



4/15/2020

Dear 6th Grade Parents and Students,

We hope this letter finds you and your family well during these difficult and unprecedented times. As we approach the end of this school year as we know it, you will begin to receive information about scheduling your child for classes at the middle school next school year. On behalf of the Owen Valley Patriot Band and Guard, we hope that your child would consider signing up for 7th grade beginning band in the fall. Along with this letter is a flyer with some of the benefits of joining a musical ensemble and brochure detailing the band program at Owen Valley!

Normally, this information is supplied when students meet with the directors one on one during the school day to try different instruments. With this not happening, we are having to adapt to the situation. With that being said, I would like to provide some answers to some common questions. If more come up after reading this material, please do not hesitate to contact us. Our contact information will follow at the end of this letter.

How does my son or daughter sign up for band?

When the sign-ups begin rolling out, you will be asked to choose an elective. At this time you simply need to choose band as your elective. It is not necessary to know what instrument you want to play or where you will get an instrument.

How do I get an instrument?

There are a couple of ways. One way is to rent an instrument through the school. School rentals cost \$50 for the school year and are limited to the following instruments: Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone, and Percussion. Another popular option is through Paige's Music Rent to Own program (<https://www.paigesmusic.com/paiges/run?id=6>) and would include additional instruments such as the Alto Saxophone and Baritone. If you have an instrument at home that a sibling, parent, or relative has used in the past, that can be a good option as well.

What if I have never played an instrument before and I know nothing about music?

Anyone can learn to play an instrument, even if they have no musical background. Most students that begin with us typically know very little about reading and making music. Our passion is helping student from every musical background find success on their instrument!

What if I don't know what instrument I want to play or where I am going to get my instrument from right now?

This is expected from many students at this time since we are unable to try students on instruments. When school begins in August, we will take the time to work with those students and help them find an instrument they like. If the middle school is able to host any kind of open house before school starts, we will be there to offer instrument demonstrations and let students try them to determine what their best options would be at that time.

Respectfully,

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**2019 ISSMA All Band
Award Recipient**

**2018 ISSMA Marching
Band State Finalist**

**2018 Winter Percussion
State Finalist - 5th place**

**2018 Winter Guard State
Finalist - 3rd place**

Concert Band

Marching Band

Pep Band

Jazz Band

Winter Guard

Winter Percussion

Special Notice to 6th Grade Students and Parents

OWEN VALLEY

Why should a student learn to play an instrument?

Here are 12 reasons from parents that participated in a national survey

- Provides a sense of accomplishment
- Causes a child to learn responsibility
- Provides team work experience
- Teaches discipline
- Creates self esteem in oneself
- Adds to the quality of life of students
- Teaches appreciation for music as an art form
- Creates lasting friendships
- Provides for better parent-child relationships
- Provides opportunity to learn leadership skills
- Helps with math and reading skills
- IT IS FUN!



NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The 2020 school year was fantastic up through spring break! The marching band received a gold rating at regional contest and performed at Lucas Oil Stadium. The high school band took a trip to Los Angeles California over fall break. The jazz ensemble received a gold rating at district contest and had four students recognized as distinguished soloists. We had seven soloists/ensembles receive a gold rating at state competition in Indianapolis. The Varsity Winter Guard was promoted to a higher competitive class to start their season. On behalf of our 180 band members, we hope you join us and become a part of our great tradition of music in Owen County.

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Dear Students and Families,

Next year you will have the opportunity to be a part of the Owen Valley Band and Guard! The challenge of learning an instrument is both fun and rewarding. Owen Valley's best and brightest students participate in our programs including Marching Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Winter Percussion, Winter Guard, Basketball Pep Band, and Solo and Ensemble.

Be on the lookout for a Google Form coming from the Middle School Guidance

Counselor to sign up for classes next year. Please consider choosing band as one of your elective classes!

Owen Valley has a long history as an excellent program. Our program travels (this year we took the high school band to Los Angeles, California), performs, consistently participates in State Final events, has two State Championships and a National Title! Be a part of one of the most successful school organizations in Owen County.

