

Try the Instrument Selection Night – Frequently Asked Questions

1. Instruments that are available to play in the 6th grade are: Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Cornet (Trumpet), French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Percussion
2. Sign up for a day/time that your child can try a couple of the instruments that they may be interested in. It's a fun process for the students AND parents!
3. If your child is unsure about what instrument they would like to play, we can give them ideas and help guide them to the instrument they are best physically suited for. You can also visit the band website at www.mckamyband.com to listen to recordings of each instrument and read a lot of information regarding band in the "Future Members" section.
4. You will sign up on Sign-Up Genius for an Appointment. You can do this NOW on www.mckamyband.com or we can help you at the evening 5th grade Parent Meeting at McKamy on Tuesday, January 22. It will also send you a reminder email about your night.
5. We will have you fill out a *Student Information Sheet* when you come to your appointment. This will help the directors know more about your child and place them more accurately on an instrument for them to succeed.
5. Please be sure to let us know ahead of time if your child is sick the night they are scheduled to come.
7. The Instrument Selection Nights will be in the McKamy Band Hall. The McKamy Band Directors are Russell Cote and Jessica Dolphin. We will be visiting kids on a 1st come-1st serve basis. Please plan on arriving during your scheduled 15 minute slot; however, sometimes we get a little behind. Please be patient.
3. This process should last about 15 minutes once a director calls for your child. During that time, we will let your child try the different instruments. We will be determining which instrument your child is best suited for physically. They will leave knowing their instrument possibilities and what they will play in band next year!
9. Students will receive 2 Electives in 6th grade! Students can do Band AND Choir. Band AND Theatre. Band AND Art. If a student has played and Orchestral instrument prior to 6th grade, they can be in both Band and Orchestra. **Band works with all McKamy activities** – At least 75% of our band students are in SPORTS (club/select) & ATHLETICS (McKamy Teams) in 7th and 8th grade.
10. **PERCUSSION**: **Those interested in Percussion must come on the Tuesday, February 26th Selection Night.** The percussion class is chosen by Mr. Darrin Hicks (Flower Mound HS Percussion Director). Percussion class is a very popular choice among students, and careful screening must be done in choosing this small class. Every student interested in Percussion will also try a few woodwind and brass instruments.
11. **SAXOPHONE**: The saxophone, like percussion, is a very popular choice among students. This class is limited to 12 students due to the size of the classroom and our efforts to balance instrumentation. Students interested in Saxophone must have a back-up instrument choice. Students will be contacted in May.
12. If you already own an instrument that your child is interested in playing, please bring it with you to the appointment so we may look it over. We want to make sure the equipment is acceptable and will not hinder their progress. *Be prepared to purchase additional, up to date equipment.*
13. Now that I've chosen an instrument, what next? School-Owned Instruments are Oboe, Bassoon, French Horn, Euphonium, Tuba. All other instruments are rented through a music store. You may secure an instrument and/or supplies at our BAND INSTRUMENT DRIVE @ McKamy MS! **Date in May to be Announced.** MUSIC & ARTS will be here with special deals!