







Questions about the Staley Band

Your student is probably very excited about coming to Staley Middle School next year. In an effort to help students choose their 6th grade elective we have begun the 'pre-screening' process for band. This process helps us determine what instrument choices would work best for our future students and help ensure success at the beginning of the year. Below is a list of common questions parents may have about next year. Please read them carefully and let us know if you have any further questions.

-  *If my child was screened are they automatically in band?*
No. This process just helps us determine what band class to place your students in WHEN they choose band. To help ensure that your student is in band they **SHOULD PUT BAND FIRST ON THEIR SCHEDULE!** Please note that you can always change your schedule into band at anytime- but it is much easier for our counselors if you turn in your original schedule card with Band as #1 on the list!
-  *Do I need to know music or how to plan an instrument to be in band?*
NO!!! You do not need to know ANYTHING about music to join band!!! We start everyone at the most basic level imaginable... we learn to sit and breathe! However, before long you will be ready to perform on your new instrument!
-  *How much time do we practice? How often do we perform.*
To excel in anything you must spend time on it! In beginning band we find that a short period of time stretched through more days is very effective. We ask all students to practice twenty minutes a day with one free day per week. The practice times are essential since our first performance happens in December- just a few short months after we start! In beginning band we will also have two full concerts in the spring and band contest just for them!
-  *Can I be in band and _____? (fill in the blank!)*
YES!!! You can be in band and numerous other school activities!!! Band is one of only three choices offered in 6th grade. As a seventh grader you can be in band **and** athletics, cheerleading, or a number of other activities like art, drama, skills for living, orchestra, robotics, etc. Since seventh grade students get an extra elective choice it is possible to be active in many roles while at Staley! This year we have over 70% of our band involved in athletics! Band is one of the most involved group of students at Staley. If you name a group or athletic team we can almost guarantee that the Staley band is represented!
-  *Do we take any trips?*
Band is an elective that requires practice and hard work. Because of the extra effort by all our students we feel like they deserve some time to just have fun as a group. All our field trips are close to home and our students have the opportunity to attend trips to Studio Movie Grill, Adventure Landing, Medieval Times and Six Flags just to name a few.
-  *What do I do if I want to sign up?*
First talk about it with your family. If you sign up you will need to make sure you mark band as your **FIRST** choice for electives. This is the only way to ensure that you will be put in the correct class. If you have not been screened for an instrument you may still put band on your schedule. We will just try the instruments at a later time.

Available instruments are: Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, & Percussion.

If you have any further questions about band or any elective please feel free to call!

Questions? Contact Mr. Wood at woodc@friscoisd.org or 469-633-4521. We also encourage you to check out our website at www.staleyband.org.