

# Bonduel Bands

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope everyone is doing well. I am proud to share the Bonduel Bands are having a great year playing and performing. We are looking forward to our new “recruits” for 2024-25. Students have the option to start band this summer or next fall. Summer lessons are encouraged because we have made great strides with the summer lesson success rate. Summer lessons will begin the week of June 10, 2024, and run through the week July 8, 2024. If your child is scheduled for summer school, I can pull them from a class for lessons. If your child is not in summer school, you are welcome to set a lesson via email and bring your child into school.

Please complete the attached form, I look forward to the next generation of the Bonduel Bands! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time.

Musically yours,  
Tim J. Treptow

## **Beginner Band at the Bonduel Schools Explained**

The School District of Bonduel offers beginning band starting at fifth grade. In our School District, band is offered to our students as part of our curriculum and school day. Each student receives a weekly group lesson and some band experience.

Everyone has the potential to play a musical instrument; however, it will take varying effort based upon the individual and practice. Each student needs to practice regularly, 15 minutes each day is a great, however, any amount is a start. Also, it is very important that the students have parental support and encouragement. There will be times when your child may need a push in the right direction to keep them on track. Band is a wonderful experience in a team program in which everyone participates.

Band teaches our students many valuable concepts, such as, responsibility, discipline, abstract thought, spatial reasoning, love and understanding of music, an understanding of other cultures, creativity, expression of feelings and emotions, etc.

### **Some frequently asked questions about band.**

1. How much will it cost? Music stores have rent and rent to own programs; you can borrow instruments from family members or rent from the school. There are options. Please do not let money make the decision. I will do everything in my power to allow access for your child.
2. Which instrument is the easiest to learn? They are all easy, if you want to learn and practice, each child is different.
3. Do you have to stay on the same instrument once you start? We can change instruments if we see the need. Sometimes the first choice is not always the best choice. However, we cannot switch repetitively. We need to spend time on an instrument to truly get comfortable.
4. Will it be noisy or even hard to listen to? Yes, it may. Please be supportive and encouraging. It will get better. Help your student find a regular time and place to practice. This will insure improvement.
5. Will I be able to be in sports and band? Yes, trust me. We work it out.
6. We cannot decide which instrument is right for our child. I will help decide if necessary.

### **The Band is made up of several instrument families:**

1. Woodwinds = Most of this family of instruments uses a reed/s to create sound. The reed vibrates from the air that we blow across it. They also use keys to change pitch (notes).
  - Oboe
  - Flute
  - Clarinet
  - Bass Clarinet
  - Bassoon
  - Alto Sax
  - Tenor Sax
  - Baritone Sax

2. Brass = This family of instruments uses a mouthpiece and our lips to create sound. Our lips vibrate or buzz into the mouthpiece and these instruments use valves or slides to change pitches (notes).
  - Trumpet/Cornet
  - French Horn
  - Trombone
  - Baritone/Euphonium
  - Tuba
3. Percussion = This family of instruments is struck, shaken, or even scraped to produce sound.
  - Snare Drum
  - Bells
  - Cymbals
  - Bass Drum
  - Xylophone
  - Maracas
  - Timpani
  - Marimba
  - Etcetera

**A well-rounded band consists of:**

Oboe*	(1)
Flute	6
Clarinet	6
Bass Clarinet*	1
Bassoon*	(1)
Alto Sax	2
Tenor Sax*	1
Baritone Sax*	(1)
Trumpet	6
French Horn*	2
Trombone	4
Baritone*	1
Tuba*	1
Percussion	2

( ) = Student should begin on another instrument first.

\* = School owned instruments can be rented from the school district for a yearly minimal fee. This is also dependent on availability.

ALL other instruments need to be:

1. borrowed from a friend or family member.
2. or rented/purchased from a reputable music store. If the price is too good to be true, it probably is not a good instrument. **Many chain discount stores and online companies are offering cheap poor-quality instruments DO NOT buy them.** I have included a list of

recommended brands in the Beginning Band information. Please ask for help. I will also be available for questions via email. Any instrument that is purchased from a reputable music store will have been professionally cleaned as always. If a choice is available, I prefer Yamaha instruments for my students, however, there are other good instrument companies, please just ask. Also, deals can be found on used instruments. I will help any way that I can.

Instrumental Music Company = IMC

2908 Ontario Rd.

Green Bay, WI 54311

Phone: 1-866-813-2263

Web Site: <http://musicimc.com>

[sales@musicimc.com](mailto:sales@musicimc.com)

\*IMC's sales representative comes to Bonduel on a weekly basis. Highly recommended Rental fees are all inclusive. They will rent a refurbished/used instrument for an overall lower price.

HEID Music Co.

308 E. College Avenue

Appleton, WI 54911

Phone: 1-800-236-4343

Web Site: <http://heidmusic.com>

\*Good company. Equipment must be shipped or picked up. Please read rental fees carefully.

TAYLOR Music, INC.

513 S. Main Street

Aberdeen, SD 57401

Phone: 1-800-872-2263

Web Site: <http://www.1800usaband.com>

\*Good company. Rental fees are all inclusive. Equipment does have to be shipped; however, Taylor deals in refurbished/used instruments at a lower rental amount.

The BES students will have been exposed to most of the instruments of the band through performances by the BHS Band. This year we will have the opportunity to "tryout" the instruments during the school day. Hopefully, your future musicians will be able to select several instruments of interest through these opportunities. Also, I have included a video presentation by The United States Army Field Band: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CCTeSjpDsls> Remember several choices are needed because we are striving for a well-rounded band.

If you have rented your instrument from a music store, they will provide a bottle of valve oil and/or a few reeds. My suggestion is that students purchase a box of reeds before summer lessons (IMC has an online ordering system). A box of reeds should last until the winter season. As beginners we use Rico reeds at 2 ½ strength. The music store, IMC visits our school during the school year regularly for your convenience. At no time are you obligated to patronize IMC. You have your choice of music stores, however, please check prices and quality of merchandise (i.e., cheap reeds through an online store). I have an online lesson book and I will print a copy for each student.

## Band sign up – Quick version

1. Choose Instrument
2. Fill out band form: <https://forms.office.com/r/1Du25wXsxV>
3. Acquire Instrument
  1. Rent; [Rentals - Instrumental Music Company \(musicimc.com\)](https://www.musicimc.com)
  2. Purchase from a reputable source (ask for help or bring it to Mr. Treptow for inspection)
  3. Borrow from a friend or family source (bring it to Mr. Treptow for inspection)
  4. School rental – Bass Clarinet, Tenor Sax, French Horn, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba (contact for availability)
4. Start time.

Summer = during summer school or individual scheduled lesson or via TEAMS  
Fall = during the school day music classes

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

Mr. T

Director of Bands

School District of Bonduel

P.O. Box 310

400 West Green Bay Street

Bonduel, WI 54107

(715) 758-4850 ext.521 band office

[trepttim@bonduel.k12.wi.us](mailto:trepttim@bonduel.k12.wi.us)

Band Director for Bonduel High School and Middle School, and St. Paul Lutheran School