

THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT OF CRANDALL ISD

Greg Hamilton
Middle School Band Director

Dear Band Parent,

We would like to formally welcome your child into our band program. You are receiving this letter because your child exhibited interest in our program and chose to audition for an instrument. Last week we sent papers home listing the instrument that your child has chosen to play in the band next year. Since band may be a new to you, we wanted to provide you with some additional information.

First, there is no need to buy or rent an instrument at this time. However, there are many bargains to be found on used instruments throughout the summer months. Feel free to look around, you might find a great deal. We have two music stores in the area that have serviced our band and band students for years: McKay Music of Garland, and Award Music of Terrell. McKay Music will have an instrument drive in the fall at the Crandall Middle School Band Hall (date and times will be posted on the band website as they become available). Most of our students find their instrument on that night. Students are not required to have their instruments when they return for their first days of school. We ask that all students have their instrument by Tuesday, September 8, 2009. Remember, some instruments are provided by the school; such as the oboe, horn, baritone and tuba. Students playing those instruments will only need to buy their mouthpiece and book.

Second, and most importantly, most of your questions can be answered on the Crandall Band website: www.crandallband.org. A special Beginning Band page will be available in the Middle School section of the site in early June. Any additional questions you may have can be addressed by contacting one of the following band directors:

For general questions about beginning band and flutes, clarinets, oboes, saxophones and percussion contact:

Greg Hamilton: hamilton@crandallband.org

For questions about horns, trumpets, trombones, baritone, and tubas contact:

John Nutt: nutt@crandallband.org

If you plan to purchase an instrument over the summer, please use the purchasing guide that is available on our website. We want to ensure that your child has the best chance possible to be successful in music. Certain instrument brands and types can hinder that success. Feel free to contact us if you would like us to examine a used instrument for you.

Thank you for allowing your child to be a part of this fast growing and exciting program. We believe that reading and performing music is an incredibly valuable tool in a young person's life.

Have a great summer!