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TWP VPA MISSION

To provide all students with opportunities to engage in a variety of aesthetic and academic experiences that encourage creativity, innovation and collaboration.

TWP VPA VISION

To empower all learners to engage in creative expression, critical thinking, and self-discovery in order to develop a lifelong advocacy and appreciation for the arts.

Department Website









Elementary Instrumental Music Staff

Mr. Casey Corigliano, K-12 Supervisor of Visual & Performing Arts

Band

Bells, Birches, Thomas Jefferson, Wedgwood & Whitman – <u>Ms. Forte</u> Hurffville – <u>Mr. Frangione</u>

Orchestra

Bells, Birches, Hurffville, Thomas Jefferson & Wedgwood – <u>Ms. Sebastiani</u> Whitman – <u>Mr. Frangione</u>

Overall Schedule





Washington Township Schools Elementary Instrumental Music Teacher Schedule 2023-2024

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| | School/Day | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Instrumental Music |
|---|--------------------------|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| | Bells | Ms. Sebastiani 4 th & 5 th Strings | Ms. Forte 5 th Band | • | | · | Teacher Email Directory |
| | Birches | | Ms. <u>Sebastiani</u> 4 th & 5 th Strings | | | Ms. Forte 5 th Band | |
| | Hurffville | Mr. Frangione 5 th Band (part-time) | Mr. Frangione 5 th Band (part-time) | | | Ms. <u>Sebastiani</u> 4 th & 5 th Strings | Ms. Sebastiani lsebastiani@wtps.org |
| | Thomas Jefferson | Ms. Forte 5 th Band | | | Ms. <u>Sebastiani</u> 4 th & 5 th Strings | | Ms. Forte mforte@wtps.org |
| • | Vedgwood | | | Ms. <u>Sebastiani</u> 4 th & 5 th Strings | Ms. Forte 5 th Band | | Mr. Frangione. jfrangione@wtps.org |
| | Whitman | | | Ms. Forte 5 th Band | Mr. Frangione 4 th & 5 th Strings (part-time) | Mr. Frangione 4 th & 5 th Strings (part-time) | |
| | Location Flex Day | | | Mr. Frangione (part-time) | | | |



<u>Typical Weekly Schedule</u>

- 30 minute lesson (by instrument group)
- 40 minute ensemble rehearsal (full group)
- Most lessons done on a rotating basis
- Check Schoology for Assignments



Instrument Rental Program

Music & Arts Mrs. Stacey Cafagna (rep visits our schools weekly)

Quality Instruments



The Washington Township Instrumental Music program is comprised of many active musical organizations. Every member makes a daily contribution to the overall music-making process. Our rehearsals and performances allow these student musicians to experience the world of music through their active participation.

As a performing member of the band or orchestra, an important tool in the improvement of your child's playing ability is his/her instrument. The instrument is the vehicle that brings the total musical experience to life. Though they may all look alike, rest assured that a good musical instrument can go a long way toward making the musical experience a positive one. As teachers, we have experienced how an inferior instrument can inhibit the progress of a student and potentially lead to a student dropping out of the instrumental music program.

We find that students who play a better-quality instrument often find playing to be easier, their sound to be better and band or orchestra class to be more enjoyable.

There are many quality instruments from which to choose. If you are interested in making an investment in your child's music education, please consider the rental or purchase of a quality musical instrument. Some brands that we recommend for band include: Bach, Selmer, Gemeinhardt and Yamaha. If you find other brands you like, please get in touch with someone you trust for advice. String students have a variety of makes and models to choose from as well. In addition, string students must use an appropriately sized instrument. Your school's string specialist will measure your child to ensure that they use an appropriately sized instrument. As he/she grows, larger sizes will be necessary. Rental programs typically allow you to trade up to larger sizes as your child grows, without additional cost.

