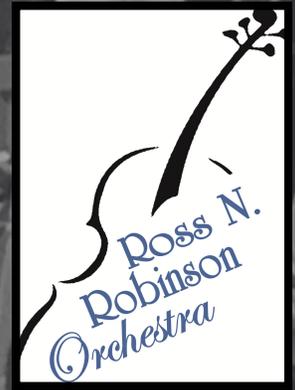




# Ross N. Robinson Middle School

1517 Jessee Street, Kingsport, TN 37664  
423-378-2200

## Instrumental Music



### RNR Band and Orchestra Instruments

**RNR Orchestra Instruments**  
Violin, Viola, Cello, String Bass

**RNR Band Instruments**  
Flute, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet,  
Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone,  
Trumpet, F Horn, Trombone,  
Euphonium, Tuba, Percussion

Participation in band or orchestra can be life-changing, and we look forward to being a part of your musical journey. Please check the back of this flier for more information and attend one or both instrument placement sessions. Instrumental music begins in the sixth grade, so don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!

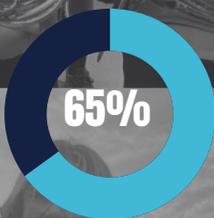
*Richard Brown Andrew Lynn Cindy Carrier*

### Why Instrumental Music?

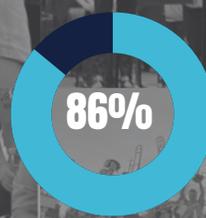
There are few subjects taught in school that offer students the opportunity to **have fun, learn a beautiful art form and develop life skills** that lead to success in the classroom and beyond.

Learning a musical instrument helps students grow skills and mindsets that last a lifetime.

### Skills Learned Through Instrumental Music



of RNR Band and Orchestra students participate in other sports and clubs.



of RNR Band and Orchestra students had no prior musical instrument experience.

### Joining Band or Orchestra

Sixth grade is the only year a student can start Band or Orchestra as a beginner.

Students should attend an Instrument Placement Session as the first step toward joining band or orchestra.

**Orchestra Placement Session**  
Saturday, March 2, 2024

9am-12noon @ Dobyys-Bennett HS Music Building

**Band Placement Session**  
Saturday, March 9, 2024

9am-12noon @ Ross N. Robinson MS

### Director Contact Information

**Orchestra: Mrs. Cindy Carrier**  
423-378-2221; ccarrier@k12k.com

**Band: Mr. Richard Brown**  
423-378-2226; rbrown@k12k.com

Check the back of this flier for more detailed information.

To ensure a proper start in the Ross N. Robinson Middle School Band or Orchestra Program, please come to one or both of our Instrument Placement Sessions. We will help students make educated choices of instruments with regard to their physical characteristics and interests. After being assessed by several instrumental professionals, your child will leave the session(s) knowing which instrument is the best fit.

### **RNR ORCHESTRA INSTRUMENT PLACEMENT SESSION**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024, 9am - 12:00 noon, at the Dobyns-Bennett High School Music Building**

**Trials on violin, viola, cello, and bass will be offered.**

**For the orchestra session, please sign up for a time with the QR code to the right.**



### **RNR BAND INSTRUMENT PLACEMENT SESSION**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024, 9am-12:00 noon, at Ross N. Robinson Middle School**

**Trials on flute, clarinet, bass clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French Horn, trombone, euphonium/baritone, tuba, percussion (drums and xylophone) will be offered. Advance sign-up is not required for the band placement session.**

We offer strong learning foundations on the instruments, with emphasis on reading music and performing. Through music, our organizations focus on core values of self-control, integrity, courage, service, teamwork, kindness, optimism, and perseverance. High expectations result in positive learning environments and amazing musical performances. Band and orchestra experiences will include many public performances and participation in regional events. The instrumental music program in Kingsport enjoys a large amount of success each year. Students continue to play their instruments in high school and beyond. Many student musicians receive scholarships to play in university bands and orchestras. Student musicians contribute to church music programs, community bands, and symphony orchestras. Numerous studies show that quality musical training lasts a lifetime and *helps boost academic abilities*. We encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities that band and orchestra provide. We look forward to working with your child on one or both of our instrument placement days.

## **ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

- 1. Students may attend one or both band and orchestra placement sessions.** After placement sessions are complete, students will be placed on a single instrument for participation in band or orchestra. Band and Orchestra are offered in grades 6 through 12, as part of the school curriculum. Band and orchestra classes meet every day. In order to participate in orchestra or band in middle school and high school, students must start in the 6th grade and remain in the program throughout.
- 2. Private instruction is highly recommended and encouraged, but not required.** A high percentage of our students are currently enrolled in private lessons. During our placement sessions we will provide names of private teachers for you to contact if you so desire.
- 3. Instrument allocations for orchestra.** The balance of students on violin, viola, cello, and bass will be determined as students join and are placed on instruments.
- 4. Instrument allocations for band.** The balance of students on each band instrument will be as follows: Flute - 10; Clarinet - 20; Bass Clarinet - 6; Alto Sax - 6; Tenor Sax - 2; Trumpet - 12; French Horn - 6; Trombone - 12; Baritone - 6; Tuba - 6; Percussion - 8. If you have a specific instrument in mind, please arrive early to the instrument placement session. Once an instrument section is filled with students whose compatibility ratings are strong for that instrument, the instrument will be "closed" and students will be placed on other instruments which still have openings.
- 5. If you have a conflict with the instrument placement session of your choice, you may contact the director of the orchestra or band to make an appointment for a make-up placement session.** We will work with you. However, it is best to attend the placement session(s), while the instrumentation lists are fully open. After the placement sessions, your choices for instruments may be limited.
- 6. Each student will be assessed according to physical characteristics such as teeth/lip structure, hand and finger size, arm length, breathing capacity, height, upper body dexterity, etc.** Students who are well-suited physically for an instrument will become the best musicians and will remain in the program for years to come. The instrument tryout sessions are enjoyable and exciting for the students. Please be patient with the process as we work to make your student's selection beneficial.
- 7. Orchestra and Band students may participate in other activities such as cheerleading, football, volleyball, soccer, softball, baseball, basketball, drama, dance, piano lessons, scouting, church youth groups, etc.** Most of our student musicians *do* participate in a variety of activities in addition to the music programs.
- 8. You will need an instrument when school begins.** We work with music stores who offer good rental/purchase plans. Families of students who are selected for violin, viola, flute, clarinet, alto sax, trumpet, trombone, and percussion should plan on purchasing or renting an instrument. Details about affordable instrument rentals and purchases will be provided.
- 9. Some school-owned instruments are available.** They are: bass clarinet, tenor sax, French horn, baritone, tuba, cello, and bass. Students are selected very carefully for these instruments, due to their supreme importance to the instrumentation of the band and orchestra. We will choose the most compatible students for these instruments and fill the slots quickly during the placement sessions.