

**FZN Middle School Bands**  
**210 Virgil St.**  
**O'Fallon, MO 63366**  
**(636)281-2356**

**Patrick Stewart, Director**  
**pstewart@fz.k12.mo.us**  
**Rob Babel, Director**  
**rbabel@fz.k12.mo.us**

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Dear Student and Parent,

We are pleased that you have chosen to become a member of the North Middle School Beginning Band. We will have an exciting year together!

In our music program we provide an opportunity for artistic expression that a student could not experience on his/her own. Our program goes beyond the development of basic skills and artistic talent. We are dedicated to developing the following values:

- Individual responsibility
- Group and individual respect
- Personal trust
- Commitment to our music family

We are devoted to providing each student with an outstanding musical experience. To ensure the integrity of the band we at times need to balance the instrumentation so that all may participate to the fullest; therefore, some of the beginning band classes are limited. For this reason, you may have been placed in your second choice class to balance the band and provide the best quality experience for all students. This is especially true with the percussion class. We hope that you will understand that we have taken into consideration all possibilities in order to make this year a memorable year with a band in which you can take pride. If you have a conflict with the instrument class you have been placed in, please contact Mr. Stewart immediately to see if changes can be made to the roster.

We are honored to be directing the bands at North Middle School. The progress our students make throughout the year as they practice to become outstanding musicians is always a joy to watch.

We will be taking several precautionary measures because of the COVID pandemic to ensure a safe experience for your student. These measures will include breaking up large classes into smaller groups, outdoor classes, and an emphasis on daily cleaning of the instruments.

Required materials are listed on the back of this letter. **Each student is responsible for their own instrument, books, and supplies.** We hope that you are looking forward to this new adventure. We have recommended some area instrument dealers on the bottom of the back of this letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Stewart at [pstewart@fz.k12.mo.us](mailto:pstewart@fz.k12.mo.us).

Thanks,  
Mr. Patrick Stewart  
Mr. Rob Babel  
Mr. Matt Schultz

*(please see the back for 6<sup>th</sup> grade instrument requirements)*

### **Equipment and Books for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Beginning Band**

Flute  
Plastic Cleaning rod  
Soft, lint-free cloth (bandana works great!)  
Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory – Book 1  
Tradition of Excellence – Book 1

Clarinet  
Hite Premier Mouthpiece  
Box of #2 ½ Rico Clarinet Reeds  
Reed case  
Cork grease  
Cleaning swab (handkerchief style)  
Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory – Book 1  
Tradition of Excellence – Book 1

Cornet/Trumpet  
7C Mouthpiece  
Blue Juice valve oil  
Slide grease  
Mouthpiece brush  
Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory – Book 1  
Tradition of Excellence – Book 1

Trombone  
6 ½ AL Mouthpiece  
Slide-o-mix (for lubricating slide)  
Slide grease (for tuning slide)  
Mouthpiece brush  
Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory – Book 1  
Tradition of Excellence – Book 1

### Percussion

**IMPORTANT!!! We are now requiring all percussion students to rent/purchase a student xylophone (Musser or Adams) as we are no longer using bell kits/practice pad combos in the district. The bell kits are not realistic tools for practicing as the students are playing full size keyboard instruments in class. The size of the student xylophone bars are comparable to what we use in class and will therefore allow your student to be more successful. You will need to contact the local music stores immediately in order to get your student's xylophone reserved. If you cannot provide that instrument, we can move your student into a different beginning band class.**

3 octave student xylophone (Musser or Adams brand)  
Practice pad  
Vic Firth SD1 General drum sticks  
Mike Balter MB4 rubber mallets  
Mike Balter BB2 yarn mallets  
Stick bag  
Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory – Book 1  
Tradition of Excellence – Book 1

### **Instrument Dealers**

- BISCO – [www.bandinstrumentservice.com](http://www.bandinstrumentservice.com)
- Mozingo Music – [www.mozingomusic.com](http://www.mozingomusic.com)
- Music & Arts – [www.musicarts.com](http://www.musicarts.com)