



# Clemens Crossing Elementary School

## Band and Strings



Dear Parents,

Your child is invited to participate in the CCES instrumental music program this year. I hope he/she has discussed this opportunity with you. Here is some information to get you started:

### Instruments

You can purchase or rent an instrument. **It is very important that your child does not play with the instrument prior to his/her first lesson.** The instruments are fragile and by not knowing how to handle the instrument properly, the instrument could be damaged very easily.

**Music stores** in our area include:

Baltimore Brass – *they rent all instruments* (Catonsville) 410-744-1723

Music and Art Center (Laurel – Cherry Tree Plaza) 240-568-0600  
(Ellicott City) 410-461-1844

Mike's Music (Montgomery Road, Ellicott City) 410-465-0700

Washington Music Center (Wheaton) 301-946-8808

### Required Books and Equipment

\* All band students will use the book ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS FOR BAND, Book 1.

\* Optional purchase for Percussion students - ALFRED'S DRUM METHOD, Book 1.

All students need to have:

- an instrument
  - a lesson book (see above)
  - a music stand for home practice (Don't bring it to school!)
- \*\* *It is NOT necessary to purchase a cleaning care kit***

**PLEASE...** Refrain from purchasing instruments off of the internet or from a warehouse chain store. They are not quality instruments, and when they break, no reputable repair shop will attempt to fix them. You will be out the cost of the instrument. If you happen to find something online, please email me the information so that I can give you more professional advice.

### Practice Assignments

Students will complete practice assignments on a regular basis. These assignments can be found in Canvas.

### Performances

There are two main concerts during the school year. Our Winter concert is January, and the Spring concert will be in May. I will confirm the dates ASAP.

*It is a Howard County policy that each student musician is expected to attend all performances for the Winter and Spring concerts, except under circumstances of family emergency or illness. Please write down the concert dates early and plan your child's activities around these dates. Contact me with any questions regarding this county policy.*

### **First Lessons**

Lessons for beginning students will begin at the end of September. Please have an instrument and lesson book for your child ASAP so he/she can fully benefit from the beginning lessons.

### **Registration for Lessons**

Registration for Band and Strings is done online by going to: [shorturl.at/yCDSZ](http://shorturl.at/yCDSZ)

In order for your child to be scheduled into lessons, this MUST be completed **by Wednesday, September 15th.**

If you have any questions, please contact me at school 410-313-6866 or [Marybeth\\_Graham@hcpss.org](mailto:Marybeth_Graham@hcpss.org).

### **Band/Strings Parent Information Night**

Please join me for the Band and Strings Information Night for Parents on **Tuesday, September 1, at 6:00pm in the school cafeteria.** I will give an overview of the program and answer your questions. Your child may still participate in the program if you are unable to attend the meeting. *\*\* As with other back-to-school events, please do not bring your child to this session. \*\**

I look forward to working with your child in this exciting musical endeavor!

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Marybeth Graham*  
CCES Band and Strings Teacher

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[www.ccesbandandstrings.weebly.com](http://www.ccesbandandstrings.weebly.com).