

Hello Gilford Middle School Band students!

I am happy to be welcoming you back to school and am excited to be teaching band to you this year!

A few important things that I'd like you to know:

- Please make sure you have a Standard of Excellence Book 1 (Red) if you are in 5th or 6th grade or a Standard of Excellence Book 2 (Blue) if you are in 7th or 8th grade.
- Books and any accessories (cleaning cloths, reeds, etc.) can be purchased either at Greenlaw's Music in Laconia or through Ellis Music, who visits Gilford every other week. Instrument rentals are also done directly through Ellis Music - 802-234-6400
- Percussion players need to bring just sticks and/or mallets with them, you do not need to bring your snare drum or bell kit in with you. please keep that at home to practice on.
- Please make sure you bring your instrument to school on the day you need it for the band (schedule below) and take it home with you when you are done. Students have band lockers available to them to store instruments for the day, but will be required to take instruments home at the end of the day.
- Students will be pulled from their Unified Arts classes once a week starting Monday, September 14th. 8th grade on Mondays, 7th grade on Tuesdays, 6th grade on Wednesdays, 5th grade flutes, clarinets, trumpet, and trombones on Tuesday, and 5th grade saxophones and percussion on Thursdays.
- An aerosol study was conducted at Colorado State University on the effects of playing/singing and how the transmission of droplets happen when rehearsing and performing. With the use of bell coverings and special masks/shields the transmission is greatly reduced. We currently have a former band parent who is working on making bell coverings and masks for every band member grades 5-12. Flute players will be given face shields that help stop the transmission of droplets, as these instruments are different from others. These bell coverings and masks/shields are required to be used when we are rehearsing/practicing at school. Please keep them in your case as part of your instrument (flute players can leave the shields in their band locker).
- Concerts will look a little different this year and will be scheduled once we get further into the school year.

Once again I am looking forward to another great year in band class and having students have flexibility in picking music they are interested in playing/learning. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at LBeyrent@sau73.org

Sincerely,
Ms. Beyrent