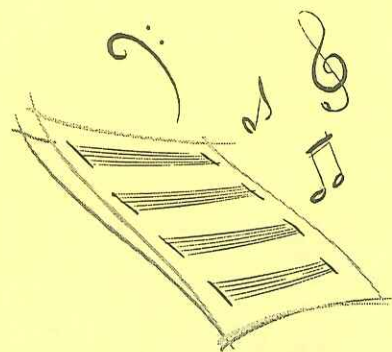


# Huntley Middle School Music

Band,  
Orchestra  
&  
Choir



Making the switch from elementary school to middle school is a very exciting time for students. Middle School offers a lot of different class choices besides the core English, Math, Science, and Social Studies. One of these options is **MUSIC**.

Every 6<sup>th</sup> grade student has the option of starting a musical instrument and being a member of the **BAND** or **ORCHESTRA** or they have the option of joining **CHOIR**. During the 6<sup>th</sup> grade year each student may choose ONE ENSEMBLE ONLY. If they would like to start an instrument, **now is the time to join band or orchestra**. After 6<sup>th</sup> grade those in **BAND** and **ORCHESTRA** may also join **CHOIR**.

Learning to play an instrument or singing in the choir and belonging to a musical ensemble opens up a whole new world of friendship and fun. Music provides a great foundation for your child in all aspects of life. In addition to music, students learn self-discipline, group cooperation, problem-solving, goal-setting, memory skills, concentration, and the importance of team work. Like all the arts, music has a profound effect on the academic success of students as well. The opportunities for playing an instrument after high school are abundant, with many universities offering scholarships for participation.



HMS Band Rehearsal

## Choir @ HMS

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade choir meets everyday during an elective period. During class you will be learning the best way to sing for you while singing a variety of great choral music! The cost to participate is \$25 which covers the required choir uniform polo shirt and helps offset the cost of new music. Please fill out the registration form if you are interested in joining choir and return it to your school's office.

## Band and Orchestra @ HMS

Band and orchestra classes meet each day during the school day; however you will need to provide an instrument (directors can assist in rental info). In addition to band and orchestra class, students will attend pull-out lessons about once every week. These are twenty minute small group lessons where students focus on technique for their particular instrument. These lessons also take place during the school day – students are pulled out of other classes on a rotating basis so they don't miss the same class twice in a row. This program has been in place for many years now and all classroom teachers are very cooperative and excuse students from class to attend lessons.

## Why Start NOW?

Now is the time to start! It is very difficult and frustrating to start an instrument in a school program late. If you wait a year, you are automatically a year behind everyone else and it takes a lot of commitment and extra practice to catch up if it is even possible for you to catch up. We highly recommend that you start now instead of waiting a year. It will make your musical journey a lot more fun and exciting! This is why we also recommend that students who want to be in band or orchestra join those ensembles now and join choir later.

## Instrument Information

In order for your child to participate in either band or orchestra, it will be necessary for you to furnish an instrument. We recommend you use the music store we do business with regularly. Vendors send a representative to our school every week to deliver instruments, accessories, and/or music and they can also pick up instruments for repair or trade-in. This makes it easy for you because you never have to make a trip to the music store! They provide good student instruments and they have a great "rent to buy" program in place. This means all rental money accumulated is good towards buying an instrument of your own someday.

If you choose to rent from another company, please do not obtain an instrument until your child has received a written notice of the exact instrument (and size for string instruments) needed. Do not purchase any instrument from eBay or any other outlet without checking with your teacher before purchase. There are many inferior instruments being sold to unsuspecting buyers.

## Special Education @ HMS

If your son or daughter is enrolled in Special Education Classes for the 2011-2012 School Year, you will need to contact your case manager at HMS before signing up for any of these music ensembles. If you are unsure of who your case manager is, leave a message with one of the HMS Counselors, and they or your case manager will respond to your request.



## Instrument Try-Out Days

*Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> 5-8pm @ HMS,  
band & orch.*

*(If you cannot make this time, contact  
Mr. Potts or Miss Liska.)*

So you think you want to be in **BAND** or **ORCHESTRA**! On May 16<sup>th</sup>, Vendors will be at Huntley Middle School with instruments for you to try out. If you decide on a particular instrument that night, you may sign up to rent an instrument and take care of all the paperwork right then and there. Your instrument and beginning book will then be delivered at the beginning of the summer. It is **very important** to come on one of these days so we can fit you with an instrument that is right for you. **\*\* Future string players: it's important to bring checks or cash, as one of the vendors cannot take credit cards.**

### Instruments available:

*Band: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Sax, Percussion*

*Orchestra: Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass*



## Summer Music

Mr. Potts and Miss Liska will be offering a summer music program over the course of the summer for all beginning band & orchestra students. It will be a five week program for beginners. Students will set up lesson days and times with his/her teacher and will receive a lesson once a week for five weeks to get started before the beginning of school. This program is not mandatory; however, it is highly recommended. (There is a small fee)

Going on vacation or going to summer camp? Don't worry! Lessons are set up individually with the teacher so we can work around vacation schedules without a problem.

You can get more information on this program at the Instrument Try-Out Days.

If you have any questions about being a part of the music program at Huntley Middle School please contact us!

**Huntley Middle School Main Office**  
815-754-2241

**Sean Potts, Band**  
[sean.potts@dist428.org](mailto:sean.potts@dist428.org)

**Allison Liska, Orchestra**  
[allison.liska@dist428.org](mailto:allison.liska@dist428.org)

**Kim Moorman, Choir**  
[kim.moorman@dist428.org](mailto:kim.moorman@dist428.org)

# Huntley Middle School Music

## Band, Orchestra & Choir

