



Dear Parents,

Just a few reminders:

♪ Band begins Monday, October 16 and classes will take place in the band room during normal school hours. On assigned days, it's important that you help your child remember to bring their instrument to school. Place it with their backpack the evening before.

♪ For those parents renting: instruments will be delivered to school and Mr. Taylor will see that they go to the correct student. ***Please do not delay*** on setting up rental details, as it may take 7-10 days for your instrument to be received at school.

♪ If you plan to use an older instrument, please make an investment to have it sent in to the shop and repaired to play in "like-new" condition. Most times for between \$50-150, Rettig will free up any stuck slides, use a special chemical cleaner on the inside and out, repair dings and dents, replace leaky woodwind pads, replace worn corks, prevent air leaks, straighten rods, and a whole lot more. The music store will call you with an estimate before any work is done.

♪ **Parents, your homework:** ensure your child practices 3 or more times a week. A little support from you goes a long way. Learning to perform music is a totally new skill set for most 5<sup>th</sup> graders. It involves processing information and translating that info into coordinated movements, all while thinking mathematically and practicing reading skills. The skill set is more like sports than generic learning of facts and figures.

♪ Please encourage your student to utilize Smart Music on their chromebook. **SmartMusic will help your son or daughter have a more enjoyable band experience.** Suggestion: set a routine time each night, ex. 7:00-7:20pm, and dedicate that small amount each evening to skill development.

♪ We will be using the book, "Sound Innovations" with this year's students.

♪ We have many students that take private lessons with area instructors. Every week or alternating week for 30 minutes is extremely beneficial to developing excellent musicians and well-rounded students. They gain more from the experience, and this feeling of accomplishment strengthens self-worth, attitudes, grades, and a brighter outlook on life! Well worth the investment. Contact Mr. Taylor for recommendations.

**Thank you for encouraging your child's interest in music, and  
welcome to the Band family!**

# *SmartMusic Info*

SmartMusic is a cloud-based computer program that allows students to practice in a fun way. Students can record themselves and SmartMusic will immediately show correct and incorrect notes and rhythms; they can also speed up or slow down music selections, hear individual notes, check fingerings, and more!

Access to SmartMusic requires an annual subscription, but we are lucky at Newton to have the district support so the cost to Newton parents is FREE! *Accounts will be activated on October 23.*

***Each student has been set up with an account using:***

**Login:** firstnamelastname

**Password:** Newtonband

Using a computer or tablet, just go to [SmartMusic.com](http://SmartMusic.com) and click Login.

Additionally, an app can be downloaded to iPad and some Android tablets, search for “New SmartMusic.”

## 5th Grade Beginning Band Materials List

### Book Information:

We are currently using *Sound Innovations for Concert Band: Book 1* for students in beginning band. Students can purchase this book through Amazon, Rettigmusic.com, or send in \$11 (*cash or checks made out to Newton Music Boosters*) to order it through our Music Booster organization. This book will be used for both 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Special Note:** ALL ORDERING CAN BE DONE ON RETTIGMUSIC.COM THROUGH THE SHOP-BY-SCHOOL FUNCTION. If you need something that is not on the webpage, please let me know and I can order it for you or you can contact Rettig Music directly. All supply payments should be made payable to Rettig Music. Free shipping if you use this option.

### **Instrument required resources:**

**Flute:** H.W. Pad Saver and polishing cloth

**Clarinet:** 1 box of 10 reeds: Daddario Reserve (white and blue box) strength 2½, silk cleaning swab, cork grease, “Rovner” ligature

**Saxophone:** 1 box of 10 reeds: Daddario Reserve (white and green box) strength 2½, “Rovner” ligature, cleaning swab or H.W. Pad Saver (*recommended*), cork grease, neck strap

**Trumpet:** valve oil, tuning slide grease, mouthpiece brush, instrument polishing cloth

**Trombone:** slide cream, travel/pocket-size water sprayer, mouthpiece brush, tuning slide grease, instrument polishing cloth

\*\*A folding stand for home practice is recommended, but optional\*\*

## How to Rent an Instrument Online

Go to [Rettigmusic.com](http://Rettigmusic.com) and click "Rent to Own"

Click "Band"

**Get Started**

- Your first 3 months for one low price
- Director approved instruments
- Service & Maintenance and delivery included with your trial

**Rent it**

- The right price for you – choose from our selection of new, previously-rented, or used instruments
- 100% of your rental money applies toward the purchase
- Rent as long as you'd like - return anytime

**Own it**

- Purchase at the end of your trial and save up to 40%
- Pay your balance any time you are on the RTO program and receive discounts up to 30%

Click below to choose which program your student will be joining:

**BAND**    **ORCHESTRA**

Select "Newton" as the district and school

**Choose Your School**

Your director has specific requirements.

In order for us to be sure we give you the correct information and best possible service...

District:

School:

**Next**

Click the chosen instrument

**Instrument Selection**

Please choose the instrument your student would like to play.

Flute

Clarinet

Alto Saxophone

Trumpet

Trombone

Accessories & book options:

**Accessories You Will Need**

In addition to your instrument, your director *requires* you to purchase the following items:

Select	Accessory	Price
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sound Innovations Method Book	\$11.99
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reserve Clarinet Reeds #2.5 - 10	\$28.17
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rovner Ligature	\$33.90

There are also items that your director recommends you to purchase:

Select	Accessory	Price
<input type="checkbox"/>	Care Kit - Clarinet	\$9.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Music Stand	\$12.95

Based on your current selections, your total for today is below:

Accessory Total: \$74.06

After clicking **NEXT**, finalize payment options on the following pages. Your instrument will be delivered for free to Newton (and picked up as well should any future maintenance be needed) and Mr. Taylor will hand out and instruct in proper care and assembly.