



6th Grade Music at Hart Middle School

Sarah McClimon, strings
smcclimon@pleasantonusd.net

Andrew Lu, choirs/6th grade band
alu@pleasantonusd.net



6th Grade Hart Music Parent Night on Zoom

We will host a Zoom information session with program overview and questions.

March 9 (Tuesday) 6:00-6:45 pm

<https://pleasantonusd.zoom.us/j/81339962616?pwd=NjgyUnVLTC9ENIRWL3RRWmxuVkpXQT09>

Meeting ID: 813 3996 2616

Passcode: Hart

Welcome!

All 6th grade students are welcome to join the Hart Music Program! We have three ensembles available for 6th graders:

- Intermediate Band
- Strings I
- Choir

5th grade band/strings experience is helpful, but not required.

We offer a comprehensive music program, with a strong foundation of music literacy and instrument skills, along with music theory, composition and music history, to prepare students for more advanced music in 7th/8th and high school music.

7th and 8th grade students have opportunities for travel, special performances. The program is designed for students to continue throughout middle school as each year progresses in difficulty.

What instruments can I play?

BAND: Flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, bass clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, or percussion. All percussionists will play mallets and snare drum.

STRINGS: Violin, viola, cello, or bass.

CHOIR: Your voice! No prior instrumental experience needed

Do I need prior experience?

Nope!

Although most of our 6th grade students have some experience in 5th grade band or strings, prior experience is not required. We review 5th grade music curriculum at the beginning of the year and build upon it in 6th grade.

No prior experience is for choir. We'll teach you how to read music and how to sing!

What if I play piano or guitar?

Piano and guitar are not traditionally incorporated into band and choral ensembles, however there are some potential opportunities.

Pianist who enroll in choir may be given the opportunity to audition to also serve as an accompanist for the choir. They will be asked to sing in the choir when they are not accompanying the choir.

Jazz Band, open to 7th and 8th graders, also has opportunities for guitarist and pianists, as well as for bassists and drummers.

What do we learn in music classes?

Students will learn beginning-intermediate music concepts including correct:

- Playing/singing techniques
- Proper care and maintenance of instruments
- Music theory and note reading
- Performing within an ensemble.

We will perform music of various styles, cultures, and time periods. Students will study music through a variety of lenses, including music history, acoustic sciences, composition, songwriting, and research.

Can I have more details?

ASSESSMENTS: Students will have regular assessments on technique and music literacy through written and performed assignments.

CONCERTS: Students will be expected to attend all concerts (about 4 concerts in a normal school year). Dates for all performances will be announced at the beginning of each school year so that families can plan ahead for them.

What do I need?

BAND AND STRINGS:

- An instrument: Students may buy or rent their own, or borrow a larger school instrument
- Instrument accessories: Rosin, drum sticks, reeds, valve oil, etc.
- Method book: See next slide
- Contact the instructor if any of this is a hardship

CHOIR:

- All materials will be provided in class by the teacher.

6th Band and Strings Books: students may purchase or borrow from Hart (you may already have these from 5th grade)

INTERMEDIATE BAND:

- *Measures of Success, Book 1* for your instrument
- Raymond C. Fussell, *Exercises for Ensemble Drill*

STRINGS:

- *Essential Elements for Strings, Book 1*, for your instrument

CHOIR:

- None

All other sheet music will be provided

Questions?

Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

6th grade Strings: Dr. Sarah McClimon (smcclimon@pleasantonusd.net)

6th grade Band & Choir: Mr. Andrew Lu (alu@pleasantonusd.net)

We look forward to meeting your students!