

# Fulton Middle School Music - Mr. Katz

## Frequently Asked Questions

*What classes can I sign up for?*

For 6th grade, there is the option to play in Band or String Orchestra. Some 7th graders and all 8th graders who sign up for music will be in Symphonic Orchestra, which is winds (band instruments) and strings (orchestra instruments) together.

*The class meets before school, right?*

No. Music classes are now being incorporated into the regular school day as elective classes during 4th, 5th, and 6th period. The time of each class has not been determined.

*What instruments can I play?*

Beginning band students will start on flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, or percussion. Beginning string students will start on violin, viola, cello, or bass. Advanced students have a few more options. If you don't play one of the instruments listed you can still be included in our ensembles!

*What if I want to play drums?*

Percussion auditions for beginning band will be held when school begins. Due to the popularity, exceptional grades are required. Also, because of the keyboard instruments (such as xylophone, marimba, bells, and vibraphone) a piano background is important.

*Do I need to purchase an instrument right away?*

No. I will guide you through the process of selecting an appropriate instrument. Depending on the instrument, some students will be matched to instruments that are school owned while others will be renting instruments from local music stores. I will be more than happy to assist you in finding a quality instrument.

*What if I can't afford an instrument?*

I will help you find an instrument. If you want to be in band, we will find a way for you to participate! We have instruments available to use through our school.

*What if I don't know how to read music?*

That's OK! We start at the beginning level and teach you everything you need to know!

*What if I am not sure if I am qualified for advanced symphony or beginning strings/band?*

All 8<sup>th</sup> graders who have an interest in instrumental music are automatically in advanced symphony. All 6<sup>th</sup> graders are placed in a beginning class automatically (based on their instrument—band or strings). 7<sup>th</sup> graders are the ones with this dilemma, since they can be in either. If you have at least two years of experience, we want you in advanced symphony. All other 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be in beginning classes.