

TORO BEGINNING BANDS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What grade does my student have to be in order to join the band? 6th Grade

What if my student has no experience in music or on instruments? It's perfectly fine! The course is called Beginning Band. It's designed to be an introductory experience.

How do I enroll my student in Band class? Simply fill out the Enrollment Form from the band web site (torobeginningbands.weebly.com).

How do I find out what instrument my student will play? Come to one of our instrument placements to try them. Like trying on clothes, a child has to see what is best suited for success. You will discover what instrument your band student will play, plus you will see how easy it is to secure an instrument for your child.

Do we just select an instrument to play? We prefer to fit students to instruments more than selection based on impulse. This helps to ensure the students are off to a good start.

How much does it cost? The dues for participation are \$50 (paid online at your school's website). The cost of the instrument depends on if it is purchased, leased, or rented from one of our vendors. (You can lease for cheaper than it costs your family to eat at Chick-Fil-A once each month). Please contact the director should you have any questions about a particular instrument. Be careful of online instrument "deals." In general, you get what you pay for.

When does the band class meet? We will meet during enrichment time at school each day.

What is the commitment? No after-school rehearsals! Students will perform at occasional evening performances. These are required (and fun). A minimum of 100 minutes of practice each week is expected of all beginning band students.

What will my student learn? Students will learn to not only play a musical instrument, but they will also learn to read music. In addition, they will learn positive habits for attaining goals in school and in life.

Will band interfere with other activities? Most of what we will do is IN the classroom. The performance dates will be given well ahead of time in order to prepare accordingly. Create a practice routine that fits your schedule. That's it! That means you CAN still play sports, be involved with Scouts, church groups, dance, play video games, etc... **and be in the band!!**