



STILLWATER AREA SCHOOLS

Stillwater Bands

Dear 7th grade Percussionists and Parent(s)/Guardian(s).

Welcome to Stillwater Junior High School!. I hope you're looking forward to playing in band this fall. You will have many more opportunities in our percussion section than you did in 6th grade. First of all, the school has bell kits and snare drums, so you can keep your own instrument at home for practicing. That should be good news! And better yet, you will have a chance to play the timpani, xylophone, chimes, vibes and all the small percussion instruments. You will probably need some new mallets so you can learn to play these instruments correctly.

We recommend that percussion students have the following equipment in school each day: drumsticks, timpani mallets, yarn mallets, and hard rubber mallets (plastic would also be acceptable). You are highly encouraged to label these instruments with your name and keep them in a stick-bag with your name on it. Secure lockers in the band area will be available for storage.

You will be able to purchase these items from most music stores. We have listed the brand names and styles that are recommended. You should find them of high quality and economical. Alternatively, you may purchase the entire package (bag, sticks and all mallets, plus a triangle beater and drum-tuning key) from us at school. More info on this will be mailed soon.

Timpani - Vic Firth general or Balter general
Soft yarn mallets - Balter blue or red with birch handles
Hard rubber mallets - Balter med-hard grey with birch handles
Stickbag - Promark Standard or Deluxe, or Zildjian Cordura
Drumsticks - Vic Firth, Promark, almost any brand is fine (size
Triangle Beater - metal

The rental fee for school instruments is \$80. Percussionists who purchase the stick-bag from SJHS will NOT have to pay this fee. Good luck in 7th grade band, I am looking forward to hearing you!