



## Information for Beginner Band Instrument Placement

Hello Future Cobra Band Families,

In case you didn't receive communication from me in the spring semester, my name is Ana Tran and I am the head band director and Creekside Intermediate School. We are so excited to have you in our band program this next year!

I had previously sent an email regarding a postponement of instrument placements in May and it's now time for us to do that. Thank you so much for your patience during these trying times. I wanted to wait for as long as possible to send out information in order to provide accurate details without retractions due to the ongoing-change of district policies. We would have liked to have done the instrument placements in person but due to the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in our state I believe it would be best to do them virtually through Zoom. Please carefully read the instructions below on how we are going to conduct instrument placements:

Please remember, to have a good band is like baking a cake with the right amount of ingredient ratios. We need to have the right numbers in all sections to make it work. Please be open to what instrument your child will end up on as we want to make sure the students are suited for the best instrument for them. This will give them a best chance at having the least amount of frustration and a great overall band experience.

All students need to pick up a mouthpiece kit even if they plan to audition for percussion. If you are not selected for percussion you'll need to have a backup instrument and we have 10 others to choose from.

Please watch this YouTube video to get some further details on how the mouthpiece kits work before your Zoom placement.

If you have any conflicts with the time and date, please email me and include the assistant band director, Thomas Macias, so we can create a solution for you.

Thank you and we look forward to meeting you!

Ana Tran  
Head Band Director  
[anatran@ccisd.net](mailto:anatran@ccisd.net)

Thomas Macias  
Assistant Band Director  
[tmacias@ccisd.net](mailto:tmacias@ccisd.net)

**Please watch this 12 minute video on how to use the mouthpiece kit**

Link: [https://youtu.be/MGa3AL\\_FFYs](https://youtu.be/MGa3AL_FFYs)

**Monday, July 20 from 10:00am – 12:00pm OR Tuesday, July 21 from 12:00pm-1:00pm**

**Instrument Mouthpiece Kit pick up**

- Parents will need to pick up a kit of plastic mouthpieces to be used during the virtual instrument placement meeting. These kits will be brand new and have never been used.
- If possible, place the kits in your dishwasher when finished and back into the plastic ziploc bag that is provided. The box can be discarded.
- You will get an assigned 15 minute Zoom meeting appointment for the dates listed below.

**Wednesday – Thursday, July 22/ 23 – Brass & Woodwind Placement**

**4:00pm – 6:00pm**

- Your child will work with a band director via Zoom to determine which brass or woodwind instrument they will play.
- The meeting is strictly 15 minutes in order to accommodate all 6<sup>th</sup> graders. If an instrument cannot be determined at the interview then another appointment will be made at a later date.
- It is important to test out Zoom on your device before the meeting to ensure it works. Please be on time since all the meetings will be back-to-back and we cannot be late to another Zoom meeting.
- In order to efficiently do the meeting, you will need to use a device with a good camera and microphone. Laptops work best with a high speed internet connection. Please let us know if this will be an issue and we will try to accommodate you.

**Friday, July 24 – Mouthpiece Kit Drop-off**

**10:00am – 12:00pm**

- We will have hardware buckets outside for you to drop the mouthpiece kits in. Please wash the mouthpieces in your dishwasher to sanitize. We ask that you return the mouthpiece kit in the ziploc bag provided upon pick up.

**Monday, July 27 – Percussion Fitting (only if your child wants to play percussion)**

**9:00am – 11:00am**

- Due to the high demand for percussion we will have an in-person appointment to determine the percussion beginners. Students will meet in the front of the school parking lot at Creekside.
- 3 students at a time and will be spaced apart by at least 6 feet.
- The percussion fitting will last up to 15 minutes.
- Students will be given sanitized sticks and a drum pad to work with. Please wear a mask during the tryout.
- Students do not need prior experience or preparation for the fitting and will be tested on pulse, timing, coordination, and ability copying the instructor.

- According to the size of our 6<sup>th</sup> grade class only 8 – 10 students will be selected.
- Percussion students are expected to take private lessons throughout the year as percussion covers such extensive material. All private lessons will be virtual until further notice.
- Please click this link to sign up for a fitting appointment.
- You will receive another email regarding details for the appointment.

**SIGN UP:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050544ACA62CA7FA7-creekside1>

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### **How to Obtain an Instrument**

- You may refer to the “Beginner Band Info” video for generic information
- If purchasing through another online source or contact, please communicate with us for clarification on equipment
- Music stores provide instrument rental as well as most supplies for band
- Rental contract can be conveniently set up online for limiting contact
- School owned instruments will receive information from Mr. Macias in regards to an instrument rental for the school year (expected August 2020)
  - For students who will play flute, saxophone, trumpet and trombone, families should contact Music and Arts for rental procedures

**Music and Arts**  
**19335 Gulf Freeway 10**  
**Webster, TX 77598**

- For students who will play clarinet, french horn, euphonium, tuba, percussion, families should contact H&H Music for rental procedures
- \*\*French horn, euphonium, tuba will receive instrumental rental information from Mr. Macias

**H&H Music**  
**11902 Galveston Rd**  
**Houston, TX 77034**