

To enroll your child in advanced band, please register by 9/12 on our website
www.GcesBandandStrings.weebly.com

Dear Parents of Advanced Band Students,

Greetings from the instrumental music department at Gorman Crossing Elementary School! I am very excited to be back and anxious to work with your child in band class this year!

Advanced band members will rehearse as a full band once a week until the rotating schedule begins on September 19. Students must bring their instruments and method books to all rehearsals. The schedule is as follows:



Thursday, September 8 from 12:00 – 12:30
Thursday, September 15 from 12:00 – 12:30

All students should bring their instruments (with names on cases), the same method book as last year entitled Accent on Achievement, Book 1, and the other required materials listed on the back of this letter (you probably have most of them). Please be sure that corks are greased, valves are oiled, woodwind players have 10 good reeds (2 1/2 strength) and all instruments should be in excellent playing condition! Listed below are several music stores if you are in need of any materials.

Music and Arts Center	Fulton/So Ho. Co.	240-568-0600 – Close
Mikes Music	Ellicott City	410-465-0700
Washington Music	Wheaton	301-946-2300
Bill's Music	Catonsville	410-747-1900
Baltimore Brass Co.	Catonsville	410-744-1723

A detailed schedule of class times will be distributed on **Friday, September 16**. Students will receive two thirty-minute band lessons each week beginning **Monday, September 19**.

Music is a discipline that requires commitment. This commitment means that your child will be required to attend all band classes (and make up missed class work), perform in two evening concerts (Dec. 13 and April 4) and to practice for at least 15 minutes a day at home. Correct daily practice is absolutely essential. Please remember that there is a direct relationship between consistent practice and success.

Many students are currently enrolled in private lessons and are thoroughly enjoying them. I highly recommend private lessons for all advanced band members. A roster of private music instructors is available on my website and online at:

<https://sites.google.com/site/hcparents4schoolmusic/resources/list-of-private-instructors>

As your child progresses musically, I also highly recommend a metronome and tuner. These items can make a great impact on developing a steady beat and playing in tune, particularly as the rhythms and note ranges become more challenging.

To enroll your child in advanced band, please register on our band and string website www.GcesBandandStrings.weebly.com (please bookmark). Registration information must be submitted online by **Monday, September 12**. I look forward to seeing you at "Back to School Night." If you have any immediate concerns, please do not hesitate to call or email me at the school. Thank you in advance for supporting your child's interest in music.

Sincerely,

Important Dates:

Monday, September 12	Online Registration Deadline
Friday, September 16	Schedule Distribution
Monday, September 19	Classes Begin

Ronald D. Bowman

Required Material for Advanced Band

The following materials are required for all students:

- Instrument (name on instrument)
- Band method book: "Accent on Achievement, Book 1" (name on book)
- 2 pencils with erasers
- Music stand for home practice

The following materials are recommended for all students:

- Private Lessons
- Metronome
- Tuner

In addition, the following materials are required for specific instruments:

Flute ("Yamaha" or "Jupiter" recommended brand name)

- Soft cloth for cleaning (such as a handkerchief)
- Slide grease or Vaseline (no larger than .35 oz)

Clarinet ("Yamaha" or "Bundy" recommended brand names)

- 10 or more reeds made by Mitchel Lurie or Vandoren strength 2 1/2 (Do not purchase strength 2)
- Swab for cleaning the inside
- Slide grease or Vaseline (no larger than .35 oz)

Alto Saxophone ("Yamaha" recommended brand name)

- 10 or more reeds made by Vandoren or Hemke (strength 2 1/2)
- Neck Strap and Swab for cleaning the inside
- Cork grease or Vaseline (no larger than .35 oz)

Trumpet ("Bach" or "Yamaha" recommended brand names)

- Valve Oil (Al Cass)
- Slide grease or Vaseline (no larger than .35 oz)
- Soft cloth for cleaning (such as a handkerchief)

Trombone ("Bach TB-300" or "King" or "Conn" recommended brand names)

- Bone bottle (water bottle)
- Slide oil and slide grease or Vaseline (no larger than .35 oz)
- Soft cloth for cleaning (such as a handkerchief)

Baritone and Tuba ("Yamaha" recommended brand name)

- Valve Oil
- Slide grease or Vaseline (no larger than .35 oz)
- Soft cloth for cleaning (such as a handkerchief)

Percussion ("Pearl, Ludwig or Vic Firth" bell kits recommended brand names)

- Bell Kit includes: bells, mallets, drum practice pad, drum sticks and stands
 - Drum sticks: I recommend one pair of Vic Firth General SD1
 - Bell Mallets: I recommend one pair of Vic Firth M132 soft green rubber
- Stick Bag (Required)
- **Two** Band method books:
 1. "Accent on Achievement" Combined Percussion, Book 1
(Do not buy the Percussion (S.D.,B.D. Accessories). It does not include Bell music).
 2. "The Performing Percussionist" Book 1, by James Coffin for Snare Drum