

Townsend Instrumental Music
Band Class Course Description
Mrs. Anne Rutt, Director of Bands

Your student is enrolled in a **year long band class** which takes place **during the school day** as their elective class (they are not pulled out of academic classes for music like in elementary school). Your student is in one of the following Band Classes: Woodwind Class (7th and 8th grade woodwind players), Percussion/Brass Class (all 7th & 8th Grade percussionists and brass players). In both these classes students will learn techniques and approaches for their specific family of instruments. For these classes we will be diving deeper than students did in elementary band into: technique, music theory, music history, and of course playing music. While we are distance learning we are also preparing for 2 (virtual) concerts, the Winter Concert and the Spring Concert. Students will be given a click track to play in their headphones to practice along with and to use to submit videos of themselves playing their music for us to edit together into a virtual concert performance! We might even have some school rallies to perform in (virtually, if still distance learning).

In-class instruction is the time to demonstrate the skills you worked on at home and time to bring your questions, learn and refine additional techniques and to rehearse the musical selections we are preparing for performances. The outcome of the in-class instruction will guide your nightly practice homework. Students will keep a practice log which will track their required weekly practice (homework). Music is a discipline, and success in music can only be achieved by consistent practice. The more you do it, the easier and more fun it is! We will not start our weekly practice logs until September.

Prior to the pandemic, the Townsend Instrumental Music Department was the largest student group on campus. Over 10% of the school's student population was in the Townsend Band! An option taken advantage of by 90% of band students was to participate in the optional music ensembles that met after school including: Marching Band & Color Guard, Indoor Drumline, Jazz Band, Wind Ensemble, and Winter Guard.

It is our hope to resurrect as many of these groups as possible once it is safe and we are able to do so. In the meantime, we look forward to growing and learning as musicians and preparing for our (virtual) concerts and rallies. With a little *luck* we'll get to perform together later this year and we want to be prepared. "Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity".

Questions? Please feel free to email me at my **new email**:
anne_rutt@chino.k12.ca.us

Or visit me for my online office hours:

Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:45-2:30pm and Wednesdays and Fridays 7:45-8:30am