

2013 Band/Orchestra Info

Hello parents! I am very excited to have your child in the music education program here at JM Alexander. Some of you may have questions regarding instruments, books, etc. I am writing this letter to give you some info on where and how to obtain the necessary materials for band and orchestra.

Each BAND scholar will need the following by Wednesday August 23, 2013 (we will be playing instruments in class from this day until the end of the year):

- Instrument (please contact Mr. Robison if you are unsure on which instrument to obtain)
 - ****If you are new to band or orchestra, please email Mr. Robison to set-up a playing test (mouthpiece test) to see which instrument will be best for your child. Please do not buy an instrument without confirming the instrument choice with Mr. Robison.**
- 2 Books
 - "Essential Elements 2000 Book 1"
 - "Foundations for a Superior Performance"
- Instrument Care Products
 - Clarinet players need 1 box of reeds
 - Saxophone players need 1 box of reeds
 - Trumpet players need valve oil
 - French Horn players need valve oil
 - Trombone players need slide cream
 - Percussion players need sticks/mallets
- A folder with sheet music will be provided

All of these items can be obtained at any of the local music stores. Most of the music stores offer affordable "Rent-to-Own" programs and you may rent an instrument starting around \$25-35 per month. Most music stores will carry the 1st book (Essential Elements 2000) on the shelf. You may need to have the music store order the 2nd book for you (Foundations for a Superior Performance). All of the instrument care products will be available in the music store.

Scholar To Do:

- Obtain Essential Elements 2000 book and then setup FREE EEi account at www.EssentialElementsInteractive.com (scholars were given an info sheet during school)
 - Must have the book (free code is on the 1st page or on the back)
 - They must know their JMA Student ID#
- Print the course syllabus online at EEi (www.EssentialElementsInteractive.com) and sign the syllabus. Please return to Mr. Robison this week for a grade of 100. *Scholars without internet at home may print it out in the JMA Media Center.

Parent To Do:

- You should have received info about how to login to PowerSchool on Tuesday Aug 22.
 - Please update your email address (type in multiple emails if you wish)
 - **I need these emails in order to send you critical information!**

Parents, THANK YOU so much for your continuing support in your child's music education here at JM Alexander. This program would not exist without your dedication and commitment towards your child's musical progress. Again, thank you for all you do for your child here at JMA!!! Please email me if you have any questions. My email is stevend.robison@cms.k12.nc.us.

Thank you very much!

Steven Robison
Director of Bands
NAL Coach (National Academic League)
Science Olympiad Coach
JM Alexander Middle School
An IB World School

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