

Beginning Band: You're done with year one! What's next?



Congratulations, band students! We are proud of you and your accomplishments over this past year. Next year, band at Redwood will be an exciting and even more fun, more challenging, and continuously worthwhile experience. To give you an idea of what to plan for, take note of the following highlights and schedule for 6th Grade Griffin Band:

Highlights:

- *Store your instrument in the music room during school and pick it up at the end of each day. No more carrying it around everywhere!*
- *No more daily set-up and tear-down of stands and chairs. We have our own music room!*
- *Three concerts (Winter, Pancake Breakfast, Spring) and two school assemblies over the year*

Schedule:

Griffin Band consists of morning full band class daily, and Sectional/Ensembles once a week in the afternoon in which we have students work in sections with a coach specialized on their instrument. Both are essential in helping us rehearse different aspects of our group and make great music at a high level of performance. Please be sure to set these times aside as you plan your student's schedules next school year!

- **Full band class (Griffin Band): A Period, Monday-Friday, 7:25-8:10**
- **Sectional/Ensembles: Wednesdays, 2:15-3:00** (*on SLCT day weeks, this class changes to Thursday from 1:15-2:00, with a 30 minute break for lunch from 12:45-1:15*)

Students interested in learning percussion may also sign up for our **Beginning/Intermediate Percussion Ensemble** class at the beginning of next year, which meets from 3:15-4:15 on Thursdays (2:00-2:45 on SLCT Thursdays).

Other performance opportunities to consider for your 6th grade year:

Choir: Being able to sing better directly affects your ability to play and perform more expressively! We meet on Tuesdays from 3:15-4:00, and Thursdays from 7:15-8:30 PM.

Color Guard & Dance: Like to dance and move? Color guard might be a great match for you! We travel and compete with the marching band in the Fall, and learn our own routine of our own in the Fall. Find more information on our website. We start rehearsing at the end of the summer! YES! – students can participate in both Griffin Band and color guard.

What about Jazz Band, Marching Band and all of those other cool things I've heard about?

Both marching band and jazz band start at 7th grade, when you have had one more year of fundamental instrumental instruction and foundation-building.

Marching Band is an expected part of the Fall curriculum of 7th & 8th grade Symphonic Band, which you will be in after your 6th grade year! You will receive information on this one year from now.

Jazz Band is a fantastic and fun addition to your music education and open to students beginning in the 7th grade. We need saxes, trumpets, trombones, pianists, string bassists, and percussionists!

We look forward to having you join our family of Griffin musicians for the 2012-2013 school year. Keep up the great work, keep practicing, and see you soon!

Questions?

Contact Mr. Jow at jjow@saratogausd.org,

or reference redwoodmusic.weebly.com

