McLean 6th Grade Center Band

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Alto Saxophone

Please take this information to the music store when you get your instrument.
You will be responsible for the following instrument and accessories.

Recommended Saxophone Brand/Model-Rent or Purchase from Music Store:

Yamaha YAS-23 or Selmer Model AS600

We have seen very consistent success with the particular clarinet brands and models listed because they are very well made and easier for students to produce the correct fundamental sound. The music stores listed below will have a selection of new and used instruments, and you can rent to own. If you are considering any variation of the brand/model on our list, please contact us to set up an appointment so we can assess the instrument to make sure it is the right quality for your child to be successful.

Required Accessories-Purchase from Music Store:

Vandoren Optimum AL3 mouthpiece
Mouthpiece Patch –thick black rubber (to help with stability & comfort while playing)
Rovner Dark Ligature (holds reed on the mouthpiece)
Alto Sax Silk Swab (to clean the inside of the instrument after each use)
Padded Neck Strap (used to hold the instrument)
Cork Grease (aids in assembling instrument)
Reed Guard (protects reeds when storing)
1 Box Vandoren #2 1/2 Reeds (produces sound on instrument)
Rhythm Master Book 1, Alto Saxophone by J.R. McEntyre & Harry Haines
Folding Music Stand (ensures proper playing technique while practicing at home)
½ inch binder, zipper pencil pouch, & pencils

Where to buy:

As with any purchase, it is best to explore as many options as possible before you buy. Here are a few options for you, please feel free to call or email if you have any questions.

Local Stores:

Local stores are the best option if you are unsure about what you are buying. They will know exactly what instrument brand and model you will need and will have different rental options that mail-order companies will not. They will also be able to do different repair/warranty deals.

N-Tune Music	Tarpley Music	The Bandwagon	Music & Arts
10450 E. Bankhead Highway	628 SW Wilshire Blvd	100 E. Felix St. S	4000 5 Points Blvd. #129
Aledo, TX 76008-3158	Burleson, TX 76028	Fort Worth,, TX 76115	Arlington, TX 76018
(817) 441-9003	(817) 736-1633	(817) 468-1500	(817) 466-8696

Mail-Order Companies: This is the best option if you want to buy straight out without renting or financing, which in the long run could save you hundreds of dollars. These companies are well respected. Please be very specific about the brand and model you are looking for. Also, these companies may not have all the required accessories.

Woodwind and Brasswind – www.wwbw.com
1-800-348-5003

Muncy Winds – www.muncywinds.com
1-828-773-1998

Musicians Friend – www.musiciansfriend.com
1-800-449-9128

Facebook Marketplace, eBay, Pawn Shops: This option has the highest risk, but you could also get a great deal. I would not buy anything sight unseen without a money back guarantee! Also, ask the seller if you can have a "third party evaluation" done. This is where the seller takes the instrument to a reputable music shop, preferably one you pick, and has it inspected for quality. You then communicate directly to the shop rather than the seller. This can be a lot of extra work, but you might be able to get a great deal.

When you acquire the instrument, IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT that the student or other family members not be allowed to "play" the instrument before instruction has been given! Your child will develop bad habits that are very difficult to break, and the well- meaning family member may break the instrument or its accessories which could result in a costly repair or replacement.

Private Lessons

Private instruction is available for your child from local professional musicians. Private lessons are not required; however, they are strongly suggested and will give your child an opportunity to progress more quickly. A weekly lesson is 30 minutes long, and the average rate per lesson is $20. Information will be given in August about signing up for private lessons.

Welcome to the band family. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email me at lindsey.traughber@fwisd.org or call at 817-814-5761. I want to do everything to make this a positive experience for you and your child.

Thank you and welcome to the McLean 6th Grade Band!