



**LEWISBURG**  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

## LMS 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Information and FAQs

Hello everyone!

We are excited that you are interested in “Being Part of the Band” at LMS and we hope that you have visited the Lewisburg Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band “Be Part of the Band” website! Please allow us to explain how you can become a member of our award-winning band program!

We will meet and visit ALL 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students for the first few days of the 2020-2021 school year during their Activity Period and Study Hall. During this time, we will demonstrate instruments, send out more information about the instrument selection process, and schedule appointments for instrument selection night(s). Parents will be allowed to watch the instrument selection process for their student so they can help us make the “right fit” for each student. During this process, we will follow strict CDC guidelines so that each student can safely try out each instrument.

Once the student selects the instrument that he or she wants to learn (and with approval of instrument selection from the band directors) the counselors will place the student into the correct band class and class period.

We will then host an AMRO Music Instrument Rental Event at LMS to provide an opportunity for students to acquire an instrument, band books, accessories, etc. that the student will need for the year. We do not require students to purchase instruments from AMRO. AMRO provides this service to LMS as a convenience to our community, and the AMRO rental/lease purchase system offers families an affordable way to acquire an instrument.

The LMS Band Staff is excited to start this journey with you. Please read the “frequently asked questions” on the next page. If you have additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us!

# "Frequently Asked Questions"

## **Q. How much does it cost to be in the band?**

*A. Band fees are kept to a minimum and cover materials that your student will need in band class. This amount usually does not exceed \$50.00 for the year. This amount does not include instrument rental.*

## **Q. Will my student have after school practice?**

*A. No. You student will meet band class during the school day.*

## **Q. Does band class interfere with other activities?**

*A. Unfortunately, 6<sup>th</sup> grade students can only choose one activity so they will need to be in a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band class. We do have a few students who participate in band and choir (during the same class period) with approval form the band directors and the choir director. Students can choose multiple activities in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.*

## **Q. Does band interfere with outside of school activities and sports?**

*A. Generally, no. Band students will need to commit to some practice time at home but this is usually no more than 30-45 minutes per week. Band students will also have two evening concerts (winter and spring). Otherwise, band students are typically involved in many extracurricular activities.*

## **Q. Do I have to have prior music experience to be in band?**

*A. No. You can be HIGHLY successful in band even if you have no prior musical training or instruction.*

## **Q. Do I have to purchase an instrument?**

*A. You must have an instrument to use in band class and at home, **but we ask that you wait until after the instrument selection process to get an instrument.** There are many options for renting/purchasing new and used instruments. We do ask that if you have access to a used instrument that you bring it to the band staff for inspection and approval.*

## **Q. Do I have to purchase an instrument from AMRO Music?**

*A. No. You are free to shop around at other music retailers for your instrument. AMRO's service to you does include the instrument, band books, accessories, and insurance on the instrument that will cover general maintenance and damage. Other music retailers may or may not offer these services to you. Instruments from Amazon and Walmart FREQUENTLY break down within a few days of use. **PLEASE DO NOT PURCHASE AN INSTRUMENT FROM THESE SOURCES!!!***

## **Q. Will I receive grades in band?**

*A. Yes. Students will be evaluated throughout the year to make sure they are learning skills that will prepare them for a life-long love of music and performing.*

***If you have additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Mr. Pickering or Mr. McLemore through their LMS Teacher Websites. We look forward to hearing from you!***

***Matt Pickering, <https://lms.desotocountyschools.org/mattpickering>  
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