

## QUESTIONS? Email Noemi.Ruiz@okaloosaschools.com



## Q. How do I know what instrument I will play?

A. Students will be invited to try making sounds on the different instruments, and the band director will help each student make a final selection. This decision is based on student preference, initial aptitude, and the number of different instruments needed to get a full sound when the entire band plays together. We are usually able to accommodate each student's first or second choice. The goal is to try to put each student on an instrument where he/she will have success.

## Q. How do I obtain an instrument? Will I be able to afford it?

A. Most instruments are supplied by the student/parents. Area music stores offer a variety of affordable rental/purchase plans that will fit each family's budget. Most instruments can be rented for less than the cost of a daily soda. The band director will supply each family with helpful information in this area. Used instruments are also a possibility if they are high-quality. For your protection and peace of mind, the director should always be consulted before you buy an instrument. The school also owns a few instruments that are available for a yearly maintenance fee - Tubas, Euphoniums, French Horns,
Bassoons and Oboes. At no point do we want cost to be a barrier to participation. If you have financial concerns, you can always contact Mrs. Tenoré and we will find a solution.

## Q. Will band take up too much time?

A. During the first year, there is minimal after-school commitment besides individual practice and concerts. There will be three required performances during the school year, which will take place during the evening. Concert schedules and field trips are all planned prior to the first day of school, so you will have plenty of time to plan!

## Q. Can I be part of other school activities?

A. Yes! Band students are often among the most involved students on campus. Many students who make the honor roll at Shoal River are in the band, and we have band members involved in every activity and sport offered at our school. The Mustang Band is the LARGEST student organization on campus with an enrollment at over 250 in the 2022-2023 school year! While band members are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances, we work with coaches and sponsors at SRMS to coordinate activities. For future planning purposes, our band calendar is on the website, www.SRMSMustangBand.com/calendar
Q. Can I play a band instrument with braces?
A. We have many students who wear braces in the band playing almost every instrument. Sometimes there is a short period of adjustment when students first get braces, but after that, most students have no problems.

## Q. How do I sign up for band?

A. Students who want to be in band should mark a number 1 or 2 by Beginning Band on the registration form. We will ensure that students make it into the band if they request it. Plan to attend one of our Instrument Selection Events so that we may fit you for your instrument next year!
_1_ Beginning Band 1 (1302000)

# Shoal River Middle School Mustang Band 

## Dear Current and Future Shoal River Families,

## We would like to invite your student to join the Mustang Band!

This decision will set you on a journey of lifetime music-making! Band is a wonderful opportunity for students to make lifelong friends, perform and travel across the world, and possibly earn college scholarships. In the Mustang Band, one of our primary goals is to ready students for the next level of performance in the Big Red Machine at Crestview High School. Beginning Band is where it all steps off! If you are interested, your next step is to make plans to attend one of our instrument selection events:


Please plan to attend an instrument trial session so that your student may be fitted for their instrument and placed into the appropriate Beginning Band class. Students will have the chance to try every instrument offered in our program before final selection. The screening process should only take about 30 minutes, and you may come any time during the above listed hours. If you are unable to attend on any of the above days, please contact me at:

## Noemi.Ruiz@okaloosaschools.com

When your child enters the world of middle school, many doors open. Students will choose two elective classes as part of their daily schedules for next year. Besides being a fun new activity, band teaches many important life skills such as teamwork, individual responsibility, and goal setting. As we prepare for this new year at Shoal River Middle School, I welcome your student's participation in the Mustang Band!

Sincerely,

## Noemi Ruiz

Band Director
Shoal River Middle School

www.SRMSMustangBand.com

