

# York Middle School Band

## Equipment and Materials Guide



### *How to equip yourself for success in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade band*

Welcome to another year as a member of the York Cougar Band! I have created this guide as a way for students and parents to develop a clear understanding of the requirements for each individual instrument. This should be used alongside the list of materials already outlined in the handbook. **Please note that these are not OPTIONAL materials, so read the appropriate sections for you carefully.** They are required not only as part of each band students grade, but also necessary to be successful on and maintain a properly functioning instrument. Many parents and students understand that band requires quite the investment of front, but sometimes forget that it is also includes some ongoing investment and commitment. **HOWEVER**, all of these things are about **PROTECTING** your initial investment and making sure that each student profits from it as much as possible! Each section will also include some recommendations that are not necessary requirements, but are **HIGHLY** suggested to maximize success. If you do not know what something is, or how to get it just ask! 😊

### **A word on reeds....**

If you play an instrument that requires a reed, then you **MUST** have a **FUNCTIONING** one at all times. The reed is a part of your instrument, therefore a broken reed is the same thing as a broken instrument and your instrument will not function properly!! Students should **ALWAYS** have at least one back up reed in their case. If a reed breaks in class, and you do not have a back-up, then you are now in class without all of your materials and your grade will be affected accordingly.

**TAKE CARE OF YOUR REEDS AND THEY WILL LAST YOU A LONG TIME.** There many different options for protecting your reeds while they are in your case... storing the reed without protection or leaving it on the mouthpiece are not some of them. Additionally, cycling between two or three reeds over time (instead of playing on the same one every day) will more than double the life of each reed, therefore saving you money!! Please see the section for your specific instrument for reed pricing at school, and for acceptable reed brands. I highly suggest buying boxes of reeds from a music store or online, however, as you will possibly be able to get them less expensively.

**Reeds will never be given to students on "credit."**

If you are someone that finds yourself replacing reeds often, I highly recommend switching to a synthetic reed. They are \$20- \$30 depending on your instrument but are built to withstand a lot more stress and wear. One reed, if taken care of, should last you about 6 months! Ask Mr. Robinson if you would like to learn more.

## Clarinet



### Required materials:

- Mouthpiece and ligature
- Clarinet Swab (silk is recommended but not required)
- Cork grease
- Reeds:
  - Vandoren 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  or 3 strength (7<sup>th</sup> Grade) - \$3.00 each
  - Vandoren 3 or 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  strength (8<sup>th</sup> grade) - \$3.00 each

## Bass Clarinet

(7<sup>th</sup> grade students will be offered the opportunity to switch within the first weeks of school)



### Required materials:

- Mouthpiece and ligature (provided as part of YMS rental)
- Bass Clarinet Swab (silk is recommended but not required)
- Cork grease
- Reeds:
  - Rico 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  or 3 strength (7<sup>th</sup> Grade) - \$3.50 each
  - Vandoren 3 or 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  strength (8<sup>th</sup> grade) - \$5.00 each

## Alto Saxophone

### Required materials:

- Mouthpiece and ligature
- Alto Saxophone swab (silk recommended by not required)
- Neck Strap
- Reeds:
  - Vandoren 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  or 3 strength (7<sup>th</sup> Grade) - \$3.00 each
  - Vandoren 3 or 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  strength (8<sup>th</sup> grade) - \$3.00 each



## Tenor Saxophone

(7<sup>th</sup> grade students will be offered the opportunity to switch within the first weeks of school)

### Required materials:

- Mouthpiece and ligature (included with YMS Rental)
- Tenor Saxophone swab (silk recommended by not required)
- Neck Strap
- Reeds:
  - Juno 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  or 3 strength (7<sup>th</sup> Grade) - \$3.50 each
  - Vandoren 3 or 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  strength (8<sup>th</sup> grade) - \$5.00 each

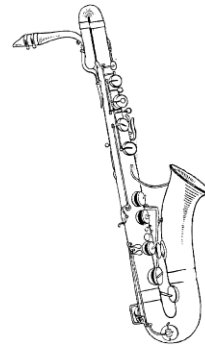


## Baritone Saxophone

(7<sup>th</sup> grade students will be offered the opportunity to switch within the first weeks of school)

### Required materials:

- Mouthpiece and ligature (included with YMS Rental)
- Baritone Saxophone swab (silk recommended by not required)
- Neck Strap
- Reeds:
  - Rico Royale 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  or 3 strength (7<sup>th</sup> Grade) - \$5.00 each
  - Rico Royale 3 or 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  strength (8<sup>th</sup> Grade) - \$5.00 each



## Oboe

(7<sup>th</sup> grade students will be offered the opportunity to switch within the first weeks of school)

