



Hello 5th grade students and parents. I am Mr. Cousineau and I am the band director for Laingsburg Community Schools. It is that time of the year when your student will begin their journey with the Laingsburg Band Program. This is always an exciting time for students, as they are choosing an instrument that they will eventually be playing at band concerts, parades, Cedar Point, and even at Disney's Magic Kingdom. There is a place in the band for each of you, so sign up and make your mark on our great program!

We are excited to partner with Meyer Music this year for all of your music needs. They will be able to assist with our virtual AND in person fitting process. I encourage you and your students to take some time and discuss what they might be interested in learning to play. Of course I am happy to answer any questions you may have and I look forward to speaking with each of you.

**Here are the instruments that are available for your student to try:**

Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Baritone, and Percussion. There are aspects of each instrument that are challenging and require a specific skill set and sometimes physical development to be successful. There are also limits to each instrument so our band will be balanced and will be able to play our sheet music as intended.

Before we go any further I would like to answer the question I get the most each year: **Can you participate in band and do other things?** Yes! In fact, our graduating senior class have been involved with JV/Varsity Soccer (boys/girls), JV/Varsity Football, Varsity Cheerleading, JV/Varsity Basketball (boys/girls), Track, Golf, Dance, JV/Varsity Baseball, JV/Varsity Softball, Wrestling, Cross Country, FFA, Robotics, Homecoming Court (including King and Queen), Drama, and Quiz Bowl. Our band students have been able to take many AP courses, and we are proud to have ten of the sixteen honors students recognized this year as well as a Valedictorian and Salutatorian. Our staff is committed to offering a robust learning environment while limiting the "either/or" choices that many smaller districts encounter.

**Important Dates:**

**In person instrument fitting with Meyer Music**

**Who:** Any 5th grade band students interested in joining band next year

**Where:** Laingsburg Middle School Band Room

**When:** In Person Fitting: Monday, May 15th from 7-8pm

Of course, if these dates/times do not work for you please let me know. I would be happy to meet with you at your convenience.

Thomas Cousineau

Director of Bands

Laingsburg Community Schools


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## **Helpful Video(s):**

**Why Should YOU Join LHS Bands???** Video by Ava Brewer (LHS Band Alumni)

<https://youtu.be/HTdsVyGmop4>

Check out these fun videos for a brief introduction into the many instruments available for your students to learn!

	<h3><u><a href="#">Instrument Petting Zoo</a></u> <u><a href="#">- YouTube</a></u></h3> <p>The Delta Iota of Delta Omicron and NAFME Chapter at Central Michigan University presents a virtual Instrument Petting Zoo. Learn about each instrument from ...</p> <p><a href="https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLh1neHEAKhKdkBjRSC7Yo1L3FIi9FGym-">https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLh1neHEAKhKdkBjRSC7Yo1L3FIi9FGym-</a></p>
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Here is a short video from Meyer Music explaining their instrument rental program. Of course, there will be much more information discussed during the student/parent fitting process.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HULdak5ZqJU>.

**Why Band?** Video by Dr. Tim Lautzenhesier

<https://youtu.be/xHmSmUpZiAU>

**Please feel free to reach out to any of the parents/students listed below with any specific questions about band or to simply get a perspective from someone that been in the program from 1 year to 7 (or more).**

### **Parents**

Ashley Helmer - 7th grader

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Angie Price - 2th graders

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Mary Sieben - 10th grader

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Nikki Thelen - Band Alumni

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Stacey Brewer - Band Alumni

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