



THE INSTRUMENTS OF THE BAND

You can hear individual excerpts of each instrument listed above on the Schimelpfenig Band website! www.smsband.org

Click: **Future Band Members** then **Instrument Example Recordings**

Woodwind Instruments



Flute

The flute is the highest sounding instrument in the band. It is played by blowing air across a tone hole and pressing down the keys to produce different notes. Its clear tone makes the flute equally important in the concert band and full orchestra. Students may have the opportunity to play piccolo in the 7th or 8th grade.



Clarinet

The clarinet is a single reed instrument that is played by using a mouthpiece and reed combination and pressing down keys to produce different notes. Clarinets are made of wood or hard rubber and produce a beautiful and versatile sound. Students may have the opportunity to play bass clarinet starting in the 7th grade.



Oboe

The oboe is one of the most distinctive and colorful instruments in the band. It is a double reed instrument, which means that sound is produced on the oboe by blowing into a joined set of two reeds. Oboe players are generally confident and independent students.



Bassoon

The bassoon is also a double-reed instrument like the oboe, but it has a resonant deeper bass voice. Bassoon players are generally confident and independent students. The tone of the bassoon balances well with the low brass and woodwinds in band and the cello and basses in the full orchestra.



Saxophone

The saxophone is played similarly to the clarinet with a single reed attached to a mouthpiece creating the saxophone's sound, but the body is made of metal. The saxophone is popular in concert band and jazz band. This class is very popular and has a limited numbers of slots, but all interested students will have the opportunity to try it for consideration.

Brass Instruments



Trumpet

The trumpet can produce the highest sound in the brass family. Its brilliant tone is produced when the player vibrates his or her lips into the trumpet mouthpiece. The trumpet is a versatile instrument and is also an important instrument in jazz band and full orchestra.



French Horn

The French horn is one of the most versatile instruments in the brass family. Its mellow sound is produced in the same manner as the trumpet's sound. The horn has a wide range and can play both very high and very low notes. It mixes well with both the brass and woodwind sections and is very important in band and full orchestra.



Trombone

The trombone can be recognized by its long slide, which is moved to various positions to create different notes. The trombone is played with a medium sized mouthpiece that suits players with many different physical characteristics. This versatile instrument is also used in full orchestra and jazz band.



Euphonium

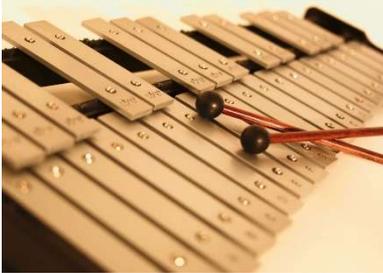
The euphonium is often recognized as the instrument that looks like a mini tuba. It uses the same mouthpiece as the trombone and is also suited to players with many different physical characteristics. The euphonium has a distinct dark and mellow sound.



Tuba

The tuba is the lowest sounding instrument in the brass family. It produces a rich, deep, low sound, making it one of the most important instruments in the band. The tuba is played with a larger mouthpiece than the other brass instruments. Tuba players get to march with the Sousaphone in marching band.

Percussion



Percussion in beginning band focuses on mallet percussion and concert snare drum technique. We also familiarize ourselves with the timpani and all accessory percussion instruments (crash cymbals, tambourine, tom-toms, triangle and many more). Drum set is not a part of the beginning band curriculum. This class also has a limited size, but all interested students will have the opportunity to try it with a percussion specialist for consideration.



**SCHIMELPFENIG
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