### Required materials:

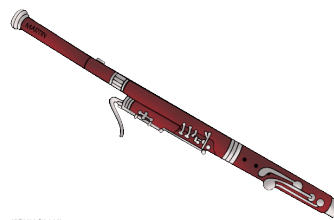
- Oboe swab (silk recommended by not required)
- Cork grease
- Reeds:
  - Emerald Oboe Reed Medium (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade) - \$10.00

## Bassoon

(7<sup>th</sup> grade students will be offered the opportunity to switch within the first weeks of school)

### Required materials:

- Bassoon swab (silk recommended by not required)
- Chair Strap (provided with YMS Rental)
- Cork grease
- Reeds:
  - Emerald Bassoon Reed Medium strength (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade) - \$10.00 each



## Flute

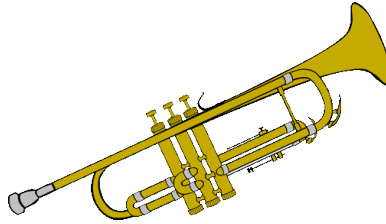
### Required materials:

- Flute swab (silk recommended by not required)
- Cleaning rod

## Trumpet

Required materials:

- Mouthpiece
- Valve oil
- Slide grease
- Cleaning brush or snake

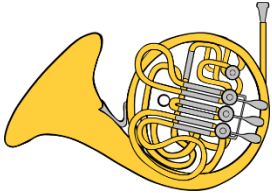


## Horn

(7<sup>th</sup> grade students will be offered the opportunity to switch within the first weeks of school)

Required materials:

- Mouthpiece (provided with YMS rental)
- Rotor Oil
- Slide grease
- Cleaning brush or snake



## Trombone

Required materials:

- Mouthpiece
- Slide oil or grease - NOT VALVE OIL
- Cleaning brush or snake



## Baritone

Required materials:

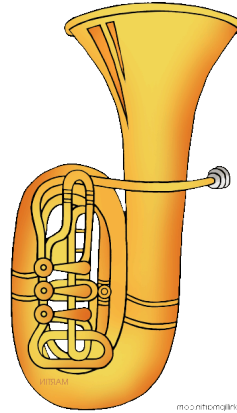
- Mouthpiece
- Valve oil
- Slide grease
- Cleaning brush or snake



## Tuba

### Required materials:

- Mouthpiece
- Valve oil
- Slide grease
- Cleaning brush or snake



## Percussion

### Required materials:

- Bell Kit and Practice Pad
- Vic Firth SD1 Drumsticks
- Yarn or Cord - wound Keyboard Mallets, Medium hardness
  - Do not purchase any mallets by Innovative percussion. This has been found to be an unreliable brand in terms of durability. Cheaper is not always better!
  - **Recommended: Vic Firth M70 Corpsmaster**
- Rubber Mallet or Hard Plastic Mallets
  - The mallets that come with your bell kit are okay for learning on, but need to be upgraded at this point in your band career.
  - **Recommended: Vic Firth M6/M7 Hard Phenolic Keyboard Mallets or Musser M-23 Lexan Keyboard Mallets**
- Stick Bag
- **BEST VALUE: Vic Firth EP2 Intermediate Education Pack - Includes all required materials, plus an extra pair of drumsticks and a set of Timpani Mallets!**



## The following materials are required for ALL YMS band students

- **Black three ring binder (provided-included in band fee)**
- **Pencil ((provided-included in band fee)**
- **Metronome and Tuner**
  - These devices are necessary for developing and maintaining musical skills both inside and outside of the classroom. There are a variety of affordable options available to fulfill this requirement.
  - Smartphone metronome apps are permitted. There are many free options available for both iPhone and Android. Tuner apps are not permitted. These apps are inaccurate and not efficient for quality tuning.
  - Tuners are available for purchase from the Director through Pecknel Music, at a local music store, or online at a variety of websites.
  - Tuner/Metronome combination devices are available for purchase from the previously mentioned locations and offer the best value.

## Required Textbooks

### 7th Grade

*Habits of a Successful Middle School Musician (included with Band Fee)*

*Standard of Excellence: Student Edition, Book 1 and Book 2 (provided by YMS)*

*Standard of Excellence: Theory and History Workbook, Book 1 and 2 (provided by YMS)*

### 8th Grade

*Habits of a Successful Middle School Musician (available for purchase, see attached order form)*

*Standard of Excellence: Student Edition, Book 2 and Book 3 (provided by YMS)*

*Standard of Excellence: Theory and History Workbook, Book 3 (provided by YMS)*

Please use the attached order form to order any missing supplies. **ALL REQUIRED MATERIALS MUST BE OBTAINED or ordered from Mr. Robinson BY September 4th, 2019. After this date, students' daily participation grade will be impacted.**

