

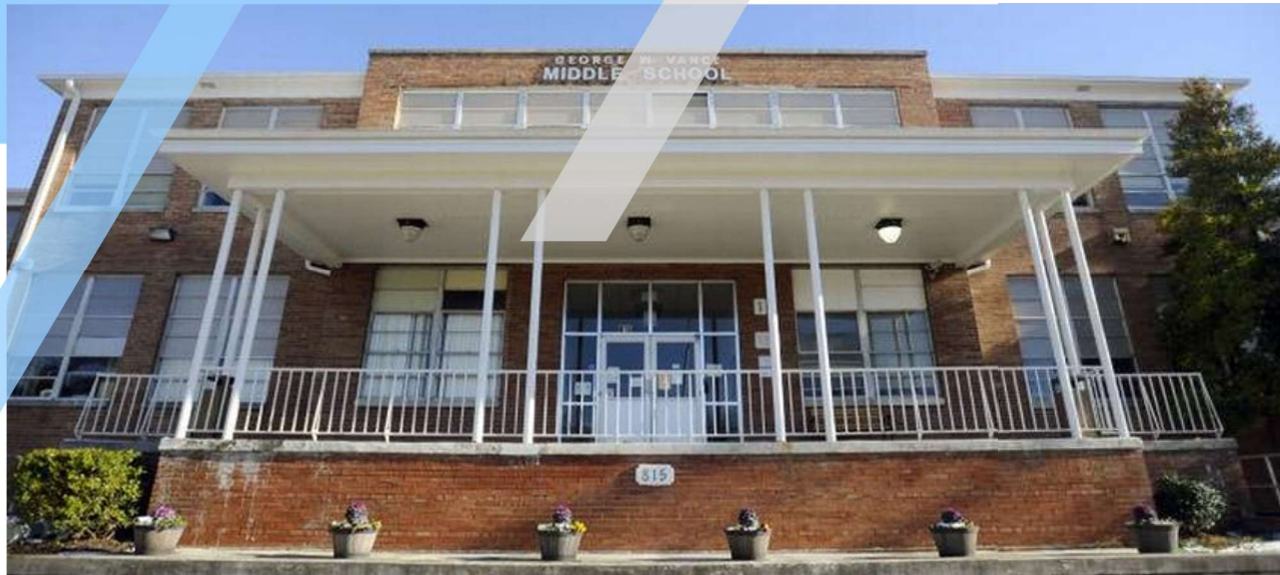
Vance Middle School Band

815 Edgemont Ave. Bristol, TN

Website: www.jrvikingband.weebly.com



2019-2020 Band Handbook



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**Jr. Viking
Band**



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Welcome

Vance Middle School Band

Middle School is a fast-paced, fun-filled, fantastic time in life. Expect much from your time at Vance!

Bio

Mr. Spencer Finch is the band director at Vance Middle School Band. He also assists with the bands at Tennessee High School and the Elementary Schools located within the Bristol Tennessee City School district.



Before his current position at Vance, Mr. Finch directed bands at Sullivan East High School in Bluff City, TN (2006-2017) and at George Washington Community School in Indianapolis, IN (2004-2006).

Mr. Finch holds a Masters of Music from the American Band College / Sam Houston University (2017). And he received his Bachelors of Music Education from Brigham Young University (2003). His main instrument is the trombone.

Mr. Finch resides in Bristol, TN with his wife and 7 children.

Overview of Instrumental Music

“The fact that children can make beautiful music is less significant than the fact that music can make beautiful children.” - Cheryl Lavendar

7th Grade Band

Instruction is geared toward students that possess basic music knowledge and experience in playing an instrument. However, any student wishing to begin band at this level is welcome.

8th Grade Band

Students having grasped the instrumental music concepts presented in 7th grade move to a higher level skill set.

Both grade levels will perform for Music in the Castle, the Bristol Christmas Parade, our system-wide Winter Concert, and a Spring Concert.

Advanced Band

Students in 7th and 8th grade have the opportunity to participate in a full band class every day during AL time. They must have approval from the Band Director to join this class

Guitar

Guitar students will receive one semester of instruction in classical guitar technique and music reading skills. These students will not participate in the traditional “Band” performances.



Instrument Own or Loan

Personally Owned Instruments

Students that can, should purchase an instrument. Experience has shown that students develop a sense of responsibility, pride, and respect when they have to care for an instrument of their own.

