

# GRISHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND

10805 School House Ln | Austin, TX 78750 | 512-428-2671

Liz Love, Jay Hagy, & Mikey Sheeran | Band Directors

## Incoming Beginning Band Information

*June 2020*

### Meet the Band Directors

- Liz Love, Head Band Director
  - Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet, and Saxophone Beginning Classes
  - Liz\_Love@roundrockisd.org
- Jay Hagy, Assistant Band Director
  - Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, and Tuba Beginning Classes
  - Jay\_Hagy@roundrockisd.org
- Mikey Sheeran, Percussion Director
  - Percussion Beginning Class
  - John\_Sheeran@roundrockisd.org

### BEST CLASS OF THE DAY

- Survey of last year's Beginning Band students said that band was their favorite class!
- We love to have FUN with your kids every day!

### Instrument Placement

- We have now communicated your student's instrument placement with you
- Thank you for trusting us to place your student on an instrument that will be comfortable and natural for them!

### How does Band class work?

- Students are placed in like instrument classes in Beginning Band
- Band is a regular class during the school day
- Everything is taught from scratch, as if no one has had prior musical training
  - First full week of school - basic rhythm reading, note names, all the tools to read music
  - Second week of school - instrument fundamentals
  - If students have had prior musical training, they will get to be our helpers as we get everyone on the same page!
- Everyone is pretty terrible at the beginning - and that's okay! That's why we're here!

### Practice Expectations

- Regular practice is required to become the spectacular musician we know your students can be!
- During the first few weeks of school students will not practice at home until we ensure everyone is set up correctly. We want to avoid as many bad habits as possible!
- After those first few weeks, there will be only small chunks of material for students to spend time learning. Practice times will begin at approximately 5 minutes per day, and we gradually increase throughout the year.

## “Everything Day” on August 10th!

- We are planning to have our August meeting to go over everything related to band - we are not sure if this will be possible, but we wanted to get it on your calendar just in case!
- This is the best opportunity to get everything organized for band class - then your student will have less to bring to school on the first day! Here are a few things we do on Everything Day:
  - Check all band supplies and instruments
  - Fill out travel forms for any travel throughout the year
  - Private Lesson Sign Up
- More info as we get closer and know more about what this year will look like

## Beginning of Year - Instrument and Band Supplies

- Students must have [all instruments and supplies](#) by August 10, 2020
- All instrument brand/model substitutions MUST receive director approval
- Why these stores?
  - This assures you are getting a quality instrument and good service afterwards
  - You may decide to rent an instrument until you are comfortable that your child is invested in our band program
  - Please reserve an instrument with a music store as soon as possible and have it delivered to Grisham (or picked up at the start of the school year), because the best instruments get reserved early
- School-Owned Instruments
  - Oboes, Bassoons, French Horns, Euphoniums, and Tubas - your instruments are assigned and will be waiting for you in your band locker
  - Please make sure you still have all supplies from the supply list
  - Supply Lists found here: <https://grishamband.com/beginningband/>
- All stores will deliver directly to Grisham over the summer

### Local Music Stores

*(You can order EVERYTHING online and they will deliver to Grisham over the summer!)*

#### **Music & Arts**

[musicarts.com](http://musicarts.com)

11066 Pecan Park Blvd, Suite B201  
Cedar Park, TX 78613  
(512) 506-8824

#### **Strait Music**

[straitmusic.com](http://straitmusic.com)

13945 Highway 183, Suite B  
Austin, TX 78717  
(512) 918-3743

#### **The Band Connection**

[band-connection.com](http://band-connection.com)

1210 W. McDermott, Suite 105  
Allen, TX 75013  
(214) 383-4885

## Why require certain instrument brands and supplies?

- Recommendations for specific brand names listed on your supply list have been chosen through years of evaluation and teaching experience
  - Recommendations have been made on the basis of playing quality, overall workmanship, durability, tone quality and pitch accuracy
  - Required Instrument Accessories and Band Supplies are also critical to success and good tone production
- If you already have an instrument, please contact us so we can check it to be sure it is in good playing condition
  - To avoid bad habits and damage to the instrument, please do not assemble or attempt to play the instrument before receiving instruction from us

## Band Calendar

- We will email our finalized calendar to everyone in August and give a hard copy to the students
  - Fall Fundraiser in August
  - Two Main Concerts: December & May
  - Solo & Ensemble Contest in April/May
  - 6th Grade Band Socials
  - 6th Grade Band Spring Trip to Schlitterbahn
- This is all subject to change this year, but we will make it worthwhile for your student, no matter the format for learning!

## Band Facilities

- Main Band Hall, Ensemble Room, Practice Rooms, Band Portable, and Offices
- Lockers
  - Every student will receive a band locker at the beginning of the school year
  - Instrument and band binder must be kept in band locker during the school day
  - Locks aren't necessary - the band hall is always locked when there is not an adult present

## Communication

- We communicate primarily through EMAIL
  - If you would like to receive our emails over the summer and you are not already, please email Ms. Love at [Liz\\_Love@roundrockisd.org](mailto:Liz_Love@roundrockisd.org)

## Grisham Band Website & Social Media

- [GRISHAMBAND.COM](http://GRISHAMBAND.COM)
  - Calendar, supply lists, volunteer sign up, private lesson sign up, WABB information, etc.
- Follow us on social media!
  - Facebook: Grisham Band | Instagram: @grishamband, @msloveband

## Private Lesson Program

- One of the best ways to make sure your student is the best musician they can be! More info here: <https://grishamband.com/private-lessons/>
- Private Lessons are once a week, at one of these times: during band class, during IB Tech/Exploratory Language class, during Den, during lunch, before or after school (based on lesson teacher's availability)
- Parents pay the private lesson teachers directly
- 85% of our program is in private lessons
- Sign up NOW: [Private Lesson Sign Up 2020-2021](#)

## Why Band?

- We Teach:
  - Proper Instrument Technique, Music Theory, Aural Skills, Music Appreciation, Performance Skills, Practice Techniques, Creative Self-Expression, Teamwork, Social Skills, Systematic Thinking, Organizational Skills, Mental & Physical Discipline, Cultural Growth
- We are incredibly passionate about what we do - we can't wait for your student to be a part of something so special!