

WEST SUBURBAN HOME SCHOOL BAND

2021-2022 Cadet Band Requirements

Cadet band is designed for students and adults with little or no prior music experience. As has been stated elsewhere on our website, there is no audition for Cadets. It is to the student's advantage for the parent(s) to contact the director Mrs. Karen Borow, at [Link to Contact Director](#) as early as possible, before fall, to explore instrument choices and learn more about the program. Your next step is deciding what instrument you are interested in playing. While some may already have a very definite idea, others may not. If the instrument choice is known, you can skip the rest of this paragraph. Otherwise, for any student wishing to learn about the various instrument choices, and to help them make a decision, you are encouraged to contact the director, to make an appointment for one of the five instrument tryout opportunities at her home over the summer. **Prior appointment must be made with director, Mrs. Borow.** The 2021 dates are 6/15, 7/13, and 9/14. With your mom or dad, she will schedule a time on one of those dates to allow you to try all the instruments to determine which one best suits you and your inclinations.

After the instrument choice has been made, you need to acquire the instrument. The band has a large inventory of used instruments at nominal rental fees for band members. Check with the director, Mrs. Karen Borow, about the band's rates and available instruments. Parents may choose to rent or buy an instrument from a music store. We also have a list of Music and Instrument Stores on our **Forms/Documents** webpage under general information. Here are a few random names from that list:

- Ellman's Music Center, 503 W 5th Ave, Naperville, (630) 355-5880
- Naperville Music, 636 E Ogden Ave, Naperville (next to Kentucky Fried Chicken) 1-888-355-1404. They have a 3 month, introductory rate for rental instruments.
- Sam Ash, 1139 South Main Street, Lombard, in the plaza with Jewel and Enchanted Castle, 630-424-0767
- Music and Arts, 907 W Irving Park Road near Rt, 53, Itasca, (630) 285-1485
- Horn Stash (Sales division of Fix This! Instrument Repair), 744 E Northwest Highway Palatine, (847) 359-4444

Once you have an instrument you will need a few more things. The next most important is the [Home Helper...](#) book w/CD and then the video on the list below. The book is more foundational with weekly lessons. While there is some overlap between the book and video, the latter can be helpful especially for students who need extra help in learning how to read the music staff. The earlier in the summer you start using these resources, the better. We cannot over stress, the importance of working through the sessions in the book. Follow-up with watching the video a few times and you will become more familiar and comfortable with the instrument. After completing those steps, if you wish, you may start working on the first two pages in [Essential Elements for Band, Book 1](#) "Gold" which will be the first two week's band assignment. (Or you can use [Essential Elements 2000](#), Book 1, "Gold" the older title, which has the same contents.)

Student and adult musicians need to print and **complete the Winter Registration Form**, found on our **FORMS/DOCUMENTS** webpage. *Registration includes the Commitment Page* - Due to increasing conflicts with other activities, all members are required to complete the Commitment page which is the third page of the Registration Form. You will need to list known conflicts/absences and a parent's signature is required. Also **include any applicable rental forms and fees** for students and adults alike. The **deadline** for registration and applicable rentals forms is **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021** and there is a place for you to indicate your choice(s) for the required Booster hours. There is a discount for three or more children with the fee schedule shown on the registration form. Mail your completed registration, applicable rental form **and** check to the address on the form. [No checks will be accepted without a completed form and vice-versa.](#)

NOTICE: For the **2021-2022** concert season there will NOT be the usual **Overview and Orientation Meeting** the week before our first band rehearsals take place. Instead, there will be a video sent, **prior to 9/24**, for all band families to watch. It will include new updates, information about the band year, and a brief instruction for all newcomers. See our **CALENDAR** online for more details about the first rehearsal and more.

While cadets are not featured at the WSHSB formal concerts, Cadets have two separate performances, winter and spring, for their families during their regular rehearsal time. Specifics will be included in the weekly Rehearsal Notes after details are finalized.

Students may repeat the Cadet level instructions as many seasons as is necessary, based on the parents'/director's evaluation. Cadets who choose to repeat or do not pass to Concert Junior do not continue with new material the second year, rather they start at the beginning of the book with all the new Cadets.

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR CADETS AND FIRST YEAR JUNIOR PERCUSSIONISTS - For a Cadet (beginner) percussionist, the focus is on developing rhythms and skills on bells. However, there must be equivalent time spent doing the same on snare, bass, and other percussion instruments. Therefore, it is expected of Cadet percussion students, who pass the Junior audition, to attend Cadet band for a second concert season, September through May, in addition to attending Junior band rehearsals.

This serves a two-fold purpose. Because Junior percussionists play a variety of percussion instruments their time on drums is limited. Playing with the Cadet Band they play other instruments beside bells which further develops their rhythmic reading skills. While doing so they provide the necessary drum beat while the new Cadets learn to play the bells.

**All equipment and books on the lists below,
must be clearly LABELED with the student's name.**

SUPPLIES FOR ALL CADETS (additional percussion supplies follow this list)

- **Working instrument**, with labeled case or equipment bag
- **Folding music stand** label all parts, if there is a music stand case, it too should be labeled.
- **Recommended** - BOOK w/CD - **HOME HELPER: FIRST LESSONS AT SCHOOL AND AT HOME** (instrument specific) by James O. Froseth, GIA publications, Inc
Link if you can't find it in stores - <http://www.giamusic.com/products/P-homehelper.cfm>
It is **recommended** that all wind beginners obtain (purchase or borrow) the Home Helper book and Volume 1 of The Ultimate Beginner video (below) over the summer.
- **Recommended** - VIDEO - **THE ULTIMATE BEGINNER SERIES** (instrument specific, may not be available for every instrument) Some titles are available in DVD format. *Note: Check your local library. For example, Wheaton carries some of the titles with a one week loan period.*
- **REQUIRED** - BOOK - **ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS for Band, BOOK 1 "Gold"** (instrument specific). (Or you can use Essential Elements 2000, Book 1, "Gold" the older title, which has the same contents.)
*If you have any difficulty locating these books, we know they can be ordered online through JW Pepper. Allow 2 to 4 weeks for delivery. For additional resources see the "Music and Instrument Stores" document on **Forms/Documents***
- **Sharpened pencil** You should bring a pencil with you to band practice to make notes.
- **Metronome** - Recommended for Cadet daily practice at home.

ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES FOR CADET PERCUSSION

- **Bells on stand and mallets**
- **Practice drum pad on stand and sticks** (for second trimester)