**KISER MIDDLE SCHOOL BANDS**

**A Tradition of Excellence!**

Dear Kiser band parents,

I am excited about having your child in the Kiser Middle School Band program. We are very proud of our bands, where students have fun, perform great music, and enjoy a thriving and vibrant band experience. Our students gain valuable knowledge and skills in quality music and its performance. When students play an instrument, they independently problem-solve in real time and work as a part of a team. They learn skills for life! Our beginning band classes are now being formed.

The alto saxophone section is filled on a first come-first serve basis. Once those spots are full, students will be given confirmation of receiving a spot in the alto saxophone section or of their second choice of instrument. \*If a student indicates the alto saxophone as a choice, they will ALSO need to indicate a second choice of instrument on the alto saxophone interest form and return it. There will be ten spots. The QR code for the alto saxophone interest form is included in this letter.

The percussion section will not begin until mid-January. The percussion section will have space for only seven students. Students will have to audition for this section. The audition will consist of a rhythm and note reading assessment, as well as proficiency on their beginner instrument. If selected, percussion students will rotate within the section on bells, and snare drums. All potential percussion students will begin on a wind instrument and must be enrolled in a band class from the beginning of the school year.

Obtaining an instrument, band method book, and supplies for your child:

A. It is the parent’s responsibility to get an instrument for their child. I suggest using a reputable full-service dealer, who offers a rental plan. There are a limited number of school instruments available for student use. Please contact me

regarding school owned instruments. I will make every effort to get an instrument to students in need of a school owned instrument.

B. All students will need to provide their own band method book and instrument supplies. This information is included in this letter. You can also refer to the band supply list that is posted on the band’s web page. Students will need to have instruments by September 3, 2024.

I hope that this information will be of use to band parents. Please feel free to contact me with any questions via e-mail: whitet@gcsnc.com. I look forward to working together.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Tammy White

Director of Bands

Kiser Middle School

**Kiser Middle School Band**

**BEGINNING 6th BAND INSTRUMENT SUPPLIES AND ACCESSORIES**

After purchasing or renting your instrument, you will need to purchase the needed accessories, listed below.

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| --- | --- |
| **INSTRUMENT** | **SUPPLIES NEEDED** |
| *Our local music stores sell many of these supply items combined into a* ***“Care/Cleaning Kit”*** *that can be purchased together in one convenient package deal. Students are also encouraged to purchase a* ***wire music stand*** *for at-home practice.* | |
| Flute | **Habits of A Successful Beginner Band Musician by Scott Rush, Jeff Scott– for Flute**  Cleaning kit  *Suggested Accessory:* Thumb Port |
|  |  |
| Clarinet | **Habits of A Successful Beginner Band Musician by Scott Rush, Jeff Scott – for Clarinet**  Neck strap  Reeds – Juno, Mitchell Lurie, or Vandoren brand reeds size 2 ½ (a small box) \*no Rico brand reed  Cleaning kit (Cleaning Swab and Cork Grease)  Reed Guard/ Case  2-3 Mouthpiece Patches |
| Saxophone | **Habits of A Successful Beginner Band Musician by Scott Rush, Jeff Scott for Alto Saxophone**  Reeds- Juno or Vandoren brand reeds size 2 ½ (a small box)  Neck Strap – *Suggested Upgrade:* Neotech  Reed Guard/ Case  Saxophone Cleaning Kit (Cleaning Swab and Cork Grease)  2-3 Mouthpiece Patches |
| Trumpet Baritone  Tuba | **Habits of A Successful Beginner Band Musician by Scott Rush, Jeff Scott for Trumpet, TC/BC Baritone or Tuba**  Valve Oil and Slide Grease  Cleaning kit (Mouthpiece Brush and Cleaning Snake) |
|  |  |
| Trombone | **Habits of A Successful Beginner Band Musician by Scott Rush, Jeff Scott for Trombone**  Slide Cream or Slide-O-Mix Rapid Comfort and Spray Bottle  Cleaning kit (Mouthpiece Brush and Cleaning Snake) |
|  |  |

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**Sign up for important updates from Mrs. White.**

A) If you have a smartphone, you can get push notifications. On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link: rmd.at/ (class code). Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You’ll be prompted to download the mobile app.

B) If you don’t have a smartphone, text the message @ (class code) to the number 81010 to receive text notifications. You’ll receive a welcome text from Remind. If anyone has trouble with 81010, try texting @ (class code) to (810) 250-7858.

**CLASS CODE**

6th Grade Band 2024-2025

@h3df3e

Follow the Kiser Tiger Band on social media:

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@kisertigerband

X

@kisertigerband

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Kiser Middle School Bands

**Obtaining an Instrument**

**BEWARE OF ISOs (Instrument-Shaped Objects)** **TRUST ME ON THIS!**

These are the cheap instrument-shaped objects found on online auctions, other internet sources, and large chain stores. Although I will refrain from mentioning specific stores, keep in mind that if you can also buy toilet paper, jeans, or tires from the store, then it is not a music store, and it will not have musically knowledgeable personnel. You get what you pay for… if it’s inexpensive, it’s not a quality instrument. Very cheap instruments break easily and often cannot be repaired due to their cheap materials. No instrument shaped objects!

**Instruments and supplies: Do not purchase plastic instruments or instruments that are colored pink, red, purple, blue, etc**. I have listed acceptable colors below for each instrument. Below is a list of quality instrument brands to look for when renting or purchasing.

\***Flute**: Recommended Flute brands: Armstrong, Jupiter, Emerson, Yamaha, Gemeinhardt

Gold- or silver-plated color

\***Clarinet**: \*Size 2 ½ Mitchell Lurie/Juno/Vandoren brand reeds (no Rico brand reeds) \*Recommended Clarinet brands: Vito, Jupiter, Buffet, Artley, Selmer, Yamaha; color of the clarinet: black

\***Alto Saxophone**: \*4-size 2 ½ Vandoren brand reeds; \*Recommended Alto Saxophone brands: Regent, Vito, Yamaha, Jupiter; color of saxophone: black, silver or gold colored

\***Trumpet**: Recommended trumpet brands: Conn, Besson, Yamaha, Bach, King; Color of trumpet: gold or silver colored

\***Trombone**: Recommended trombone brands: Jupiter, Holton, Conn, King, Bach, Yamaha; Color of trombone: gold or silver colored

**Local Music stores who rent and sell instruments: (this is an unbiased and impartial list)**

Moore Music Company

615 W Market St

Greensboro NC 27401 Greensboro, NC 27408

336-274-4636; mooremusiccompany.com

Music and Arts

2609 Lawndale Dr.

Greensboro, NC 27408

336-282-1256; stores.musicarts.com

Greensboro Music Company

500 N. Greene Street

Greensboro, NC 27401

336-279-8833 greensboro-music.com

High Point Piano and Music Inc Music Go Round

3407 Archdale Road 1622 Stanley Road

Archdale, NC 27263 Greensboro, NC 27407

336-887-4266; highointpiano.com 336-854-4460; musicgoround.com