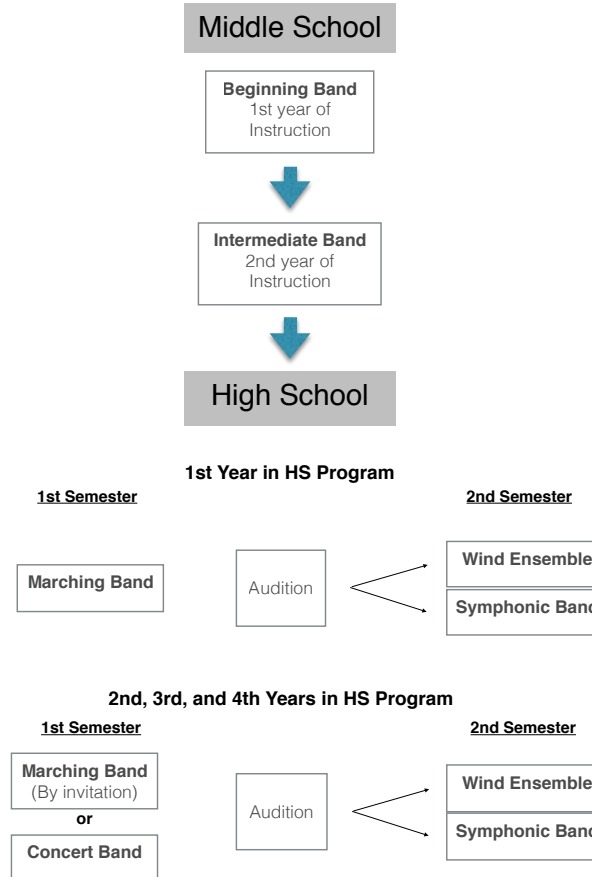
NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1992 Bands of America Class A National Champion
- 1994 Indiana State School Music Association Class C State Champion
- 1996 participant in the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade
- 2001 Indiana Percussion Association Open Class Movement State Champion
- Dozens of other state finals appearances in Marching Band, Winter Percussion and Winter Guard

RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2015 participant in Disney's "Festival of Fantasy" parade
- 2016 ISSMA Marching Band Open Class Semi-State Finalist
- 2017 Indiana High School Color Guard Association Regional A State Finalist
- 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019 "Gold" Rating in performance and sight reading at ISSMA Concert Band Contest
- 2017, 2019 ISSMA Jazz "Gold" Rating
- 2019 Indiana Percussion Association Scholastic Concert A State Finalist for the 20th time
- 2019 ISSMA Marching Band Open Class State Finalist
- 2019 Indiana High School Color Guard Association Scholastic A Semi-State Finalist

Sequence of Participating in the Owen Valley Band



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THE OWEN VALLEY



PATRIOT BAND AND GUARD

2017, 2019 ISSMA All Band Award Recipient!

Information about the Owen Valley Band Program.



PATRIOT BAND & GUARD

Mission Statement: The mission of the Owen Valley Patriot Band and Guard is to provide the students of Spencer - Owen Community Schools with high quality experiences and opportunities that enrich their musical and arts education.



Owen Valley's State Finalist Winter Guard and Winter Percussion performing around the state.

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM:

The Owen Valley Band is a 7th through 12th grade instrumental music program that sponsors a wide range of musical and arts activities including: three Concert Bands, a Competitive Marching Band, High School Basketball Pep Band, Jazz Band, Competitive Winter Percussion Ensemble, Competitive Winter Guards at both the MS and HS level. The Band is also a District and State Solo and Ensemble participant, and is active in Concert Band Festivals.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND

Band at this level is broken up into Beginning Band for those just learning about music and playing an instrument, and Intermediate Band for those who have at least one year experience on an instrument. The middle school band performs 4-5 concerts per year, tours the elementary schools in the spring, and frequently takes a small trip at the end of the year.



MS Fall Outdoor Concert



Performing at the Elementary Schools

HIGH SCHOOL BAND

The high school program is split into segments. In the fall members participate in the marching band. All the members of the high school band will audition and be placed in groups by ability level for the spring semester: The Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band. Members in the high school band commit time outside of school to practice and perform during the year.



OV's Marching Band performing at Lucas Oil



HS Band receiving a "Gold Rating" at contest

CO/EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES & TRIPS

Our program provides a wide range of activities in addition to the two concert bands: marching band, jazz band, basketball pep band, winter guard, and winter percussion. The high school groups perform over 50 events each school year and will travel and compete at the state and national level. In addition, our members also participate in Solo and Ensemble, and Honor Bands.



HS Band at Disneyland during the 2019 Los Angeles Trip



MS Band Trip at Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio, 2016