AMS MUSIC PROGRAM - Parent Q & A

Where do we get instruments? AMS has enough instruments for every student.

Where do woodwind players get reeds? The band program has essential equipment for all of its students: reeds, cleaning supplies, maintenance items, etc.

Can students take their instruments home? Yes! Instruments get to go home so students can practice outside of class.

Do students get to play in concerts? Yes! AMS Band and Orchestra Concerts are presented in the evenings 3 times throughout the year.

Can Band and Orchestra students...

...also play sports? Yes! Band and orchestra classes are during the school day. We have many 6th grade students who participate in Cross-Country and Track & Field.

...participate in Theater productions? Yes! Theater productions rehearse and perform outside of the school day.

...participate in Middle School Choir? Yes! Middle School Choir takes place after school on Tuesdays.

What other activities can Band and Orchestra students do during 6th grade at AMS? There are so many! Scavenger Hunt, OBOB, Brain Bowl, Math Counts, Penta-games, Yearbook Club, Clay Club, Dungeons and Dragons, and Student Union.

What if my child does not yet know which instrument they want to play by the time 6th grade starts? Do not worry! There is another Open House opportunity during the week before school begins.
For now, it helps to know which one of these categories of instruments is the best fit for them:

- Brass (Band)
- Woodwind (Band)
- Percussion (Band)
- Strings (Orchestra)

How did Jenifer (Band) and Ms. Trolley (Orchestra) choose their instruments?
Jenifer is the first musician in her family. She was chosen for band class in 4th grade, had no idea what any of the instruments were, and blindly chose the trumpet which ended up being a terrible fit for her. After 3 months, her band director offered the opportunity for trumpet players to switch to Horn and Jenifer jumped at the chance. The rest is history!

Ms. Trolley has a trombone player and a trumpet player in her family lineage. When she was 3 years old, while watching Sesame Street, she saw Itzhak Perlman play the violin - and the rest is history: She decided at 3 years old to become a violinist!

BAND WEBSITE
ORCHESTRA WEBSITE