

LOVEJOY SLOAN CREEK BAND

Dear Parents:

As a sixth grader, your child finally has the opportunity to do what so many successful students have done before them, Be part of the **BAND!**

We know that for many of you, this may be your first exposure to music education and I wanted to take a brief minute to share some information with you in this newsletter.

There is no prerequisite for participation in band. Students do not need to know how to read music or know how to play an instrument. Once you have chosen band as your elective, we will begin the process of instrument placement. We will begin with a short Parent Meeting Video that will be emailed to you.

Music education is more than just playing an instrument. It is immersing your child in a culture of successful students and teachers who care about education. It challenges each child to use the creative side of their brain while, at the same time, learning a foreign language... MUSIC! All of the current data clearly states that students involved in music education academically out perform their non-musical counterparts.

Every destination starts with a decision to embark on a journey. Now is the time to start your child in music and Sloan Creek is the place to do it. We can't promise that every child will be a musical prodigy, but we can promise they will learn, laugh, and grow along the way. We have fun learning songs, use game based learning, have great band social activities, attend professional concerts, perform our own concerts, go on fun field trips, and more!

Should you have any questions about band or your child's participation, please feel free to contact me using the information listed below.

Sincerely,

Martha Ball
Band Director

Martha_Ball@lovejoyisd.net

www.lovejoyband.com

Common Questions and Answers about Sloan Band

What are the band instruments?

The instruments available for 6th grade band are:

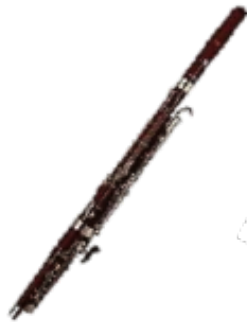
Woodwind Instruments



Flute



Oboe



Bassoon



Clarinet



Saxophone*

Brass

Instruments



Trumpet



French Horn



Trombone



Euphonium



Tuba

Percussion*



Percussion students will learn all of the percussion instruments in 6th grade band class. This includes snare drum, marimba, cymbals, bass drum and many others!



What if I have braces or may get them in the future?

Not a problem! Truth is, most students will have braces at some point in their lifetime and in most cases, the student will go through a brief adjustment period with little long-term effect on their playing. Your band directors will give you pointers and suggest things that will help you through the process.



What will my band class look like in 6th grade?

During your 6th grade band year, your class will be made up of everyone who also plays your instrument (all flutes meet together, all trumpets, all French horns, etc.). Having instrument specific classes creates specialized learning atmosphere that allows you to grow and develop your musical skills at a fast pace!

Can I still do other activities outside of band?

The Sloan Creek Band has many active students in it. We have students that participate in sports, competitive cheer, chess club and more! We are very proud of our multi-talented students and we are always willing to find a way to make their different activities work.

Do I have to buy an instrument?

Some families do choose to buy an instrument, but most band students rent an instrument through a local music retailer. A rent to own program through a local music retailer that we recommend is the best option.

Although there are a lot of good bargains out there, the quality of a musical instrument can make a big difference on the success of the child. Please double check with a band director prior to making any instrument purchase. Sloan Creek Band has a list of recommended instruments and brands that are well known for their success with beginner students. Beware of Instrument Shaped Objects and stick to the makes and models on our recommended list only.

Sloan Creek issues some of the more expensive instruments out to the students to rent for the school year. These instruments are:

oboes, bassoons, French horns, euphoniums, and tubas.



What are the expenses involved with participating in band?

Along with the purchase or rental of an instrument, band students will be asked to provide instrument specific accessories and materials and a band specific binder for music. Students will also be asked to purchase a SCIS Band T-Shirt that will be worn for concerts and events. Though there is no "free" option, financial issues should never affect the decision to be in band. Please contact a band director for more information concerning arrangements for financial need.

More Questions and Answers!

Does band take a lot of time outside of school?

Like any other new skill, learning to play an instrument requires effort and practice. We recommend that students practice the skills and concepts learned at home 4-5 times a week in order to successfully grow and develop on their instrument.

Other than our three concerts, around three full band rehearsals and optional socials, the SCIS Band does not have any regularly scheduled meetings/ rehearsals outside of the normal school day.

How will I select an instrument and how will I know it's right for me?

Once you have selected band as your music elective, the SCIS band will contact you and we will begin the process of instrument placement. Due to Covid, our instrument placement process will be completely virtual. We will use our expertise and will help you match your physical characteristics and desire to the instrument that fits you the best! There will be a Parent Meeting Video to start the process that explains how it will work and tells you everything you need to know about beginning band. The next step is a thorough surgery from you including photos of your face at specific angles, hand size measurements, and a lot of other crucial information. We are dedicated to finding the right instrument for your long term success—a Face for the Future!!!

What concerts and events happen in 6th grade band?

Concerts

- Fall Demonstration Concert
- Winter Fine Arts Festival Concert
- Spring Concert

In-Class Events and Competitions

- Solo Day
- Small Ensemble Showcase
- NRH2O Competition and Water Park Safety protocols permitting.

Socials

PinStack Social
Medieval Times
Dallas Winds Concert
And more...safety protocol permitting, of course!



Join the Band!

Get ready for greatness!

www.lovejoyband.com

Welcome to the Band! Ms. Ball will be reaching out to you soon to get you started on your musical adventure!

Martha Ball
Gary Doby
Bryce Whitling
Alex Holloway

martha_ball@lovejoyisd.net
gary_doby@lovejoyisd.net
bryce_whitling@lovejoyisd.net
Alex_Holloway@lovejoyisd.net