



**Lancaster City Schools**  
*Instrumental Music Department*  
*LancasterBands.com*

**WELCOME!**  
*Beginning Band Students*  
*and Parents*

# Beginning Band Instructors



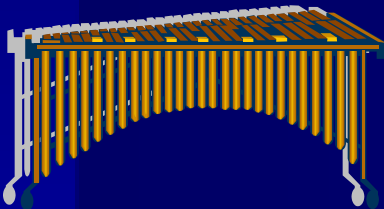
**DAVID BODE**

*Director of Bands*  
*General Sherman Junior High School*  
**Brass Instructor**



**BRUCE GERKEN**

*Director of Bands*  
*Thomas Ewing Junior High School*  
**Percussion Instructor**



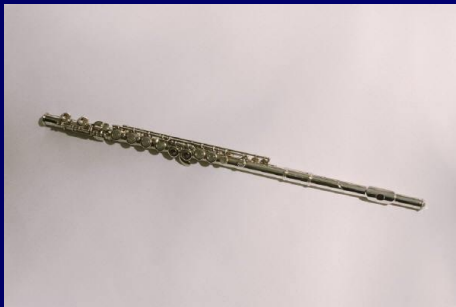
# Beginning Band Instructors

**CASSANDRA BULL**

*General Music Teacher*

*General Sherman Junior High School*

Woodwind Instructor



# 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Beginning Band

- Band class is scheduled during the school day
- Students will meet one time a week in woodwind, brass, and percussion groups.
- Students will have assignments from their instructor that will need to be practiced at home for their next lesson
- Students will need to have their instrument, book, and pencil for each lesson at school.

# 10 Week Trial Period

- The first 10 weeks is a trial period. Before the 10 weeks is over, you will receive a yellow progress report and a letter in the mail. This card will have recommendations from your child's instructor.

# After the 10 Week Trial Period

- All students that were recommended to continue, should do so on their current instrument.
- If you decide to change instruments your child's teacher must be notified FIRST.
- If the student and parent decide to discontinue the program contact the teacher BEFORE returning the instrument
- Lack of time, staff, and space, makes it nearly impossible to switch instruments after the first couple lessons.

# What Can Parents Do To Help?

- Kids need to choose the instrument they like, not the one their friends like. Students and parents should also consider the recommendations made from the screening.
- Have used instruments inspected by a qualified instrument repair technician before the first class.
- Provide a quiet place for your child to practice at home.
- Remain nearby during the practice times as often as possible.



# What Can Parents Do To Help?

- Schedule consistent daily times for practice.
- Have your child perform for you and relatives.
- Praise your child's efforts and achievements and acknowledge improvement.
- Make sure your child takes proper care of the instrument.



# What Has Happened So Far?

## **School Recruitment Assembly**

- Students had an opportunity to see and hear each beginning instrument.
- Students were given the opportunity to try different instruments of their choice.
- Recommendations were made by the music staff to help determine which instrument would fit your child the best for optimal success
- Recommendations were written on a letter sent home with your child.

# Proper Ways to Obtain an Instrument

- Local Music Stores
- Hand-me-downs or Attic Instruments
  - Family and Friends
  - Make sure it was recommended by music staff.

# Proper Ways to Obtain an Instrument

- Newspaper Ads or Advertiser

- Any instrument not coming from a music store needs to be checked by a qualified technician before classes start.

# Ways to Obtain an Instrument *NOT RECOMMENDED!!*

## *Internet Web Sites*

- \*No quality guarantee, repair service, or returns.

## *Department Stores*

- \*Usually made of inferior materials and workmanship

- \*Cannot be repaired

*Ask your Band Director when in doubt!*

# Recommended Instrument Brands

## Suggested Woodwinds

Selmer, Gemeinhardt, Vito, Artley, Yamaha,  
Leblanc, Armstrong

## Suggested Brass

Selmer (USA), Conn, King, Yamaha, Bach,  
Getzen

*(Please make sure instrument is not from overseas)*

# Required Percussion Instrument

ONLY the Musser M650, M651, OR  
M652

Percussion Kit

*Bells and Practice Pad*

# Accessories Needed

## Woodwinds

- Three #2 Reeds and cork grease for Alto Sax and Clarinet
- Flutes need soft handkerchief-like cloth
- Standard of Excellence Book 1 for appropriate instrument
- Wire Music Stand

## Brass

- Valve Oil, Slide Oil (Trombones), Tuning Slide Grease
- Standard of Excellence Book 1 for appropriate instrument
- Wire Music Stand

## Percussion

- Mr. Gerken will give you additional materials during the first week of school.
- Wire Music Stand
- Book – Drum Method Book 1 by Haskel Harr



# What Happens Next?

- Acquire instrument, book, and music stand before the first day of class (the week of January 17th).
  - Tallmadge at West – *Tuesday, January 17*
  - Gorsuch West – *Wednesday, January 18*
  - Tarhe Trails – *Thursday, January 19*
  - Sanderson and Medill at East – *Friday, January 20*
  - Mt. Pleasant – *Monday January 23*
- Instruments need to be picked up after school to practice at home.

# Questions?

*Visit our Web Site  
LancasterBands.com*

