

JOIN THE BAND!

Band signups for 6th grade are occurring! Be sure to join our outstanding band program. Our students experience many exciting opportunities!



C O N T A C T

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SDMS 6TH GRADE BAND ENROLLMENT 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

6th grade is your chance to join the band! Rising 6th grade students will not want to miss out on this FUN opportunity! The band has traditionally been the largest, most enjoyable, and most rewarding organizations found in middle and high school. We want you to be a part of rebuilding our band post-COVID!

Join the SDB in four easy steps!

Step 1: Complete the Google Band Enrollment Form found on our website. Be sure to read to back of this information to see the instruments we offer to beginners. Chose the ones that interests your student the most! *Note: band is a yearlong course.*

To enroll, you and your student will need to complete our Google Enrollment Form found at the website below:

<http://southdavieband.weebly.com/beginning-band-information.html>

Step 2: To test out your instrument, signup for a time slot during one of our sign-up nights! Our sign-up night determines which instrument best fits your student by letting students try out their instrument choices. This will be done by 15 minute appointments (12 spots per event) in the SDMS cafeteria. Appointment signup link is located at the website above.

Dates/Times Offered:

Tuesday, April 20th, 4 PM – 7 PM

Thursday, April 22nd, 4 PM – 7 PM

Tuesday, April 27th, 4 PM – 7 PM

Thursday, April 29th, 4 PM – 7 PM

Step 3: Attend your scheduled appointment! COVID precautions taken and each student is able to do a mouthpiece test on sanitized supplies used only by that student.

Step 4: Finalize your choice with Mr. McCrary and get further information.

Congrats! You're now part of the South Davie Band!
That's all it takes to get signed up for band; it's that easy!

Just a Few More Details!

Your time is valuable so we hope to make the process quick and efficient for students and parents!

If you cannot attend, parents should contact Mr. McCrary. Those that have indicated a Yes or Maybe on the registration cards but do not come to a signup event will be enrolled in band. We will use the choices selected to assign an instrument and communicate to them.

Note: In order to have balanced band instrumentation, some instrument choices are limited. First come, first selected.

As a reminder, please **DO NOT** purchase an instrument until students have participated in our instrument sign-up night and/or have spoken with Mr. McCrary.

If your student is not sure about doing band, simply contact us to meet and speak! We would love to talk and for them to at least try out the instruments.

Questions? Contact Mr. McCrary at the email found on the front of this letter.

What are my instrument choices?

Here at South, we start students on:

Flute



Clarinet



Trumpet



Trombone



Percussion

We start percussion students on mallet percussion. Students learn all of the percussion instruments – not just “drums.” Requires 2 positive teacher recommendations before placement confirmed. Piano experience preferable for these students but not required.

We do have other instruments! Mid-year, we will switch interested students to oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, alto/tenor/bari sax, horn, baritone, and tuba.

Beginning Band Questions and Myths Solved – BE SURE TO READ THESE!

Who is in the band at South Davie?

The band is the largest organization in the school with over 30% of the school participating. We usually have anywhere between 60-80 6th grade band students. Also, since band meets during the school day, we have a large number of students that also participate in athletics, which occur after school.

Is band for my child?

Band is for any and all students that have a desire to be successful. Those that want to learn will be taught and they will thrive! While band does not work for everyone, most students will become far more successful than parents initially thought possible. Some students may think the class is hard; however, if your child behaves well for their classroom teacher, works hard and gives effort, pays attention, and wants to part of a successful organization, then band is for your child.

What all does the band offer my child?

Our 8th grade band has done an overnight trip to Busch Gardens-Williamsburg, Atlanta, GA, and Dollywood. They also participate in 8th grade band night at Davie County High School!

We take students to Carowinds and have students participating in many honor band opportunities such as All-County Band, All-District Band, Music Performance Assessment (MPA), and jazz band events. This means time off campus and eating out! We also have two to three concerts yearly!

Most importantly, we have **FUN and make MUSIC!**

I don't know how to play an instrument. Should I join?

99% of all beginners have never played a wind or percussion instrument in their lifetime. We start from the beginning, and will teach you everything you need to know! By joining band now, you will be able to be in high school band and beyond. In the middle school band, we do lots of things.

I'm only going into the 6th grade. Am I too young for band?

The earlier you start, the easier it is to learn and progress on the instrument. Don't forget: 6th grade is the ONLY time that a student will be eligible to join band!

There are many things I want to be a part of in middle school. How can I be in band and all those other activities?

Band kids are involved kids; we encourage our students to do a variety of activities. We have many students who are involved in sports. Being well rounded and experiencing many different activities is part of the middle school experience. We will work with folks the best we can if conflicts arise.

At South Davie, all band students will have band, PE, and other encores that rotate quarterly (Chorus, Art, Drama, Life Skills, Technology and Design, Keyboarding, Health). Band is the only class you are able to choose to take in 6th grade. Those student that do not take band simply will rotate through the electives as seats are available.

We don't have the money/band costs too much.

Under no circumstances should you let the thoughts of the cost of an instrument turn you or your student away! If money is an issue and students want to do this, we WILL find a way to make it work!

I play sports so I can't do band.

Sure you can! Middle school band meets during the day and doesn't conflict with after-school athletic practices or games. We also try to schedule events so that there are few conflicts. A large number of current and past students are involved with athletics and various other organizations, so it is definitely possible to be in the band!

What about after school practice?

Middle school band meets during the day so there are few after school requirements; however, students are encouraged to stay after school to practice and to get additional help.