Instrument Storage

Students will be provided a location to store their instruments at school during the day. However, due to a lack of space students will need to take their instruments home. The bright side to this is they can practice at home daily.

Loaner Instruments

Larger instruments are costlier to own and therefore Vance does provide a limited number of instruments for student use. These include tubas, baritone, French horns, trombones, and a motley assortment of other instruments.

Instrument-Switching Policy (district-wide policy)

1. Must have approval of the band director
2. Must purchase your own instrument (except in cases of Tuba, Baritone, Horn, Bassoon or excessively expensive instrument)
3. Must take private lessons outside of band class for 6 months (1 semester) before participating/performing on the new instrument
4. Must audition on new instrument for band director (i.e. play a certain number of scales that are age appropriate, prepared piece, etc.)

Supplies

All students are asked to furnish certain supplies to keep their instrument in working order.

Flute

1 cleaning rod
1 cleaning rag
Method Book: Essential Elements 2000 (with DVD) Book Two for flute

Oboe/Bassoon

3-4 reeds
1 cleaning swab
Method Book: Essential Elements 2000 (with DVD) Book Two for oboe/bassoon (make sure it is the correct book)

Clarinet

1 box of Vandoren reeds (strength 3.5)
1 mutli-reed case
1 cleaning swab
Method Book: Essential Elements 2000 (with DVD) Book Two for clarinet

Saxophone

1 box of Vandoren reeds (strength 3.5)
1 mutli-reed case
1 cleaning swab
Method Book: Essential Elements 2000 (with DVD) Book Two for alto/tenor saxophone (make sure it is the correct book)

Trumpet

1 bottle of valve oil
1 mouthpiece cleaning brush
Method Book: Essential Elements 2000 (with DVD) Book Two for trumpet

French Horn

1 bottle of ROTOR valve oil
1 mouthpiece cleaning brush
Method Book: Essential Elements 2000 (with DVD) Book Two for French Horn

Trombone

1 bottle of slide oil
1 mouthpiece cleaning brush
Method Book: Essential Elements 2000 (with DVD) Book Two for Trombone

Baritone

1 bottle of valve oil
1 mouthpiece cleaning brush
Method Book: Essential Elements 2000 (with DVD) Book Two for Baritone

Tuba

1 bottle of valve oil
1 mouthpiece cleaning brush
Method Book: Essential Elements 2000 (with DVD) Book Two for Tuba

Percussion

1 stick bag
1 pair of sticks (Vic Firth SD1 General)
1 pair of mallets (Innovative Percussion IP240)
Method Book: Essential Elements 2000 (with DVD) Book Two for percussion

Band Room Rules

One Rule to Rule them All

- Act in a way which does not create problems for others.

Be Respectful

- Treat other people well
- Listen to instructions
- Speak appropriately
- Take pride in making music

Be Responsible

- Show up
- Be on time
- Be careful with the equipment
- Touch only your instrument

Be Safe

- Communicate with parents
- NO HORSEPLAYING
- Stay with the band

**Jr. Viking
Band**



Band Karate



Band Karate is an assessment and incentive program for Junior Viking Band students. This will be an exciting adventure as students develop their instrumental music skills.

In "Band Karate" students will chart their progress by testing for "belts". Each belt represents a specific skill (or learning target) which one needs to master in order to play more challenging and fun music.

To show proficiency and meet the expected skill growth students will need to show mastery of two learning targets (belts) per quarter. Below you will see the rules for Band Karate. The belt requirements are found on the attached sheet.

Guidelines

- You will submit belt playing tests by recording the playing test on your own device or school laptop. Then email your recording to finchs@btcs.org. The subject line should include student name and the belt color.
- You must test for Belts in order: White, Yellow, Orange, Green, Blue, Purple, Red, and Black.

Beyond

For 8th grade students that complete their black belt, they may continue their progress by working toward the "Samurai" levels: Bronze, Silver, and Gold. Students will receive a medal at the end of the year that corresponds to their highest achievement.



Music in the Castle

The Jr. Viking Band has the honor of opening the day's events at Music in the Castle. We will perform our National Anthem: The Star Spangled Banner. This year, the band competition takes place on **Saturday, October 5, 2019**.

In addition to our performance, band students and parents are asked to work our fundraising booth in the *Alley* between the Castle and THS.

Students and parents can volunteer for a 4 hour shift at the booth. This volunteering can be counted towards student's Viking Promise.



