

Granite Falls Middle School Band

Registration Form

Please return to your homeroom teacher by Friday, April 17th! ☺

Student Name

Instrument Assignment based on student choice and needs for the band:

(Due to the popularity of some instruments and in the interest of having a balanced band, not ALL students have been able to receive their first choice of instrument, although I tried very hard to keep all students in their first or second choice.

Yes, I would like for my child to participate in the GFMS Band! I will provide a band instrument and a method book, "Essential Elements 2000, Book 1" for my band student.
He/She has my permission to be in the award-winning and awesome GFMS Band!

Parent Signature

Telephone Number

Parent Email Address



Granite Falls Middle School Bands

Sarah Bean Stafford, Director

SStafford@caldwellschools.com

Fall 2015

Thank you for choosing to be in the band at Granite Falls Middle School! Here is important information that you will need in order to obtain an instrument and supplies for your child. I recommend buying or renting from an ACCREDITED music store, like the Music Center, Music and Arts, Muncy Winds, etc. These stores also have a repair shop in them, which means that they can repair anything that they sell! If you buy online, you never know what you might be getting, and the repair shops may or may not be able to take care of that brand. These are brands I recommend, and brands that I know the music shops will be able to fix if anything were to ever go wrong.

Flute: Geimeinhardt, Yamaha, Artley, Armstrong, Jupiter, Azumi

Clarinet: Buffet, Yamaha, Jupiter, Selmer, Le Blanc, Artley, Vito, Bundy

Saxophone: Cannonball, Selmer, Jupiter

Trumpet: Bach TR200, Yamaha, Conn, King, Jupiter, (Brass and Silver are both fine)

Trombone: Bach, TB200, Yamaha, Besson, King, Jupiter (Brass and Silver are both fine)

Bell Set/Drum Kit: Ludwig, CB, Pearl, Yamaha

What your child will need the following by the first day of school:

1. Instrument
2. A Folding Metal Music Stand
3. At least two pencils (Required at every class)
4. Cleaning Supplies specified for your instrument (the music store will be able to help you with this)
5. Our Method Book: Essential Elements 2000, Book 1
6. Reeds (5 at all times) for clarinets and saxes (sized 2.5), Vandoren. Rico Reeds are cheaper but Vandorens sound better and last longer. You will probably need to buy reeds every few months, because they eventually give out. Sometimes it's better to buy an entire box and just keep them at home. As a clarinet player myself, I like to buy my reeds from [wwbw.com](http://www.wbw.com) in bulk.
7. Clarinet players should purchase a HITE mouthpiece and a ROVNER ligature instead of the ones that come with the clarinet. The ones that come with the clarinet don't give the best sound. Saxophone players should purchase a Rovner or Vandoren ligature as well. All these are available at music stores. If you see another ligature or mouthpiece that you think look good that are sold separately from the instrument, email me and ask me about it and I'll be happy to tell you if it's one worth getting.
8. All percussionists need to also purchase a mallet/stick bag. Vic Firth makes a great one that zips with pockets.

Students enrolling in band must understand that they are making a commitment to daily practice at home. Instruments are not allowed to stay in the band building overnight. Twenty minutes a night is plenty for beginners in the first few weeks. Practice records will be an ongoing band assignment- it's pretty easy to earn a great grade in band as long as you practice at least fifteen minutes a night! Good practice habits and a positive attitude will bring success!

Parents, make sure you hear your child play a "concert" for you often. The music from our method book will do nicely.

This performance, once or twice a week, need only last one or two minutes and will help keep you updated on their progress. Students love to hear praise and encouragement from you!

Ways to get ahead this summer!

If your child is a real go-getter and would like to get a head-start on their instruments this summer, there are some great programs around here that they can take advantage of. This an optional thing- your child in no way has to do this if he/she wants to take band, it can only help though! 😊

- Your child can participate in the Beginner Band Camp that the Caldwell County Band Directors have put together! This camp will run from Tuesday, June 16- Friday, June 19, with a concert at the end. The camp is held at South Caldwell High School and is open to GFMS and HMS sixth graders. Please, please try to attend! The flier is located in your packet.
- Another fantastic way of getting a head start on band is to take a few private lessons with an accredited music instructor over the summer! This person can teach you all the basics and get you started for the year! Here are the people I recommend for private instruction: (The Music Center also keeps a list of recommended instructors on hand- just ask for a copy!)

Flute: Hunter Soots (Music teacher in Lenoir) HSoots@caldwellschools.com

Clarinet: Mary Katherine Bean (Music teacher in Morganton) 336-671-8983

Alto Saxophone: Jonathan Stafford (Music teacher in Lenoir) JStafford@caldwellschools.com

Matt Cochran (Music Teacher in Taylorsville) MCochran@alexander.k12.nc.us

Dustin Hoke (Music Teacher in Morganton) DHoke@burke.k12.nc.us

Trumpet or Trombone: Jason Childers (Music Teacher in Granite Falls) JChilders@caldwellschools.com

Patrick Watkins (Music Teacher in Taylorsville) w.patrickwatkins@gmail.com

Trombone: Leah Spicer (Music Teacher in Lenoir) LSpicer@caldwellschools.com

Percussion: Katelyn Reindhardt, Hickory (612-7618)

Steven Robison (Music Teacher in Granite Falls) SRobison@caldwellschools.com

Charles Smith, Lenoir (320-4475)

Curtis Arnette (358-7924)



Caldwell County Middle Schools



Beginner Band Camp 2015

June 16-19

9:00 am- 1 pm each day

Location: South Caldwell High School Band Room

Band Camp Concert: Friday, June 19, 1:30 pm

Cost: 30.00 per student (Deadline: May 15)

Granite Falls Middle School and Hudson Middle School are inviting their upcoming 6th Graders to an awesome opportunity! Upcoming band students are able to “jump start” into sixth grade band. Students will learn all the basics of their instrument before the school year even starts. They will learn how to assemble their instruments, how to clean their instruments, how to read music, and how to play a few songs. They will be way ahead when band starts in the 2015 school year. Sarah Stafford (GFMS Band Director), Leah Spicer (HMS Band Director), Jason Childers (SCHS Band Director) will be working with the students throughout the camp.

*Campers must be going into 6th Grade in a Caldwell County School in 2015.

*Campers will receive a Band Camp T-shirt that they will wear for the concert on Friday. They will get to keep this shirt!

*There will be a break in the middle of each camp day for snacks. They may bring their own snacks or purchase from a concession stand that will be available.

*Students will be released at 1pm each day (except for Friday) (Students should be picked up by 1:15)

*On Friday we will provide a pizza lunch to the campers before their 1:30 pm concert performance. The concert will last about 20 minutes. Parents and family are invited to this free concert!

(Retain this sheet for your records. Turn in the next sheet only)

Granite/Hudson MS Band Camp Registration:

Student Name: _____ Adult Shirt Size : _____

Middle School: _____ Instrument: _____

Parent Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____ (Work) _____

This Registration Page and 30.00 camp fee can be turned in by May 15th, 2015 to Leah Spicer at HMS, Sarah Stafford at GFMS (you MAY turn this in with your band registration as well), or mailed (postmarked by May 15)

to:

Granite Falls Middle School

Attn: Sarah Stafford

90 N. Main Street

Granite Falls, NC 28630

All Students should also have procured their instruments and instrument accessories (listed on the supply list sent out by each school's band director) by the first day of camp. Please see an accredited music store (like the Music Center, The Band Company, etc.- NOT an online music store without a repair shop) to get these items before the first day of band camp. Please remember your Essential Elements Book as well, also available at the Music Center.

