

St. Andrew Avellino School Band - Ms. Naomi Podber, Director



Saint Andrew Avellino School ♦ Debora Hanna, Principal ♦ 35-50 158 Street ♦ Flushing, NY 11358
Phone 718-359-7887

Dear parents and guardians,

Thank you for supporting your child's participation in the St. Andrew Avellino School Band Program. We had a great first week and I am very excited to have such a talented group of students to work with this semester.

Each child is expected to bring his/her instrument of choice (flute, clarinet, E flat alto saxophone, or trumpet) to the second week of class. The following music stores both sell instruments and rent them to students for the school year:

Sam Ash Music Store
113-25 Queens Blvd.
Flushing, NY
718-793-7983

Music Zoo, Inc.
255-03 Northern Blvd.
Flushing, NY
718-631-9292

Catalano's Music
1007 Jericho Turnpike
New Hyde Park, NY
516-488-2522

Laconia Music Center
410 Jericho Tpke
New Hyde Park, NY
516-352-4070

In addition to the rental cost of the instrument, students who rent a clarinet, E flat alto saxophone, or trumpet will have to purchase a mouthpiece for that instrument, for sanitary reasons. This mouthpiece can be used by your child for as long as s/he continues playing the instrument. Clarinet and saxophone players should always have a box of reeds in their case.

Important reminders for next week:

Each beginning student should bring \$7 to the next meeting for a band method book. All students must download a handbook from the Music Program website, <http://www.ursatz.com/SAA>, fill out the contract in it, and bring it in next week. I will also be collecting payments for the fall semester next week.

Band class is a lot of fun, but it's tough to come to class as a student who hasn't practiced and can't play the music, and it's also tough to be a student who did practice who has to sit still while other students slowly learn the music. Please set up a consistent practice schedule with your child. To be able to control the sound of their wind instrument and to learn the concert music, students will have to practice about 20 or 30 minutes a day, at least 5 days a week. Students who come to class thinking that the music is easy feel great about themselves and can pay more attention to learning to play as a group.

With your support, I am sure that the Saint Andrew Avellino School Band will be a great learning experience for your child. I know that, as I had hoped it would five years ago, it has become a great asset to the school.

Sincerely,
Naomi Podber
917-640-6744