

# Band Announcements 9/7/18

## Music Booster Officer Opening:

-We currently have an opening for Music Booster secretary. You would be responsible for taking notes during our meetings, emailing them out to the board and directors for approval, and posting them on the Sparta Bands website. If you are interested in volunteering your time for this position, please email me! The next booster meeting is on Tuesday, September 18th at 7 PM in the HS band room. Meetings are generally on the third Tuesday of the month--a full meeting schedule can be found at [www.spartabands.org](http://www.spartabands.org).

## Band Books:

- Our order of band books for 6th and 7th grade is here! All books are \$9 except percussion (\$17).
- Payment can be check made out to "Sparta Music Boosters" or cash.
- Students should have a book by next Wednesday. Please let me know if this will be a financial issue due to the short notice, and your child will not be marked unprepared for class.
- If you started a new rental on an instrument from a music store this year (mostly 6th graders), your book was included and you are all set.
- 8th Grade band students do NOT need to purchase a new book for this year.

## Handbook Signature Page:

- Your child should have brought home a signature page--this was due today (9/7) in class for a grade.
- Please be sure to go over the band handbook if you haven't yet, especially the performance calendar and the grading policy--it is different than your child's other classes.
- Handbook can be found on Schoology, or at [www.spartabands.org](http://www.spartabands.org).

## Practice Journals:

- The first practice journal of the year for all band students is due on TUESDAY, 9/11.
- Practice journals are assignments in Schoology this year. I've suggested to students that they fill this out during the weekend, or during Monday seminar class.
- There is a tutorial video on how to fill out the practice journals on Schoology and [www.spartabands.org](http://www.spartabands.org), if you or your child are confused as to how to do this. We did go over it in class.
- Late practice journals are the only journals accepted on paper. These will only count for partial credit. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of missed journals.**
- I've encouraged students to set reminders on their devices (phone, tablet, ipod) to help them remember to fill it out and earn full credit.
- I suggest practicing 5 times per week, for 20 minutes each session for best results! Shorter, more frequent sessions are MUCH more effective than one long session on Sunday night. :)

## Shared instruments:

- Due to our increasing band numbers, we have several French horn, baritone, and tuba players who are sharing instruments (ex. One horn is being used by a 6th grader and an 8th grader).
- I've put a sign-out sheet up in the band room. Students are to sign out their instrument if they take it home to practice, so the other person knows where it is.

-I am hoping to convince the school to purchase us additional instruments, as this situation is not ideal for anyone. I'm also writing a grant to hopefully secure some funding as well.

-If a student is not able to bring their shared instrument home, they can practice buzzing songs on their mouthpiece.

-If you have concerns about this, PLEASE let me know!