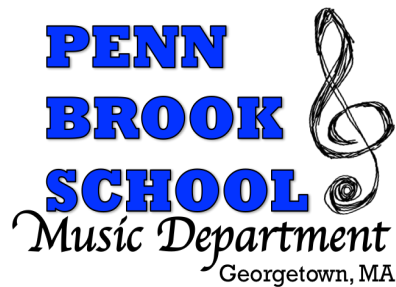


Band Transition Information

There are different types of transitions for band students. Students may transition:

- **To a school-owned/or different instrument**
- **To the Percussion Section**
- **To Red Band**



To a school-owned or different instrument:

We are fortunate enough at Penn Brook to have a variety of instruments for our students to learn. As student get older and more experienced on their instrument, they may be asked or request to be switched to an instrument that is owned. These instruments include:

- ❖ Bass Clarinet (wish-listed)
- ❖ **Tenor Saxophone**
- ❖ Baritone Saxophone (wish-listed)
- ❖ **French Horn**
- ❖ **Trombone** (Mouthpiece purchase may be required)
- ❖ **Baritone** (Mouthpiece purchase may be required)
- ❖ **Tuba** (Mouthpiece purchase may be required)

Students sharing an instrument with another student will take turns taking the instrument home on weekends. Older students (5th and 6th) will get the 2nd and 4th weekends of the month and younger students (4th) will get the 1st and 3rd weekends of the month. Holidays and vacation will be as requested. **All shared instruments need to be at school Tuesday 8AM until Thursday 3:30PM**

If your student is to purchase a mouthpiece, I have some recommendations through Music & Arts. You are free to shop around and compare prices and brands. Email me if you need any more help.

- ❖ Trombone and Baritone: Yamaha Standard Series Small Shank Trombone Silver mouthpiece. Item #1144849 Model #YAC SL51B **size 12C**
- ❖ Tuba: Coming Soon

Some students may switch to a different instrument and need to rent or discontinue renting through Music & Arts. To ask questions about your instrument rental, call 888-731-5396. If you'd like Music & Arts to pick the instrument up, you can call the store in Peabody 978-532-3380. You may also return the instrument to the Peabody store.

Music and Arts

300 Andover St. (Rt. 114)
Peabody, MA 01960

978-532-3380

www.musicarts.com

Rentals, repairs, accessories

Band Transition Information

There are different types of transitions for band students. Students may transition:

To the percussion section:

Specifically in 6th grade, students do not use the percussion kit at school. They are more than welcome to continue renting for practice at home, selling the instrument, or returning the instrument to Music and Arts.

Transitioning to the percussion in 6th grade means that we are going to begin learning more complex percussion skills, which require more ensemble instrument like what we have at school. I rotate all the students on different instrument for different songs. I'm allowing them to develop more diverse skills to peak their interest as a musician. I'm also requiring them to take the lead and keep each other organized and focused. Student practicing at home may still be beneficial as each student will have rhythmic parts (snare drum) to perform for concerts as well as melodic (the bells).

It's up to you for what you would like to decide. If you have just about paid off your instrument (depending on value... Music and Arts will have the information), you can opt to sell the instrument. Fortunately, musicians are all around us in various school districts, AND we have 4th graders joining for the first time at Penn Brook. I'm sure many parents would be thankful to have an economical way for their child to participate in band. Let me know if you'd be interested in selling your percussion kit.

Here's the suggested list of **performance equipment percussionists** should keep up with:

- **Vic Firth Wood 5B drum sticks (REQUIRED)**- \$7.50 through the music program or similar can be found out most music stores and online...
- **Innovative Percussion Medium xylophone mallets** – \$13.95 online at www.musicarts.com
- **Practice pad** – ranges from \$12.95-\$16.95 online. I usually have some available students can check out as well.
- **"Essential Elements" Percussion Book 1 (REQUIRED)** – \$16.99 through Music and Arts (online or at school) I also usually have extras that students can use in class and can sometimes make copies.

Vic Firth also makes a kit called Fresh Approach available for those of you that are interested in extending practices resources at home.

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Band Transition Information

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To the Red Band:

Here's a list of **continuing band member** items. These are not required, but could make great gifts or school supplies for the instrumentalist. Suggested items include:

- ❖ Clarinet and Saxophone Reeds (Vandoren Traditional – size 2 ½)
- ❖ Rovner Ligature and Cap
 - Clarinet (Music & Arts Item # 463401)
 - Saxophone (M&A)
- ❖ Giardinelli Standard Care Kit
 - Clarinet (M&A Item # 420469)
 - Flute (M&A Item # 164951N)
 - Saxophone (M&A Item # 164965N)
 - Trumpet (M&A Item # 164979N)
 - Low Brass (M&A Item # 164976N)
- ❖ Neotech Soft Sax Neck Strap
 - Saxophone (M&A Item# 367524 001 275)
- ❖ Hamilton Table/Desk-Top Music Stand (M&A Item # 472178)
- ❖ SmartMusic subscription (\$40 for the calendar year) www.makemusic.com
 - Students can have access to lots of music online and can practice right from a computer or iPad. I assign plenty of assignments for students.

A Private Lesson Teacher can be found in the back of the handbook. Private Lessons are not required, but may enhance progress and emerging musicians who have an interest in continuing on their instrument in the future. Please make sure you read our band handbook and return the "Handbook Signature Page." Lastly, White and Red Band members must pay the one time Extended Day band fee of \$55 when school starts back. Blue Band members (6th Grade Band) do not have to pay the band fee.

I look forward to working with your child again soon! Please find my contact information below as well as some other helpful contacts.

Musically,

Mr. Polston

polston@georgetown.k12.ma.us

978-352-5785 ext. 2107

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