If you choose to purchase an instrument from an individual or non-traditional music store, be sure to inquire about warranty, support and availability of loaner instruments in the event a repair is needed. For various reasons, including the availability of parts, some traditional music stores may not repair instruments purchased in non-traditional music stores. Purchasing an auction-type instrument whether new or used, can also be problematic. Some instruments may be in good shape however most instruments, especially older ones, require a visual and playing inspection to accurately ascertain their quality and playability. A used instrument frequently requires repair and set-up to make it playable. This can add significantly to the overall cost.

For more information, please contact your child's school band or string specialist, consult your child's private music instructor or visit one of the local music stores that provide quality instruments.

Thanks again for supporting your child's participation in band and orchestra. Music makes a difference!



Local Instrument Repair Locations

Old Towne Music
5101 Rt. 42, Turnersville
(Satellite location for M&A)

Coles Music
471 Main St., Sewell/Mantua



2023-2024 Concert Dates

Birches/Whitman – Monday, March 25, 2024

Hurffville/Wedgwood – Tuesday, March 26, 2024

Bells/TJ – Wednesday, March 27, 2024

All Concerts Begin at 7:00pm at the Republic Bank Performing Arts Center Washington Twp. High School

We will likely need to your child to arrive by 6:30pm

Assessment Process



- October: Pre-test on Rhythm
- January: Distribute music for assessment
- End of January: Performance
 Assessment for 1st progress report
- February: Post-test on Rhythm
- May: Distribute music for assessment
- End of May: Performance Assessment for 2nd Progress Report

No formal letter grades are issued

Setting up a home practice space



- Location in home where student can make noise
- Private from siblings/pets where possible
- Despite the sound, keep encouraging them – learning a new instrument is a process

What to expect from beginning students

Mr. Frangione

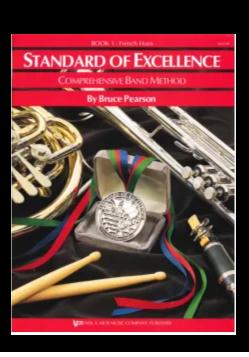


BAND "BASICS" OVERVIEW

Ms. Forte

BAND - PRACTICE & CLASS MATERIALS

- Comfy chair where feet can touch the ground
- 1 inch 3 ringed binder with 5 dividers
- Music Stand
- Standard of Excellence, Book 1
 - Flute
 - Clarinet
 - Saxophone
 - Trumpet
 - Trombone
 - Baritone
 - Percussion Kit



PRACTICING

- First three months vary from tasks to practicing for 15 minutes
- 20 minutes per day for 5 days a week is the goal
- 20-30 minutes of practice split up is still 20-30 minutes of practice
- Encourage, encourage, encourage
 - You will hear sounds you never thought were possible (patience)
 - Buy them a manuscript
 - Play with them (if you have your own instrument) participate
 - At home concerts
- Make the practice area inviting



GENERAL INSTRUMENT CARE

- Luggage tag, Key Chain, Tape with name to identify Instrument
- Keep instrument clean
- ❖Don't play right after eating or drinking sugary beverages
- Do not attempt to fix the instrument yourself
- Do not keep the instrument in extreme heat or cold.
- Be careful of sharing with younger siblings
- Make sure when they are done they put the instrument in a safe place, out of reach of pets and siblings



SPECIFIC INSTRUMENT CARE

- Clarinets and saxophones need to have a good working reed.
 - ❖ Nothing that has turned green
 - Incredibly Warped
 - ❖ Or Eaten by a Beaver
- Trumpets and Baritones need valve oil
- Trombones <u>slide oil</u> or grease





ORCHESTRA "BASICS" OVERVIEW

Ms. Sebastiani



Final Thoughts

Mr. Corigliano



- Missing one lesson is missing an entire week of school for instrumental music
- Missing 5 lessons before the concert is 20% of our time with the students
- Forgetting your instrument and/or music is like going to school without a laptop or a pen and paper (how can they participate?)
- *Attend all lessons, even without their instrument
- Students are responsible for work miss during lesson time

DECIDED ON STOPPING

- Please let inform the instrumental instructor your child has stopped lessons
- ❖ Via Letter, email, or phone call
- ❖ Be sure to discontinue your rental





Thank you for your attendance this evening!

Please feel free to meet with any of us afterwards