



East Samford School Band
332 East Samford Ave
Auburn, AL 36830
332-887-1960



Welcome to the ESS Band! I am extremely excited that your student has considered participating in band this school year. The information in this packet will hopefully provide you with what is needed for band class. Please read through the information and direct any questions or concerns to my email address:

kschenier@auburnschools.org

BAND FEE

All students will pay a \$60 band fee. This fee covers supplies needed for band class, instrument book, music, materials, band shirt, etc. (Many of you have already paid this fee online or during the three days of Tiger ESSentials back in June.)

REGISTERING FOR BAND

Students are placed in band classes according to the instrument they are playing. Instrument testing was done during the end of May and June. Students tested at Drake Middle and ESS in May or during Tiger ESSentials in June, have been placed in an instrumental class based on those results. If you are not sure which instrument your student is playing, please refer to the attached band class student list. Students that have not been tested should come in prior to the beginning of school so that your schedule can reflect the correct band class. I will be available **July 30 and 31 from 5:00-7:00 P.M. in the ESS Band Room** for the last round of instrument testing.

OBTAINING AN INSTRUMENT

All students will need a working instrument in excellent condition. Students that will play flute, clarinet, trumpet, saxophone, and trombone are responsible for having their own instrument. We have a very limited amount of these instruments at our school and are extended on a need basis. The more common school owned instruments, such as French horn, euphonium (baritone) and tuba, require a \$75 rental fee. Percussion students will need their own sticks/mallets and other necessary equipment. We will officially begin instrument instruction on **Tuesday, August 14th**. Please have instruments and all necessary parts by this date.

Instruments are available from a variety of sources, but ultimately it comes down to what you are willing to invest. You do not have to spend hundreds of dollars to obtain a quality instrument, but the options available can make this process very overwhelming. I recommend rental programs at this level of band. It allows everyone involved to be sure that the instrument is a good fit for your child before investing a large sum of money with a large purchase. Art's Music Shop and Gadsden Music Company offer great rental programs and primarily service our instruments within Auburn City Schools. Both companies will be present at our **Band Informational Meeting on August 9, 2018 at 6:00 PM in the ESS Auditorium** and will be able to assist you with all instrument needs, whether you want an instrument or supplies for the instrument. You are under no obligation to obtain an instrument from any particular company. Be cautious of instruments that are priced very low, seem "too good to be true", or brands not easily recognized by a music repair shop, private teacher, or band director. In these cases, these instruments can be a greater challenge than they are worth. There are many manufacturers that make instruments

extremely enticing and inexpensive. Some even sell colored instruments to attract buyers. Though they may seem fine at first, they can malfunction very easily and repair shops have been known to refuse to work on them.

Most supplies for the care and maintenance of the instrument will come with a newly purchased instrument or from a music store rental program. If using or purchasing a used instrument from another source, please make sure you have maintenance/cleaning supplies.

Hopefully this chart can narrow things down a bit and make it easier to look for instruments and supplies that will suit your needs and budget.

INSTRUMENT	NEEDED FOR CLASS	SUGGESTED BRAND NAMES OF INSTRUMENTS	OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT NEEDED AT HOME
Flute	--Instrument --Tuning/Cleaning Rod --Small cloth or handkerchief	Gemeinhardt Yamaha, Selmer, Armstrong, Jupiter	Folding music stand Metronome/tuner
Clarinet	--Instrument --Mouthpiece and ligature --1 box of reeds --Reed guard or reed holder case --Cleaning kit should include cork grease, swab, polishing cloth, mouthpiece brush	Buffet, Selmer Yamaha, Jupiter, Vito Recommended Reed Types: Mitchell Lurie and Vandoren size 2 or Rico size 2.5	Folding music stand Metronome/tuner
Saxophone	--Instrument --Mouthpiece and ligature --1 box of 2.5 reeds --neck strap --Reed guard/holder case --Cleaning kit should include cork grease, swab, polishing cloth, mouthpiece brush	Yamaha, Selmer, Bundy, Jupiter, Vito Recommended Reed Types: Mitchell Lurie and Vandoren size 2 or Rico size 2.5	Folding music stand Metronome/tuner
Trumpet	--Instrument --Mouthpiece (Bach 7C or equivalent) --valve oil --Cleaning kit	Bach, King, Yamaha Getzen, Jupiter, Conn	Folding music stand Metronome/tuner
Trombone	--Instrument --Mouthpiece (Bach 12C or equivalent) --Slide oil --Cleaning kit	Bach, King, Yamaha Getzen, Holton, Conn, Jupiter	Folding music stand Metronome/tuner
Percussion	--8 inch or larger Practice Pad with stand --Snare sticks --1 pair of yarn mallets	Vic Firth Mike Balter	Bell kit Folding music stand Metronome/tuner

	--1 pair of medium rubber mallets --1 pair of tympani mallets --Stick bag		
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Students playing French horn, Euphonium (baritone), or tuba will have options for obtaining/playing these instruments. In past years, students playing French horn, euphonium or tuba were given an additional instrument to keep at home for practice. Due to the amount of students playing these instruments this year, a practice instrument for use at home might not be available.

INSTRUMENT	Option #1	Option #2	SUGGESTED BRAND NAMES OF INSTRUMENTS	OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT NEEDED AT HOME
French Horn	--Rent or purchase your own instrument --No school rental fee required	--Rent school instrument (\$75 covers cleaning) --Must purchase mouthpiece	Holton, Yamaha, Conn (Holton MDC mouthpiece recommended)	Folding music stand Metronome/tuner
Euphonium (Baritone)	--Rent or purchase your own instrument --No school rental fee required	--Rent school instrument (\$75 covers cleaning) --Must purchase mouthpiece	Holton, Yamaha (Bach 12C mouthpiece or equivalent recommended)	Folding music stand Metronome/tuner
Tuba	--Usually not an instrument available for purchase or rent unless seriously considering a long term investment	--Rent school instrument (\$75 covers cleaning) --Must purchase mouthpiece	Bach 24AW or Yamaha 66 mouthpieces recommended	Folding music stand Metronome/tuner

Please remember to mark your calendars for our Informational Band Meeting that will take place on August 9, 2018 at 6:00 PM in the East Samford Auditorium. We will discuss band calendar, grading procedures, expectations, and more.

Enjoy your summer! I look forward to seeing you and working with your student this fall!

Musically,
Kim Chenier
Band Director
East Samford School