

Return to Learn Music/Band 2020-2021

Junior High Band/5th Grade Band

Junior high band and fifth grade band will be in a lesson only format. We will follow a similar schedule that was used in the 2019-2020 school year provided that the PE schedule stays the same. These lessons will take place outside as much as possible. The students will be placed 6 ft apart from each other. If we are needed to be inside due to weather, students will be socially distant, and will be required to wear masks when they are not playing. Instrument condensation will be contained using something absorbent, such as towels or puppy pads. ISBE has suspended the use of lockers within the band hall. Students will need to have a designated spot in their home classroom. This will help to alleviate the number of students coming through the band/chorus room each morning. Floor markings will be created in the band hall for both chair placement and will allow 6 ft of space between students when assembling and disassembling their instrument. **Students will use a bell covering at every class session. Bell Covers will be available for purchase from Kidder Music. Pantyhose may also be able to work.** At the end of each lesson, students will be assigned to sanitizing their chair and stand used. Percussion students will be tasked with sanitizing mallets/drumsticks and the instrument that was used.

If we are to move to remote learning at some point during the school year, Mr. Boyle will provide these lessons in a google meet setting within google classroom. A specific schedule stating the date and the time will be shared with the students via email in a timely fashion. Other professionals and musical composers may also be invited to talk to the students as a full class in a virtual setting.

Junior High Chorus

Junior High Chorus will be split into two different groups during first period. One group will come on Tuesday and the other group will come on Thursday. We will utilize the Junior High gym bleachers and students will be spaced out 6 feet apart. **If we can make 12 feet apart work. We will. Floor marking tape will be used on the bleachers. Students will be asked to disinfect their spot where they sang at the end of each class meeting.** Students will be masked the entire time and the rows of students will be staggered. Lessons will focus on fundamentals of singing, sight-reading, and music literacy.

If the chorus is to go remote at some point during the school year, students will be asked to record and write a brief reflection on their performance. The class will also meet one to two times per week via google meets and may feature other professional musicians or composers based upon availability.

Beginning Band

With our music vendor not able to test students on instruments this fall, beginning band will not take place until that is able to happen. Mr. Boyle is looking at postponing beginners for one school year. Mr. Boyle was on the Best Practices Committee for Music Education through the Illinois Music Educators Association. This committee came to the determination that schools should consider not beginning students in the fall with the possibility of the return to remote

learning. Mr. Boyle would like to propose starting beginners next school year when our current fourth grade is in fifth grade.

Students who are interested in joining beginning band in the fifth grade will start in a non-traditional band course that will be created in the second semester of this school year. This non-traditional band course will focus on the fundamentals of rhythm, note reading, music theory, and some music history that is required to be successful in the traditional beginning band.

K-5 General Music

Two sections of 30 minutes of general music courses will be provided for K-5. Recorders will not be used in the classroom until safe to do so. Ukuleles in the fourth grade and Rhythm Sticks in K-3 will be used following proper sanitation after each use. The rhythm sticks, however, will not be used in back to back classes. Chairs will be spaced out six feet apart in the classroom and floor tape/markings will be created in the classroom. Students will be masked when we are inside for activities. Interactive white board activities within the Quaver Music curriculum will be used, along with other games. Some class sessions will also take place outside when weather permits. Students will be given a disinfecting wipe and will be asked to disinfect their chair at the end of each class session.