

**2026 – 2027 BEGINNING BAND  
INSTRUMENT AND EQUIPMENT LIST**

# ALTO SAXOPHONE



**The Alto Saxophone is rented through a local music store. The model and type of instrument needed is the:**

- o YAMAHA YAS 23 ALTO SAXOPHONE
- o Vandoren AL 3 Optimum – included with rental
- o Rovner Ligature – included with rental

**In addition, your child will need the following equipment:**

- o Vandoren size 3 Alto Saxophone Reeds (blue box)
- o Cork Grease
- o Silk Saxophone Swab
- o Neotech neck strap
- o Mouthpiece Cap
- o Reed case - 4 slot minimum
- o Wire Music Stand
- o Metronome/Tuner – Tuner Caddy Tuner/Metronome clip combo -or- Onstage GTA7000  
Tuner/Metronome clip combo

**Local/online music stores to rent or purchase equipment - SEE QR SHEET**

Brooks Mays Music – Instrument rental, equipment purchases

Music and Arts – Instrument rental, equipment purchases

Rivard Brothers – Instrument rental, equipment purchases

Sweetwater Music - Instrument rental, equipment purchases

Tarpley Music Co. – Instrument rental, equipment purchases

The Bandwagon Music Store and Repair - Instrument rental, equipment purchase

**\*PLEASE DO NOT PURCHASE AN INSTRUMENT OFF AMAZON\***

Proper equipment is essential for your child's development technically and if they have "cheaper" off brand equipment, this can greatly hinder their success and these instruments cannot be repaired when they break. Cheaper instruments break easier and faster.

**\*PLEASE SEE THE LAST PAGE OF QR CODES FOR EASY PRICE COMPARISONS\***

## TIMELINE

### February/March

- o Meet with directors to select an instrument

### April/May

- o Order the listed equipment from a local music retailer
- o Sign up for private lessons to get an early start in the summer if desired – contact a director for more information

### June

- o Pick up school owned instrument if starting private lessons during the summer – contact a director to schedule this
- o Order supplies if not already done

### July

- o Verify that you have all equipment needed. Label all supplies clearly.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Is it ok for my child to start playing before the school year starts?** If your child would like to start with a private lesson teacher early, this is great! Please contact a director for this information. It is NOT ok for your child to pull out their instrument on their own and attempt to start playing without the guidance of a professional. This could cause them to create bad embouchures, tones, and habits that are hard to correct down the road.

**When should I bring my instrument to school next year?** We will have you bring your instrument (if rented through a local music store) and supplies the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> day of school. No need to bring anything on the first day of school.

**If we are renting our child's instrument from a local music store, when will it arrive to the school?** Some music stores will deliver instruments and any supplies purchased directly to our campus. Depending on how early they are ordered, some will arrive in the summer before school starts.

**Can I purchase instruments or equipment other than what is listed?** We have found not all instruments and equipment are manufactured to the same standards. The items listed on your materials list as approved selections have been chosen and cleared by the band staff based on years of experience. Purchasing an instrument not listed for your child could hinder your child's development and progress. Instrument (brands) purchased from Amazon such as Mendini, Eastman, Eastar, Hawk, and Apollo, etc, are NOT acceptable instruments for your child.

**What if we have an instrument from a family or friend that my child can use?** Many times, instruments that sit for periods will need cleaning and maintenance due to stuck slides/valves, dried out pads, etc. Please contact a director if the brand/model is different from the list to ensure it is an appropriate instrument for a student to start on.

### **Who do I contact if I have questions?**

**Elisabeth McConnell**

Director of Bands

Linda Jobe MS/Donna Shepard Int

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