

Martin Clippers 6th Grade Band

Karsten Wimbush, Director



Welcome to Band!

We are so excited that you have made the choice to enroll your child in band! This is a decision that will benefit your child for a lifetime. Below you will find useful information regarding what to expect and answers to commonly asked questions. Please email Mr. Wimbush with additional questions at karsten.wimbush@martinpublicschools.org.

FAQ's

When does 6th Grade Band have rehearsals?

Full band: Monday, Tuesday, and Friday, 9:05-10:00am

Small groups: Once a week during RTI time (2:30-3:00pm) - *small groups will have a rotating schedule to be determined by need.*

Will band interfere with sports?

No, our rehearsals are during the school day so they do not interfere with any sports. There are many students in the band program who have successfully participated in every sport offered at Martin while being in band.

How much practicing is required for 6th Grade Band?

While every student's needs are different (and every family's schedule varies), I recommend 20-30 minutes per night, 5 nights a week.

Where is my child's instrument kept during the school day?

All Martin band students have an assigned instrument cubby in the band room.

My child has a rental instrument, what do I need to know about it?

Renting through Meyer Music includes ALL repairs at no additional charge. If your child's instrument takes a hit, or they notice something not working properly, you can take it to a Meyer Music location (or drop it off with Mr. Wimbush) to get it fixed! Also, the credit from your child's current instrument can be transferred to a different instrument if Mr. Wimbush recommend a switch, or if you want to upgrade to an advanced model.

My child has a school instrument, what do I need to know about it?

Students with school instruments are expected to purchase the miscellaneous supplies that help keep the instrument in good working condition. Those supplies are listed below. If a school instrument is damaged, it is vital that the student (or parent if necessary) notifies Mr. Wimbush right away. This will help ensure that the instrument is repaired promptly.

Should I purchase an instrument for my child?

Many parents prefer purchasing an instrument for their child. This is a fantastic invest into your child's learning experience, however if you are looking to purchase an instrument (new or used), please contact Mr. Wimbush first for a list of quality brands to be looking for.

What supplies are needed for my child's instrument?

Every instrument has unique supplies that are needed for your child to keep their instrument in good shape and have the best learning experience. Below are the supplies we recommend:

- Flute: cleaning rod, cleaning cloth (to tie around the cleaning rod)
- Clarinet: Juno 2.5 strength reeds, reed case, clarinet cleaning swab, cork grease
- Alto/Tenor Saxophone: Juno 2.5 strength reeds, reed case, saxophone cleaning swab, cork grease
- Trumpet/Cornet: valve oil, Schilke or Meyer Music slide grease
- French Horn: rotor oil, Schilke or Meyer Music slide grease
- Trombone: Super Slick or Slide-o-Mix, travel size spray bottle, Schilke or Meyer Music slide grease
- Baritone: valve oil, Schilke or Meyer Music slide grease
- Tuba: valve oil, Schilke or Meyer Music slide grease
- Percussion: Vic Firth SD1 drum sticks, Balter Bell mallets

How do band students purchase these supplies?

There are two main ways students and parents can purchase instrument supplies:

1. Filling out a "Supply Order Form" and submitting it to Mr. Wimbush
 - a. Orders are delivered on Tuesday afternoons, if supply orders are submitted with payment by Thursday afternoon, students can generally expect their orders by the following Tuesday.
2. Going directly to a Meyer Music, Marshall Music, or other band supply store.
 - a. Make sure to reference the supply list or ask Mr. Wimbush before purchasing supplies directly.

What are the best things I can do as a parent to help my child succeed?

1. Provide a quality instrument for your child.
2. Provide a music stand.
3. Provide a quiet space for your child to practice.
4. Establish a regular time for your child to practice.
5. Ask your child to play for you.
6. Encourage your child to push through difficulties. Learning an instrument requires patience and the majority of our students have hit a wall at some point, but are happy that they pushed through. **Band is a one year commitment**, so the best thing you can do is help keep them accountable to it.
7. Consider enrolling your student in private lessons (if financially feasible) as they improve.
8. Email Mr. Wimbush (karsten.wimbush@martinpublicschools.org) with any questions.
9. Be positive - especially in the *EARLY* days - your support makes all the difference!

Thank you for giving your child this exciting opportunity! We look forward to getting to know you and your child in the years to come!

See also:

Band Supply Order Form

Martin Bands Website - <http://mrwimbushmusic.weebly.com/martin-bands.html>

6th Grade Band Social Contract

Confirmation Slip - 6th Grade Band Welcome Letter

I confirm that my child, _____, brought home the 6th Grade Band Welcome Letter and also confirm that I, as their parent/guardian, have read the letter and have reviewed the required materials for my child to be successful in band.

Parent Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

*Remove this sheet from the letter and have your child return it to Mr. Wimbush by
Monday, October 21 (next week).*