

Greetings New Barton Bobcat Band Parents and Students!!

We would like to welcome you to the Barton MS Band and the Hays CISD Band Program. This packet of information will help to get you started on becoming successful musicians. Now that your instrument for Band has been chosen, it is time to begin thinking about what materials you will need for class and what instruments and/or accessories you need to begin Band Class in the Fall. Enclosed is an Approved Instrument Brand/Required Accessory List and a School Supplies List for Band Class (to be kept in the Band Hall with stored instruments during the school day).

The Approved Instrument Brand/Required Accessory List is so that you know what instrument has been chosen for next year and what you will need to purchase or rent for Band. If you have been chosen to play a "School Provided" instrument, we require a \$125.00 Instrument Usage Fee for the school year, payable via RevTrak on the Barton Campus Webpage. For all other instruments, we recommend that you try to find these particular brands as they are the most reliable brands for that instrument. These brands require less maintenance, are more durable, and have better sound quality that is comparable. All Accessories and Required items must be provided by the student/parent.

For those who need to rent or purchase an instrument, there are local music companies that are happy to work with your budget. From now until the end of the school year, there are plenty of options for quality used instruments. Be sure to shop around for the best prices. Please rent or purchase sooner rather than later to get a great deal.

The Band School Supply list is to be kept strictly for use in Band Class. So that they have everything they need for Band Class every day, students will leave these school supplies in the Band Hall. We rely heavily on these materials on a daily basis and find that students who have all materials for class are more attentive and do a better job of retaining their musical information. If students leave these materials in the Band Hall with their instruments during the school day, then these supplies should last the entire school year.

In the Hays CISD Band Program, students are required to practice "on the days they eat" for a minimum of 100 minutes a week. That is less than 15 minutes a day! The more you practice the more successful you will be! Parents, we need your help in supporting your child. Let them know how important band is and help them develop a regular practice routine. The secret to success in band is practice, practice, practice! Band is fun, but it does take a commitment from both students and parents. It is through this commitment that values such as responsibility, reliability, and working together towards a common goal are instilled. These are the reasons why band students excel in other curricular areas.

Together we will be successful and build a strong musical foundation for students to surpass everyone's expectations for the Hays CISD Band Program.

Welcome to the Barton Bobcat Band!

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