

## **Contact Information**

Mr. Nick Seibert  
Band Director  
(469) 752-7047

[nicholas.seibert@pisd.edu](mailto:nicholas.seibert@pisd.edu)

Mrs. Nicki Diaz  
Associate Director  
(469) 752-7046

[nicola.diaz@pisd.edu](mailto:nicola.diaz@pisd.edu)

[www.murphymband.com](http://www.murphymband.com)

## **Timeline**

|      |   |
|------|---|
| May  | Order listed equipment.<br><br>Sign up for private lessons if you wish to get a head start. Do not try to learn things without expert help. Bad habits are hard to fix! |
| June | Get excited about starting band!  |
| July | Verify that your child has all required equipment. Label all of your child's supplies clearly.  |

# Where Should I Go to Get the Materials My Child Needs?

## Local Merchants—Generally Provide Best Ongoing Service

Williamson's Music Co.  
701 E. Plano Pkwy Suite 100  
Located across from Fry's Electronics  
(972) 516-1331  
[www.williamsonmusicco.com](http://www.williamsonmusicco.com)

The Band Connection  
1210 W. McDermott Suite 105  
Allen, TX 75013  
214-383-4885  
[www.band-connection.com](http://www.band-connection.com)

Duo Music Clarinet Shop  
4913 Plantation Ln, Frisco  
214-436-7459  
[www.duoclarinetshop.com](http://www.duoclarinetshop.com)

Music & Arts Center - Plano  
701 N. Central Expressway, Suite 200  
(972) 424-1317  
[www.musicarts.com](http://www.musicarts.com)

Brook Mays Music - Plano  
6921 Independence Pkwy #120  
(972) 618-3222  
[www.brookmays.com](http://www.brookmays.com)

Lone Star Percussion  
10611 Control Place  
(214) 340-0835  
[www.lonestarpercussion.com](http://www.lonestarpercussion.com)

Carolyn Nussbaum Flutes  
625 Digital Drive Suite 300  
Located south of Plano Pkwy.  
(972) 985-2662  
[www.flute4u.com](http://www.flute4u.com)

## Online Merchants—Sometimes Priced Lower, But Local Retailers May Match Prices **PURCHASE ONLY APPROVED MODELS!!!!**

The Woodwind and  
Brasswind  
[www.wwbw.com](http://www.wwbw.com)  
1-800-348-5003

Giardinelli of New York  
[www.giardinelli.com](http://www.giardinelli.com)  
1-800-249-8361

The Percussion Source  
[percussionsource.com](http://percussionsource.com)

### **Important Reminders**

- Only use instruments from the approved list unless cleared by Mr. Seibert!
- Never purchase an instrument from a discount store!**
- Never** purchase an instrument in a foreign country!
- Have Mr. Seibert inspect any instrument from a third party (classified ad, E-Bay, Craig's List, etc.) **before you purchase it!**

## **Read This Before You Rent or Purchase an Instrument!**

The following information is important to insure that your child has the best experience in the Murphy Band. Please read this carefully and contact the directors if you have any questions or concerns.

**Approved Equipment List**—Not all instruments and equipment are manufactured to the same standards. The items listed on your materials list as approved selections have been chosen and cleared by the PISD band staff based on years of experience evaluating tonal quality, intonation, durability, consistency, and cost. *Purchasing an instrument not listed for Murphy Middle School students could severely hamper your child's development and progress, even if it is approved by another area school!*

**Instrument Delivery**— Some area music stores can arrange to deliver your child's instrument directly to the school at no charge to you. This is strongly encouraged, since it assures you that your child will not damage the instrument due to a lack of knowledge in proper care and assembly. Additionally, students will not develop bad habits due to improper playing in the absence of qualified instruction. If you do not arrange to have your instrument delivered to the school, you should not allow your child to handle the instrument prior to school. *Do not store an instrument in the garage, car, or attic!* The summer heat will ruin the instrument in a very short amount of time.

**Insurance**—Many instruments are covered against loss or damage by homeowners or renters insurance. Check with your agent or carrier for specific information regarding your coverage. Neither Plano ISD nor its employees accept responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged instruments. Supplemental insurance is available through an independent agent and is quite affordable, especially compared to plans offered by many instrument dealers. The directors can provide you with information on this coverage upon request.

**Maintenance and Service**—All instruments require occasional service, adjustment, and/or cleaning. The amount of service required is inversely proportional to the amount of care provided by your child. In other words, the better your child takes care of his or her instrument, the less time and money you will have to spend on maintenance and repair. Your child's director will provide instruction on proper instrument maintenance.

**The Director and You**—The band directors are here to help you in any way possible when it comes to getting an instrument. Our interests are in making sure your child has the best opportunity to succeed in band. We do not profit from the sale of any instrument, and therefore remain unbiased in every respect except instrument quality. Do not immediately purchase anything from anyone who attempts to sell an item that has not been listed on your materials list. You may always contact Mr. Seibert if you are unsure about a product or price, and it is very important that you trust the directors' professional recommendations.

