

INTERESTED IN SIGNING UP FOR BEGINNING BAND

@ AINGER MIDDLE?

Yes?

No?

- ✓ **Awesome! Choose Band as your 1st or 2nd Choice when you register!**
- ✓ See our band FAQ's on the back!
- ✓ We are the largest organization on campus.
- ✓ The band program is active in our community and offers social events for students like our Disney or Universal Trip, Band Lock-in, and Pizza Socials.
- ✓ Data shows that students that participate in band have significantly higher test scores.
- ✓ There's lots of **SCHOLARSHIP** to help pay for college for band students.

Why Not?

I Play Sports

I Don't Play an Instrument

I Don't Own an Instrument

I Don't Know if I'll Like Band

I Want to take Other Exploratory Classes

You can do both!

We'll teach you! That's why it's called "Beginning Band"!

We'll lend you an instrument at no charge.

Try it now...
The first semester is a "trial" run.
You will probably like it!

You CAN do both! Try band the first semester and see if it is for you! You can take something else semester 2 if you decide it isn't a fit.

Band takes place during the school day like your core classes. We meet 5 days a week!

TRY IT!



I'll try it in High School...
There is no option for Beginning Band in High School.

You CAN take Exploratory Classes in 7th and 8th grade.
You CANNOT take band in 7th and 8th grade without taking Beginning Band first.



Frequently Asked Questions

I want to be in band, but I don't know anything about music and I don't know how to play an instrument...

The vast majority of beginners have never played an instrument in their lifetime. Beginning band is designed to teach you everything you need to know about how to play an instrument and how to read music!

There are many things that I want to do in Middle School. How can I do all of those things *and* be in band?

Band kids are typically very involved students! We have many students who participate in football, volleyball, soccer, cheerleading, and other school sports and activities. Being well-rounded and trying many different activities is part of the middle school experience. Since the majority of learning in band occurs during the school day, conflicts rarely arise.

What about after school rehearsals?

Since beginning band is an exploratory class with the option to become a year-long elective, there are no after school rehearsals or performances the first semester.

How will I figure out which instrument to play?

Students will have an opportunity to try out all of the band instruments using an "Instrument Test Kit" at the beginning of the school year. These kits are not shared and come with mouthpieces to practice producing a sound. Using these kits, students will choose their top two instrument choices and test for placement.

What instruments are available for me to play in Beginning Band?

Students will be provided with a school instrument the first semester. "Core" instrument choices include flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, and percussion.

Students that elect to stay in beginning band second semester may transfer to a "Pathway" instrument if they wish:

- Flute to Saxophone or Oboe
- Clarinet to Saxophone or Bassoon
- Trumpet to French Horn
- Trombone to Euphonium or Tuba

Students can play piano, bass, guitar or drums in 7/8th grade Jazz Band. Students are selected for Jazz Band by audition on their primary band instrument at the end of the 6th grade school year. A student that works hard on a core instrument will likely be successful playing a jazz rhythm section instrument.

I know what my child wants to play, should I purchase or rent the instrument before classes start?

School instruments are loaned to students for the first semester for a trial period. Parents that want to purchase are recommended to wait until the second semester. Nothing is more frustrating for a student than trying to learn an instrument that does not physically suit the student. In addition, the student might be interested in another instrument after the instrument fitting process.



Is Band Expensive?

Band costs nothing for the first semester trial period! Students that elect to continue playing an instrument into semester two (January) will be asked to rent-to-own an instrument. Additionally, students that wish to continue but cannot afford a rental will be worked with individually to find a solution or continue using a school instrument. CCPS has used the Arts Referendum funding to assist parents in making band affordable.

What is required of me as an LAMS Cougar Band member?

Beginning Band meets every day as a regular class period. Students are asked to practice 10 minutes a day, five days a week and participate in rehearsals and performances during semester two.

