument (Beginning Percussion Kit- Snare and Bells)
- Percussionists must have their own sticks and mallets as part of their beginning percussion kits (Bells & Snares).

Students need to bring instruments beginning Monday August 23rd so we can check out cubbies. Our goal is to begin playing Wednesday August, 25th.

Grading Expectations:

- Practice cards will again be due each Monday or first day of the week. New guides picked up each on the same days. Students are asked to practice 20 minutes/day for a total of 140 minutes each week. Practice cards and other homework (as assigned) will make up 30% of the band grade. They will begin the week of Monday, Aug. 30th.
- Class participation (attendance with instrument/class materials) and behavior is worth 40%
- Performances are worth 30%.

If you have any questions or are a NEW student, please contact Jan Verboom or Kara Whitaker at jan.verboom@usd262.net and kara.whitaker@usd262.net.

6th Grade Band Concert Dates for 2021-2022

- November 4th, 2021 in the VCMS Gym (Report Time will be 6:30pm/Concert at 7pm)
- March 1st, 2022 in the VCMS Gym (Report Time will be 6:30pm/Concert at 7pm)
- May 9th, 2022- DISTRICT MASS BAND CONCERT (Report Time will be 7:30pm/Concert at 8pm)