## **Should My Child Start Playing Before School Starts?**

Many of our students are interested in starting their instruments over the summer with an approved private instructor. While this is certainly not required, there are two definite advantages to your child starting during the summer. First, your child will be a little more comfortable with their band classes in the first few weeks of the year. Since middle school is such a change from the elementary experience, this is one less thing to be anxious about at the very beginning. The second advantage to starting lessons early is that you will already be signed on with a private instructor and will usually have scheduling priority when the school year starts up. It is not uncommon for us to have a waiting list for students wanting private lessons at the beginning of the year, so this is one way to get an edge on signing up for lessons.

Some parents have expressed concern that their child might be bored with beginning band if he or she starts early. Although we certainly understand this concern, it is not really valid. The pacing of weekly private lessons over the summer is nowhere near that of the daily instruction received during the school year. Students who study over the summer will be more confident and comfortable in their beginning classes, which should allow them to progress more quickly. They will not, however, feel that the class is redundant.

Private lessons are supplemental to the Murphy Band curriculum. While they are not required, we certainly encourage students to take advantage of the opportunity to study with a professional specialist on their instrument. Our private instructors are screened for quality and safety and are contracted with the district, which requires them to teach within the parameters defined by our cluster band staff. This assures you that your child will be receiving safe, quality instruction when studying with a private instructor in our school. Private lessons are given weekly and are currently \$20.00 per 20-25 minute lesson.

**Please do NOT allow your child to teach themselves, try to learn from a friend or sibling, or take lessons from a non-approved teacher. The majority of students who do this learn bad habits that can seriously hinder their progress in band. Remember, practice makes permanent, and poor practice will result in poor performance.**

If your child will be playing an instrument provided by the school and wishes to start lessons over the summer, you can contact Mr. Seibert **in the middle of May** to schedule an instrument check-out. Instruments will not be available before that date, as our current students will be using them. It may also be necessary to service these instruments before they can be issued.

Please see the attached list of approved private teachers if you would like your child to begin private study over the summer. As with anything else, contact Mr. Seibert if you have any questions about private lessons.

# Approved Private Instructors for Murphy Middle School

## FLUTE

Margaret Fischer (469) 544-2404 [Msf.flute@gmail.com](mailto:Msf.flute@gmail.com)  
Linda Jenkins (405) 388-0661 [ljenkinsflute@gmail.com](mailto:ljenkinsflute@gmail.com)

## OBOE

Kristen Lindenberger-Beene (734)-649-6511 [klbeene@gmail.com](mailto:klbeene@gmail.com)

## BASSOON

Carole Lyons (214) 728-8479 [carolelyons@msn.com](mailto:carolelyons@msn.com)

## CLARINET

Andre Canabou (214) 473-8413 [acanabou@sbcglobal.net](mailto:acanabou@sbcglobal.net)  
Pamelia Urban (972) 429-8483 [pameliaurban@gmail.com](mailto:pameliaurban@gmail.com)

## SAXOPHONE

Julie Jones (469) 964-5099 [julieljones@verizon.net](mailto:julieljones@verizon.net)

## TRUMPET

Steve Fitts (214) 850-2530 [bugleboy218@me.com](mailto:bugleboy218@me.com)  
Cliff Darling [cliff.darling@gainwelltechnologies.com](mailto:cliff.darling@gainwelltechnologies.com)

## FRENCH HORN

Stuart Womble (931) 529-2353 [intrubul@hotmail.com](mailto:intrubul@hotmail.com)  
Andy Sugata (469) 245-7864 [and1sugata@gmail.com](mailto:and1sugata@gmail.com)

## TROMBONE

James Wallace (817) 368-1753 [planoboneplayer@yahoo.com](mailto:planoboneplayer@yahoo.com)

## EUPHONIUM and TUBA

De'Marcus Walker (903) 571-8862 [demarcusw@gmail.com](mailto:demarcusw@gmail.com)  
Dan Urban (972) 429-8483 [danurban007@gmail.com](mailto:danurban007@gmail.com)

## PERCUSSION

Jon Lee (972) 571-9413 [JonDLee@aol.com](mailto:JonDLee@aol.com)  
Jacob Adam Garcia [jacobadamgarcia@gmail.com](mailto:jacobadamgarcia@gmail.com)

## What is Cut Time?

Plano ISD subscribes to the Cut Time for managing various components of our music programs. This software is a secure program with information only accessible to Murphy Band staff and Plano ISD music administrators. Your contact information will only be used to send information and reach you regarding issues in the band program.

Please take a moment to sign-up for Cut Time and enter your contact information.

- ♪ Go to [www.cutttime.net](http://www.cutttime.net). Click where it says Student/Parent Sign-Up.
- ♪ Subscribing Schools: Select Murphy MS Band ID:11555
- ♪ For position select: Parent
- ♪ Continue to fill out each field and then select Register Now
- ♪ You will receive an email when your request has been approved. The email will tell you the next steps to continue your registration.

Please contact the directors with any questions you have about Cut Time.

## Anything Else?

Your child should not bring his or her instrument on the first day of school. If your child's equipment is delivered to the school, we will assist with having everything labeled. If you keep the materials at home prior to school starting, please make sure everything is clearly labeled with your child's first and last name. **Remember, all band materials look the same, so it is important to label everything!**