



## Greater Richmond School of Music

9109 Dickey Drive, Mechanicsville, VA 23116  
www.grsm.net 804-442-6158 info@grsm.net

### Beginning Band Information

*Dear Parents*

*We are looking forward to having your young musician join the GRSM Band Program. I hope the information presented here will help you in obtaining an instrument.*

*Sincerely,*

*R.W. Ellithorpe*

*Director of Bands*

There are some physical characteristics that make certain instruments more difficult to play. We want your child to be successful; therefore, your band director will be available to offer counseling for their choice of an instrument on the first day of class if they still have not chosen one.

We suggest that parents rent the instrument before buying, so as not to invest a lot of money until they find out how much interest the child demonstrates. Most music stores have a ***“rent to own” program. It is highly recommended that parents work with a real music store! These stores will guarantee their instruments and offer a repair service.***

***BEWARE:*** You may be able to find a very inexpensive instrument on the internet or at a “big box store”. In most cases, these have been proven to be of poor quality! Repairmen in the area have had a very difficult time repairing and finding parts.

The cost of renting the instrument depends on the type.

Flutes, clarinets, trumpets, trombones and percussion kits rent for approximately \$29.99 dollars a month (some music stores offer a first three month special of \$19.99 for these instruments). Alto saxophones rent for approximately \$39.00 and tenor saxophone for \$59.00 a month. **If there is an instrument in the family it should be checked by a repairman to be sure it is in good working condition.**

**ALL STUDENTS WILL NEED A BOOK “STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE” including the enhancement kit (approximately \$10.50) FOR THEIR INSTRUMENT. They will also need a foldable music stand.**

Clarinets and saxophones will need extra #2 reeds. Brass players will need a bottle of oil.

**ALL Instruments and Materials MUST be brought to class no later than the week of Sept 18<sup>th</sup>.**