

Centerburg Elementary 5th Grade Band

Welcome to the informational meeting for the 2025-2026 Centerburg 5th Grade Band. I would like to thank you for taking the time to join us this evening. We are working to make sure that your experience with our band program is the best it can be.

Our band rehearsal schedule will be during the regular school day with time set aside for sectional rehearsal as well as full band rehearsal. The schedule will look something like this:

Monday - Thursday	11:25-12:10	Sectional Time
Friday	11:25-12:10	Full Band

During sectional time, students will be given specific instruction on their particular instrument. Each instrument presents different challenges and has different techniques for making the proper sounds. We will use our sectional time to discuss and practice these techniques so we can better prepare for our full band rehearsal.

During full band rehearsal, we will work on playing together as a group. Playing as an individual or even as a group of like instruments will have a different feel and sound than playing as an ensemble. This rehearsal time will help us polish our sounds and learn to cooperate with other players in our group.

5th Grade Band will begin the week of September 15th. Please have your instrument, band book, and supplies ready to go by the first day of rehearsal. If you are renting from Pellegrino, the instrument will be delivered to the school by their first band practice. The beginning days for instruments/sectional time will be as follows:

Monday	-	Flutes
Tuesday	-	Clarinets /Alto Sax
Wednesday	-	Trumpets
Thursday	-	Percussion
Friday	-	Trombone

(This may change according to group size)

Full Band Friday: This will start the week of November 3rd. The Trombones and Baritones will join the Trumpets on their sectional day (Wednesday).

Please encourage your student to practice their instrument at home. At the beginning students should be practicing 5 - 10 minutes a day for 4 - 5 days a week. As the year goes on they will need to practice more often. During the first couple of months you may hear some sounds that are going to be hard to listen to. It is important to encourage your student to keep playing and practicing so that these sounds will become a better quality musical sound that will be easier on the ears. Practicing new techniques learned during sectional time is the only way that students will see their skills and talent grow.

Instruments Used in 5th Grade Band

In 5th Grade Band we use a select few instruments.

Woodwind Instruments

- Flute
- Clarinet
- Alto Saxophone

Limited number

Brass Instruments

- Trumpet
- Trombone

Percussion Instruments

- Bell/Snare Kit

Limited number

These instruments are used all through the band experience at Centerburg from 5th Grade all the way to High School Band. **PIANO, GUITAR, and BASS are not used in 5th Grade Band.** Our band program is set up to practice being a concert band and to prepare for concerts.

If you already own an instrument, please have it checked out by a professional to make sure it is in working order. Pellegrino Music will be available to check your instrument and give you an estimate of how much it will cost to repair, if a repair is needed.

If you need to get an instrument, please make sure to get a name brand instrument. Name brand instruments include:

Gemeinhardt, Yamaha, Selmer, Buffet, Bach, Getzen, King, Vic Firth, Ludwig, and any other instrument sold by a MUSIC STORE!

***It is important to get an instrument from a music store that will fix your instrument on site and not ship it off to another state for repair. Instruments purchased at Sam's Club, Target, Wal-Mart, Amazon, etc. cannot be repaired by a local music store and in most cases cannot be fixed at all. You will have to purchase another instrument if the one you have from them breaks.**

You will also need to have supplies for your instrument and a beginning band book. We will be using **Habits Of A Successful Beginner Band Musician** this year. Each book is specific for each instrument. Pellegrino Music offers all of the necessary supplies and instruments needed for our band program. They will also deliver the instrument and supplies here to the school so you never need to make a special trip to get an instrument.

Responsibility

Each band student must understand that being a member of a band is a great responsibility. Being present at each practice with the correct materials will help the students learn quickly the ins and outs of their instrument. Each practice missed because of a forgotten instrument will slow the students' progress. If a student forgets their instrument, they are still required to attend their sectional and full band time. After the third missed practice, the student will lose their recess time that day. If a student continues to forget his or her instrument, a phone call will be made to their parents to discuss the student's participation in the band program.

Band students must also fit their at home practice and homework routines together. Practicing is like homework for a band member, it deserves its own time just like the other subjects. If there is a problem with a student falling behind in his or her school work, an arrangement will be made with the classroom teacher, parent and myself to deal with the problem.

Band students should remember that they made a commitment when they joined the band and that they must see it through until the end of the year.

It takes AT LEAST A YEAR to gain the skills needed to perform proficiently on any instrument.

Practice Log

If you do not hear your student practicing... they are not practicing!!
If you do not see your child's musical instrument at home at least every other day... they are not practicing!!! I will have practice sheets for each student to keep track of their practice. They can also earn prizes and candy if they turn in a signed practice log.

Centerburg Elementary 5th Grade Band Permission & Sign-up Sheet

I _____ (student name) wish to be a part of the 5th grade band program at Centerburg Elementary School. By signing below I agree to follow directions given, take care of my instrument and others, keep up with my regular classroom work and homework, and PRACTICE PRACTICE my instrument and any music assigned.

The three instruments that I would like to try are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Instruments used in 5th grade band include Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Bell/Snare Kit.

I understand that I will need my instrument, my instrument supplies, and my music book, Habits Of A Successful Beginning Band Musician by the week of September 15, 2025.

Student Signature: _____

I _____ (Parent/Guardian name) as the parent/guardian give my permission for my student to join the 5th grade band program. I will encourage their good practice habits, will help keep them responsible for the care of their instruments, and will promote their continued growth in the music program at Centerburg Elementary.

Parent Signature: _____

BRING THIS SHEET TO YOUR BAND INSTRUMENT FITTING!

Centerburg Elementary Music
Anne Teschler anne.teschler@centerburgschools.org