



Worthington Hooker School

Beginning Band Flyer



Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am delighted to welcome you and your students to the 2026-2027 beginning band at Worthington Hooker School! It is with great pride that I look forward to another exciting year of music-making together. Below you will find some important information about the start of our concert band program. More details will be provided later in our band contract.

Our beginning band activities are divided into two main components: grade-level pull-outs and morning rehearsals. Morning rehearsals will take place **every Monday and Wednesday from 7:20 AM to 8:20 AM**, starting on **Monday, September 14th**. Students should arrive between 7:15 AM and 7:20 AM and enter through the far doors near the auditorium and cafeteria. If a student arrives after 7:20 AM, a parent will need to contact me, so I can send a student down. Punctuality is crucial to ensure that we can start our rehearsals on time. Grade-level pull-outs will begin on Wednesday September 9th during their WIN time (9:35am-10:05am). These sessions will provide students with focused, small-group instruction.

Our first meeting will be Monday September 14th at 7:20 AM. Here, we will start distributing instruments and going over the expectations for the school year. All 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade band students wishing to participate in WHS band this year are expected to attend. Please contact me if you have any questions or if you know your child will be absent.

Students will be provided with a slip to record their top three instrument preferences. To ensure that every student can enjoy and be successful in the band program, it is my responsibility to make sure that the ensemble will be well-balanced and functional. I also need to pair students with instruments that are well-suited for them. Many factors play into these decisions, so please understand that your child may not get to play their first choice. Private lessons are not a requirement for students to participate in our band program, but anyone looking to play percussion at Worthington Hooker School has historically come in with a piano background and is able to read simple notation already. We can't have a million drummers; therefore, I will need to be extremely selective with assigning percussionists.

Please see the back for more information!

The following are the instruments your child may choose from to play:

FLUTE

CLARINET

ALTO SAXOPHONE

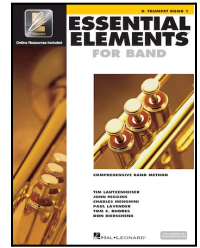
TRUMPET

TROMBONE

TUBA

PERCUSSION

When your child is assigned an instrument, I will ask that you purchase the Essential Elements Book ONE (gold color) that pertains to their specific instrument. The book looks like the image to the right, just make sure you buy the book for the correct instrument and none with a red stripe (that is book two). I will remind you of this and all of the above information in our beginning band contract that will be sent out later this month.



To ensure steady progress in their instrumental studies, your child will need to practice at least four times a week for twenty minutes per session. Regular practice will help them build the stamina, dexterity, and confidence needed for success. **Attendance and participation in all rehearsals and performances are mandatory.** Please make sure your child brings their instrument, music, and a pencil to every rehearsal. For students looking to rent school instruments, rentals will be \$50.00. **Resources are limited, so you may have to look elsewhere for instrument rentals.** JC Music is a great location to utilize!

Our winter concert will be Thursday December 17th at 5:30pm and our spring concert will be Thursday May 27th at 5:30pm. Call time for both events will be 5:00pm and I will share more details regarding the concerts in the months to come.

I am truly excited to get the band wagon rolling and am grateful for your continued support of the Worthington Hooker School performing arts program. If you have any questions or need further details, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at frank.parker@new-haven.k12.ct.us.

Warm regards,
Mr. Frank Parker
Worthington Hooker School Director of Bands

Beginning Band Google Classroom Code: 4omydw2q