

Middle School Music Class Descriptions

Orchestra:

Beginning orchestra offers violin, viola, cello, and bass. The violin is the smallest instrument, and has the highest pitch. The viola is very similar to the violin, but it sounds a little bit lower. The cello plays in the middle to low range and is bigger than the violin and viola. The bass is the largest instrument and sounds the lowest. The beginning orchestra participates in concerts throughout the year, which are held in the evening time. The students will learn how to hold the instruments properly, pluck the strings, learn different notes and rhythms, and finally learn how to use the bow. String instruments can be rented or purchased through a music store, and students will use a music book.

Beginning Girls' Choir:

Choir participants will have the opportunity to perform numerous times throughout the school year, on campus as well as in the community. The choir will focus on mastering sight-singing, correct vocal production, tonal blend, and overall musicality as an ensemble as well as individually. Ladies participation in this choir will give them the opportunity to improve their vocal skills and advance to a higher choir in 7th grade. The choir will end the school year with a choir trip and competition.

Boys Concert Choir:

Boys Concert Choir is an ensemble open to all men interested in singing. We will be performing concerts at school as well as in and around our community. Class time will focus on correct vocal technique, sight-reading, and preparation for concerts. The Boys Concert Choir will have the opportunity to audition for the Region 19 Honor Choir in the 7th and 8th grade. The choir will also take part in an annual choir trip and competition.

Beginning Band:

Beginning Band offers many woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. Woodwind instruments offered are the flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, and bassoon. Brass instruments are the trumpet, French Horn, trombone, euphonium, and tuba. Percussion students must audition for the class with the percussion instructor and be accepted for the class. They will learn snare drum, bass drum, cymbals, mallet instruments, and several auxiliary instruments. Beginning band students learn how to read music, how to properly care for and hold their instruments, and proper playing techniques individually and as a class. Band instruments can be rented or purchased through a local music store, can be purchased through many different sources, or can be rented from the school with appropriate financial need documentation. Beginning band students have several performances throughout the year and do fun activities as well. Beginning band leads into classes in 7th and 8th grade that further enhance students' musical ability and experience.