



**L.B. Johnson Middle School**  
Band Program

Congratulations!

Your student has been enrolled in a band class at Johnson Middle School for the 2020-2021 school year! The straight-superior rated band program is a great place for your student to learn how to play an instrument while developing self-confidence, practice/study habits, and leadership skills. The school year will look a lot differently than prior years due to the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic, but I ensure that your student is safe in band class, as I have worked hard to take every precaution and provide a safe environment with the proper PPE (Personal Protective Equipment). Your student will still be able to grow as a musician while learning important life skills, and I am excited to welcome you to the band family.

Now before the school year begins, I would like to make you aware up front of financial obligations that are associated with band class. Every year, I work to make band as affordable as possible for families, reducing extraneous costs and providing most materials for free, but the reality is that an instrument can be expensive and the school is not able to provide equipment/instruments without cost. This is how band programs across the country operate every other year, not just because of the current pandemic. This year will be slightly different due to COVID-19, and I will not be able to provide as much financial assistance as usual to those who need it.

*\*Please be aware that being in band will require you to rent or purchase your student a personal instrument.\**

*\*This usually comes to cost roughly \$25-35 per month from our local music store.\**

That being said, the school possesses an extremely limited amount of instruments that can be rented. The school rental fee is \$30/semester per instrument. These instruments will be first come, first serve and will not be offered once they are all claimed. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this or your students schedule, please contact myself, Mrs. Moose (7th grade Guidance Counselor), or Mrs. Conneely (AP of Curriculum).

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Despite all of the challenges we are facing this year, I am still excited to welcome a new group of students and expand the Johnson band family. I would love to hear from you, do not hesitate to send me an email. Even a simple hello would be great!

Looking forward to seeing you!

Alex Widener, Director of Bands