The Glenridge Middle School Band is one of Florida's best! This sheet answers some frequently-asked questions. If you’d like additional information, please contact Mr. Sullivan, our Band Director, at Brian.Sullivan@ocps.net.

*Is Band a regular class?* Yes – Band meets every day as one of the student's seven classes.

*Are there any required before- or after-school rehearsals?* No – The only obligations are two evening concerts, one in December, and one in May. (The band room is open every morning before school for practicing and extra help.)

*What instruments can we play in Beginning Band?* After trying out all of the instruments, the students will be assigned to play one of the following: trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba, flute, clarinet, or alto saxophone. (Mr. Sullivan always tries to give students their first choice of instruments while considering such factors as aptitude, family financial situation, and balanced instrumentation.) All students will learn to play other instruments such as drums and bass guitar as the year unfolds.

*How do we get an instrument?* Most families sign up for a rent-to-own program from a local music store, while others prefer to purchase a new or used instrument outright. Mr. Sullivan will provide information and suggestions at the beginning of the year.

*Should we buy or rent an instrument this summer?* Please don’t! Mr. Sullivan will demonstrate all instruments and the students will try them out during the first two weeks of school. They will then be assigned their instrument by Mr. Sullivan.

*What if we can't afford an instrument from a music store?* We never want to lose a student due to money reasons, so we do have a limited number of instruments on hand for students who cannot afford to buy or rent one. Instruments can be expensive, but most band parents would tell you it was one of the best investments they made during their student's middle school years.

**GO BAND!**