

# Upper Scioto Valley Band

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This is an informational letter about the current happenings in the USV Red and White Bands, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> year players. All students have been assigned an instrument based on their preferences, their successes when trying out the instruments, and whether or not they were providing their own instrument. Here are some of the frequently asked questions that you may have as of now.

## **My student is renting an instrument from the school. What money do I owe?**

There is a \$10 rental fee that goes toward instrument maintenance and normal wear and tear on the instrument. When the students reach a point that they are allowed to bring their instrument home, there will be a rental agreement with that stated on there. Also, all students need to purchase their own Standard of Excellence book. This is used in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, 6<sup>th</sup> grade, and 7<sup>th</sup> grade band. This book is \$12-\$13 depending on the instrument and can be purchased through Rettig Music, another location/website OR the money/order can be sent in to Ms. Gamble and she will place a large order.

## **My student is not renting an instrument from the school. What money do I owe?**

All students need to purchase their own Standard of Excellence book. This is used in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, 6<sup>th</sup> grade, and 7<sup>th</sup> grade band. This book is \$12-\$13 depending on the instrument and can be purchased through Rettig Music, another location/website, OR the money/order can be sent in to Ms. Gamble and she will place a large order. However, other than purchasing this book, there are no other fees.

## **My student is renting from the school, and I would like to get them their own instrument. What do I do?**

Rettig Music has a stellar rent-to-own program that is a low cost for a quality instrument. Also, please consider checking with family and friends; there are unfortunately many instruments in attics just collecting dust! Pawn shops and garage sales *can* have great deals, but also may not be quality instruments. As a rule of thumb, if you can purchase toilet paper there, please choose to buy an instrument elsewhere.

## **What can I do to help my student succeed in band?**

Please set up a practice routine with them at home. The dying cow sounds will go away with the more practice and muscles they build. Let them show off Hot Cross Buns to you as many times as they want to perform it. Encourage them to persevere even when it is hard. Just as there is math homework on some nights and we should all read every night, practicing needs to become part of a normal routine.

We have a great group of students who will continue our USV Band tradition's growth. Thank you for enhancing your child's education through participating in instrumental music! Your involvement and support mean everything! If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at school **419-757-3231 ext 1118** or email me at [rgamble@usvschools.org](mailto:rgamble@usvschools.org). I do (normally) respond faster to emails.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Gamble  
K-12 Music Teacher  
Upper Scioto Valley