

## **Recommended Instrument Stores and Brands**

It is very important that your child learns to play on a quality, student model instrument so that he or she does not become frustrated. Poor quality instruments tend to break frequently and/or are more difficult to play with a proper tone.

There are a number of music stores in the area that you could purchase or rent an instrument from and you are welcome to choose any store of your choice. We recommend ordering your rental instrument online at NEMC (National Educational Music Company). They send representatives to our buildings to pick instruments up that need repairs on a weekly basis and also have a large inventory of quality instruments for rent and/or purchase. They will deliver your instrument here to the school. If you rent through NEMC, they know which approved brands our district supports as quality instruments and they know which books and accessories are used by our school district. Additionally, because I am in contact with an Educational Representative from NEMC, I can help you to solve instrument problems that may occur with their rental instruments.

NEMC

[www.nemc.com/ves/](http://www.nemc.com/ves/)

800-526-4593

If you end up going to a different store or if you decide to purchase an instrument, these are the brands that we recommend:

### **Instrument Brand Recommendations**

Yamaha \*\*\* Great all around brand (Especially great brand for saxophones and other woodwinds)

Bach \*\* Great for brass

Jupiter \*\* Good for brass

Buffet \*\* Great for clarinets

Holton \*\* Good for French horns

Ludwig- Percussion

Bundy

Leblanc

Vito

Conn

King

Armstrong

Gemeinhardt

Emerson

Olds

Before purchasing an instrument of a brand that is NOT on this list, please contact me at [chousten@mtsd.us](mailto:chousten@mtsd.us) so I can tell you about my experiences with that brand.

While we highly recommend NEMC, here are some other stores that we have had success with in the past if you should choose to rent an instrument elsewhere.

Music and Arts

MusicArts.com

Rental Office: 800-347-1116

Retail Store located at Mercer Mall: 609-987-9595

(Quaker Bridge Rd and Rt. 1) in Lawrenceville, NJ

Russo's Music Center

1989 Arena Dr.

(Hamilton Twp.)

Trenton, NJ

609-888-0620