



Patchogue-Medford School District

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Nathan Brinkman
Director of Art, Music, and Cultural Arts
181 Buffalo Avenue
Medford, NY, 11763

October 2024

Dear 4th Grade Parent/Guardian:

Your child has completed their first year of instrumental instruction. Please be aware of the information below.

The Patchogue-Medford Music Department has an inventory of instruments at the Elementary level, but they are reserved for our 4th graders. If there are any left over, they will be offered to interested 5th graders by lottery.

- Students who play beyond their first year of instruction continue to rent or purchase an instrument from an outside source.
- The school will continue to provide instruments only for students who play those that are unavailable for rental and beyond reasonable expectation to purchase, including: oboe, baritone, tuba, and bass.

Instrument Rental – For those wishing to rent an instrument, we recommend finding the highest quality instrument possible from a reputable music store. Many stores offer “rent to own” plans, which can defray eventual purchase costs.

Instrument Purchase – For those wishing to purchase an instrument (not recommended until after at least the 2nd year of study), the list below contains instruments we recommend.

Violin/Viola – Bellafina Musicale Series (Must consult with music teacher for correct size)

Flute – Yamaha YFL-322, Yamaha YFL-222

Clarinet – Yamaha YCL-450N, Yamaha YCL-255

Alto Saxophone – Yamaha YAS-480, Yamaha YAS-26

Trumpet – Yamaha YTR-4335GII, Yamaha YTR-2330

Trombone – Yamaha YSL-446G, Yamaha YSL-354

General Supplies – Students will need the same lesson books and basic supplies from this past year. Below is a list of updated reeds for woodwind players and a list of mouthpieces for band students we recommend all student purchase, regardless of if they rent or own an instrument.

Reeds for 5th Grade

Oboe – Leshner medium strength (same as 4th grade)

Clarinet – Rico 3 strength (new for 5th grade)

Alto Saxophone – Vandoren 3 strength (new for 5th grade)

Recommended Mouthpieces for All Band Students – These mouthpieces will be used for many years. Please keep this in mind if you decide to purchase, as some of the mouthpieces will be in the range of \$60-\$150.

- Clarinet – Vandoren M-30 Traditional
- Alto Saxophone – Selmer S80C
- Trumpet – Grades 5-8 – Bach 7c – 5c
 Grades 9-12 – Bach 5c-Bach 3c
- French Horn – Farkas MC
- Trombone/Baritone – Grades 4-8 – Bach 6 ½ AL
 Grades 9-12 – Schilke 51D
- Tuba – Grades 4-8 – Bach24AW
 Grades 9-12 – Bach 24AW to 18

Instruments should be rented/purchased from a reputable music dealer (please avoid warehouse, discount stores, or Amazon). We have found the following dealers to be especially reliable:

<p style="text-align: center;">Music and Arts 499 Sunrise Highway Suite 51 Patchogue, NY 11772 631-289-3805</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">On Pitch Music 102 Maple Street Medford, NY 11763 516-818-2133</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">The Long Island Violin Shop 23 W. Main Street Smithtown, NY 11787 631-982-1566</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Advantage Music 429 Hawkins Avenue Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779 631-285-6914</p>

If you have questions regarding the above information, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s band teacher.

Sincerely,

Nathan Brinkman
Director of Art, Music, and Cultural Arts