Vance Middle School might be piloting a new grading system within the fine arts department this year. Band students will receive a score (0-4) for each of the 10 specific skills they are expected to master at this level of band. These skills include:

- Written: Rhythms
- Written: Notes (Pitches)
- Written: Articulation
- Terminology
- Performance: Tone Quality
- Performance: Rhythmic Accuracy
- Performance: Note Accuracy
- Performance: Articulation
- Key Signature and Scales
- Concert Performance/Etiquette

Performance Attendance

Students are required to participate in both concerts (winter and spring), *Music in the Castle*, and the Bristol Christmas Parade. Other performance opportunities will be announced as they are requested by the school system.

Remind101

The Jr. Viking Band uses Remind101 the most to push out relevant information about performances, after school practices, and changes to schedules.

To participate all you have to do is text @vanceband to 81010.

Or you may use this link for the email version:
<https://www.remind.com/join/vanceband>

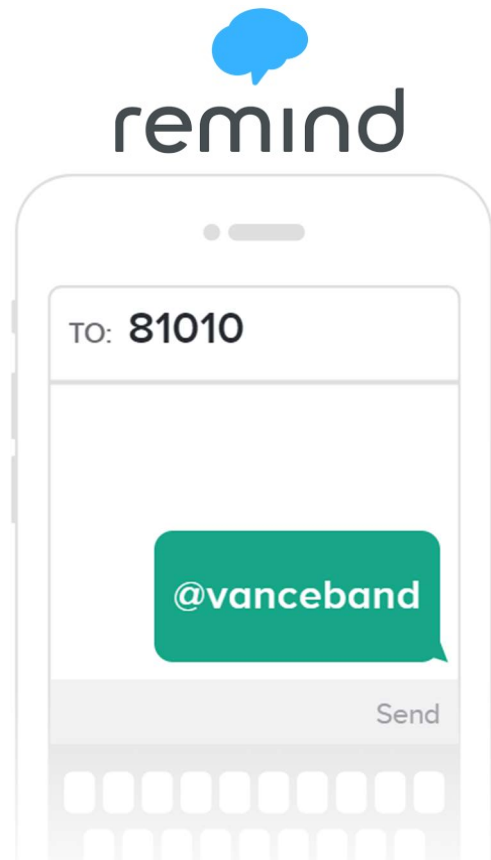
Other forms of communication include:

Band Website

www.jrvikingband.weebly.com

Canvas

<https://powerschool.btcs.org>



Year at a Glance

2019-2020



August 19	Woodwind Launch 2:30-3:30
August 19	Parent Meeting 6:30
August 21	Brass Launch 2:30-3:30
August 26	Percussion Launch 2:30-3:30
September 9	Drum Major/Leadership Auditions 2:30-4:00
September 12	Jr Viking Football 5:30
September 23	Full Band 2:30-3:30
September 23	Booster Meeting 6:30
September 27	Bristol Band Night @ THS
September 30	Full Band 2:30-3:30
October 5	Music in the Castle
October 28	Booster Meeting 6:30
November 4	<i>Percussion Practice</i>
November 18	<i>Percussion Practice</i>
November 25	Parade Practice
November 25	Booster Meeting 6:30
December 2	Parade Practice
December 5	Bristol Christmas Parade
December 10	Winter Concert
December 12	Jr Clinic Master Class with Band Directors

2019-2020

January ?	Jr Clinic Practice
January ?	Jr Clinic Practice
January ?	Jr Clinic Practice
January 18	Jr Clinic Auditions
January 27	Booster Meeting
February 14-15	Jr Clinic
February ?	S&E Practice
February 24	Booster Meeting
February ?	S&E Practice
February ?	S&E Practice
March 7	Solo & Ensemble
March 30	Booster Meeting
March ?	Virginia Duff Festival (AL Band only)
April 27	Booster Meeting
May 4	Spring Concert

Handbook Agreement Form

Vance Middle School Band

Student Information/Handbook Agreement

Please sign and date below, stating that you have read and agree to abide by guidelines set in this handbook.

Student name: _____

Student's Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ email: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ email: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Loan Agreement

Vance Middle School Band

School-Owned Instrument Loan Agreement

If your student will be using a school-owned instrument, this form must be completed by the middle school band director and signed by the student and parent, before they will be allowed to take their assigned instrument home.

Student Name: _____

Instrument: _____

Brand: _____

Description: _____

Serial #: _____

Other equipment or supplies checked out with instrument:

Instrument checked out for school year: _____

Condition upon check-out: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____