

Band groups *improve continually* throughout the school year. Each month the students learn *new notes and skills* and play more advanced music.

All students must play at the same level in order to participate with the band group. Instrument switchers have a great deal of “*catching up*” to do before they can play with the band group. This is the basis for the **Instrument Switching Policy**.

Lineville Band

Instrument Switching Policy

- 1. An instrument switch must be approved by the band teacher**
 - a. the instrument has to be appropriate for the student
 - b. good practice habits are important, so the teacher will consider the student’s progress to date and home practice records
 - c. instrument balance within the group will be considered
- 2. If approved, the parent must obtain supplies**
 - a. most instruments can be rented or purchased from music stores
 - b. school-owned instruments (if available) can be rented from the school
 - c. the book Tradition of Excellence Book 1 and any necessary reeds, mouthpieces, etc. are available at music stores
- 3. The student must take lessons from a teacher and practice!**
 - a. students entering 6th grade in the fall may take the summer school course “6th grade summer band”
 - b. private lessons are available at local music stores and from other individuals (the band teacher will provide names upon request)
 - c. students must practice at home daily (if possible); all the skills up to page 22 must be mastered
- 4. The student must pass a test**
 - a. the student’s mastery of the skills learned through page 22 in Tradition of Excellence will be tested by the teacher
 - b. students who pass the test will be allowed to play their new instrument with the band group
 - c. students who do NOT pass the test will have to play their old (former) instrument until they are able to pass