

To: Prospective Band Members and their Families

From: Mrs. Fenstermaker, PGAE Band Director

I want to thank you for supporting your child's interest in playing an instrument. Today I met with your child to discuss their instrument choice. When choosing an instrument to play it is very important to consider your child's interest, ability to produce the sound, his or her size and hand strength. Below you will see my comments and recommendations.

Once you have secured an instrument and book, I will be able to begin lessons with your child. During the school day the children come to my room for individual instruction at their scheduled time. I will communicate lesson information through email, notes home and post information on my teacher page.

Options for obtaining an instrument are listed below. Please check which option you have chosen and return this letter to me to confirm your child will be playing an instrument to reserve a space in my schedule.

Student's Name _____

Homeroom teacher _____

Instrument Recommendation/comments:

_____ **Rent from Loser's Music Store in Lebanon.** Fill out the contract. **Mail the paper copy with payment to the store or fill out online at <https://www.losersmusic.com/>.** Loser's delivers the instrument and all supplies to the school. When needing repair, they pick up from the school and I have loaner instruments available so your child can continue playing. I can only provide loaners for students who rent from Loser's. If we find the instrument your child has chosen is not a good fit, Loser's will allow your child to switch instruments, often for little or no additional cost. Cost for the 4 month trial period is approximately \$95 including instrument, music and stand. **Sept 9th at 6 PM in the LGI a sales representative will be here to answer any questions and you may have.**

_____ **Use an instrument you or a loved one already owns.** Please make sure it is in working order. If you would like me to check it, please send it to the school labeled with your child's name and homeroom teacher, and I will inspect it.

_____ **Buy an instrument.** There are many sources to purchase instruments at reasonable prices. Used instruments are good instruments, too. Quality used instruments can be found online, at yard sales or from friends and neighbors. Please be careful to purchase exactly what you want. I will be happy to look at the link or pictures of the instrument and tell you my thoughts. See the attached sheet for reputable brands, ones to avoid, and contact information for stores.

If you have any questions, concerns or can't get an instrument, please contact me.

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Daytime Contact Information _____

Reputable Brands to purchase

Woodwinds (Flute, clarinet, saxophone)

Armstrong, Selmer, Bundy, Gemeinhardt, Yamaha, Buffet, Jupiter, Burkhardt, Blessing, Artley

Saxophones

Conn, plus those listed above

Brass (Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, French Horn)

Bach, Selmer, Bundy, Jupiter, Yamaha, Etude, Blessing, Conn, King, Olds

Percussion (bell kit OR snare/bell combo kit)

Yamaha, Ludwig, Pearl, Mapex

Brands to Avoid

Mendini, Glory, Tromba, Jean Paul, Eastrock, Kaizer, Rofee, DeLuca, Lazarro, Ktaxon

Area Music Retailers

Loser's Music	https://www.losersmusic.com/	800-522-2600	losers@lmf.net
Dave Wilson Music	www.davewilsonmusic.org	717-475-7168	djazwilson@aol.com
Menchey Music	https://www.mencheymusic.com/	888-636-2439	
Seacat Music	http://www.seacatmusic.com/	717-665-1660	
Lititz Music Co.	https://www.lititzmusic.com/	717-627-4929	
Zezwitz Music	https://www.zeswitzmusic.com/	877- 480-8224	

Method Book we use: Sound Innovations Book 1

My Contact Information: sfenstermaker@pgasd.com

570-345-2731 ext. 413 717-454-4689

<https://www.pgasd.com/Page/820>