



Autrey Mill Middle School Band

Autumn Smith, *Director of Bands*

Operations Fee/ Uniforms/Clinics/Book/more...

August 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the Autrey Mill Middle School Band program. The purpose of this letter is to outline various band needs/operations within our program that have expenses associated with them. Below you will find a description of each item. These items will cover the majority of the fees for the school year, so money is not being collected at each event unless it is beyond the descriptions below. **Please see the descriptions below and submit your payment through OSP (Online School Payments). All OSP links are provided on the AMMS Band website under the 'Band Online Payments' Tab. (ammsband.org)** All items listed MUST be paid by credit card through the online payment system.

When filling out the student information sheet you will enter your receipt number that you receive when you pay online.

Due:

Please submit the online Student Information Form and OSP payments (Operations, Instrument/Percussion Rental Fees) by Friday, August 18, 2023

Thank you for your support!

Autumn Smith

BAND OPERATIONS FEE:

Applicable to ALL *6th /7th / 8th Grades
(NEW & RETURNING students)

We have a very active and successful band program and have been fortunate to provide our students with opportunities and experiences that extend beyond their daily classroom instruction. As you may know, we do not fundraise at AMMS to generate extra funds for general classroom activities that are an extension of our daily classroom activities. In an effort to continue these and to provide further opportunities and instruction to the students we have an **operations fee of \$100.00**. This will not nearly cover all the needs of the program, but it will greatly help. This one fee is in lieu of collecting fees throughout the year for various activities.

Note: For returning students that already have uniforms, the operations fee goes more towards clinicians and events throughout the year.

This fee will pay for:

- **Clinicians and Specialty Instructors for the 7th/8th Gr. LGPE Band Clinic & 6th Grade Start-Up Clinic** - One element of a comprehensive music education experience is giving the students opportunities to work with renowned conductors, musicians, and performers. This contribution will help to offset the cost of bringing in such esteemed musicians.
- **Instrument specialists** – Small group instruction periodically throughout the year, start-up days, and instrument testing.
- **LGPE Fees** – Entry fees for group participation in LGPE. Fees can range from \$170 - \$195 per ensemble.
- **Music, Method Resources, and Specialty Ensemble Music (individuals and small groups)**-The cost of one band piece is between \$50 and \$100 (Some advanced pieces are even more expensive). This contribution will allow us to continue building a music library that meets the educational needs of the students.

- **Uniforms** There are 2 uniform shirts needed for ALL students. - Our first concert will be right around the corner before we know it. As well as entertaining our audience and playing to the best of our ability, we also want to look great. Our performance attire will help us to do just that.

FORMAL POLO:

The formal polo shirt uniform is both classic and formal which includes black pants and a white polo shirt. A black and white uniform will present a clean appearance and provide more uniformity within the group.



The entire formal band uniform consists of a white polo shirt with an embroidered logo, black pants, black socks, black belt, and black shoes. The band shirt should be able to be tucked in for performances.

Uniform pants may be purchased through a store of your choice. They should be black in color. Pants should not have excessive pockets, designs, or be cropped in length. Pants should be dress pants or slacks. Black jeans, leggings, and/or skirts are not appropriate for the formal uniform. Shoes may include dress shoes, boots, or sandals. Tennis shoes and flip flops are not appropriate.

CASUAL PEACE-LOVE-MUSIC:

The casual uniform is our music department peace-love-music t-shirt. We will use this for more informal concerts during the year, spirit wear days, trips, school performances, etc. The t-shirt will be worn with jeans.



Other optional band spirit wear may be available at a later time.

Please make your uniform purchase now. You don't want to be running around at the last minute trying to find pants or shoes. The uniform shirts will be ordered through the school. Orders should arrive during the month of October.

PARENTS: It is extremely important for your child to have the proper uniform. JEANS, SHORTS and TENNIS SHOES are not acceptable formal performance attire. Students may be asked not to participate if dressed inappropriately. I appreciate your help with this. Blue jeans with the Peace-Love-Music t-shirt will be used for casual performances, spirit days, and trips.

Parents – If you would like to order additional uniform polos or t-shirts for yourself or family members, you are welcome to do so.

- **Method Books & Binder System**

Each grade level has a different method book they will use for warm-ups, etudes, technique exercises, and rhythm exercises etc. that are appropriate for their level of instruction. These books will also be supplemented with other books and exercises in class. To assist with obtaining these method books, I will place a school order so we can receive them all at the same time and for your convenience. Below are the titles for the method books for each grade level. Students will also have a black 3 ring binder, dividers, and 3 sheet protectors to start their binder system.

6th grade Band: *Habits of a Successful Beginning Band Musician (Rush and Moon)*

7th grade Band: *Habits of a Successful Middle School Musician (Rush and Moon)*

8th grade Band: *Habits of a Successful Middle School Musician (Rush and Moon)*

- **Breezin' Thru Theory**

Students will receive access to our online music theory program/games to learn and reinforce basic music concepts. Students can revisit lessons and tutorials to better understand at their own pace. All exercises can be repeated an unlimited number of times and demonstrate mastery of concepts.

.....and MORE!!!!