

Instrument Selection Considerations . . .

Choosing an instrument that is right for you is very important. Some considerations are listed below. Also remember, that in order to have a great sounding band, the band must consist of a variety of instruments. EVERY instrument is important!

FLUTE:

- ✓ Arms are long enough to hold flute to mouth and still cover keys.
- ✓ Upper lip characteristics are conducive to proper embouchure.
- ✓ Closed teeth meet evenly.
- ✓ Eye-hand coordination is good.
- ✓ A clear tone is easily produced on the head joint.
- ✓ Work habits are strong and achievement is high.
- ✓ Reading skills are above average.

CLARINET:

- ✓ Hands are large enough to reach all keys and finger tips large enough to cover the tone holes.
- ✓ Thumbs are not double jointed.
- ✓ Eye-hand coordination is good.
- ✓ Reading skills are above average.

TRUMPET:

- ✓ Lips are thin to medium.
- ✓ Front teeth are straight and even. Closed teeth meet evenly.
- ✓ Student is able to sing a common folk song.
- ✓ Level of confidence is high.
- ✓ Work habits are strong and achievement is high.
- ✓ Parental support is strong.

TROMBONE, BARITONE, & TUBA:

- ✓ Stature is adequate to handle the size of the instrument.
- ✓ Arms are long enough to reach lower positions on trombone.
- ✓ Lips are medium to thick. (Thin lips better suited for trumpet).
- ✓ Student is able to sing a common folk song.

PERCUSSION:

- ✓ Physical coordination is exceptional. Student is able to "march" quarter notes while clapping eighth notes.
- ✓ Student maintains a steady tempo while echo clapping four measure phrases.
- ✓ Student is self-controlled.
- ✓ Dependability and sense of responsibility are strong.
- ✓ Parental support is strong.

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