

Dear Parents of Seventh Grade Students,

My name is Gregg Charest, and I am the band director at the Jr/Sr High School. I've been in EWG since January 2002, and since then we have managed to triple the size of the band program that you are now a part of. If you wouldn't mind, please take a moment to visit the band website and fill out a contact information form. It gives me easier access to your contact information, and will also create a record for our parent booster organization, POPS (Parents Of Performing Students). This is important because it is how I will confirm your student's enrollment in the band, and send home assignments and announcements. Here's the link:

<http://www.ewgbands.com/home/updatecontacts>

While you have the time, please familiarize yourself with the band website – the performance calendar is available for nearly the entire year (only field trip information is missing at this time). Please mark your calendars, or subscribe to my calendar if you have a google calendar for yourself:

<http://www.ewgbands.com/Calendar>

#### CLASSROOM SUPPLIES:

There are a few things your child needs to be successful in band: All students need a folder for their sheet music, a pencil in class every day (best kept in their folder), and this other equipment, listed by instrument. All of these supplies can be purchased at local music stores, but the links are here for convenience (so you know what to ask for).

**Single Reed instruments (clarinets, saxophones): Reeds –students should be using high quality reeds (either Van Doren Blue Box, or better). These are worth the extra expense. Here are some links:**

**Clarinet:** <http://www.wwbw.com/Vandoren-Traditional-Bb-Clarinet-Reeds-462584-i1414709.wwbw>

**Bass Clarinet:** <http://www.wwbw.com/Vandoren-Traditional-Bass-Clarinet-Reeds-462583-i1143273.wwbw>

**Alto Sax:** <http://www.wwbw.com/Vandoren-Alto-Saxophone-Reeds-462581-i1412684.wwbw>

**Tenor Sax:** <http://www.wwbw.com/Vandoren-Tenor-Saxophone-Reeds-462591-i1143313.wwbw>

**Bari Sax:** <http://www.wwbw.com/Vandoren-Baritone-Saxophone-Reeds-462582-i1143268.wwbw>

The web site will ask you what size to purchase if you or your child are unfamiliar with the correct reed size, choose #2.5 for now.

**Trumpets, Baritone Horn, Tuba:**

Valve Oil: <http://www.wwbw.com/Al-Cass-Fast-Valve--Slide---Key-Oil-420257-i1133383.wwbw>

**Trombone:**

Superslick Slide kit: <http://www.wwbw.com/Superslick-Slick-It-Trombone-Kit-420624-i1133704.wwbw>

**French Horn:**

Rotor Oil: <http://www.wwbw.com/Superslick-Key-Rotor-Pin-Oiler-420623-i1133703.wwbw>

**Percussion students (drums and mallets):**

Percussionists will not need to provide instruments (the school will supply them because of the size and number of instruments), however, percussionists must purchase their own sticks and mallets. Here is a great kit to get started: <http://www.wwbw.com/Vic-Firth-EP2-Intermediate-Education-Pack-443958-i1137890.wwbw>

**QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS:**

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at: [Gregg\\_Charest@ewg.k12.ri.us](mailto:Gregg_Charest@ewg.k12.ri.us) or in the music office 397-6898 x.239 (email is faster for me, though).

Highest Regards,

Mr. Charest