



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC 2011-2011

Lessons and Bands

Dear 4th through 8th Grade Parents:

As we look forward to another successful year's band program, we invite new and returning instrumental students to formally sign up for our Instrumental Music program.

Potential **NEW STUDENTS** that returned the "Interest In Lessons Form" in the spring and students new to our school should now formally sign up for half-hour lessons. A fee for lessons is required. Please complete both the "Instrument Lesson Sign-up Form and Payment Form" and return it with your registration materials. We recommend that you speak to Don, Michael, or your new teacher, before renting or purchasing an instrument and method book. Once beginning students have acquired some technique and facility on their instrument, they will be encouraged to join Junior Band later in the school year. Junior Band meets on Mondays during lunch recess. This group performs for the Spring Band Concert in May.

RETURNING STUDENTS should fill out and return the "Instrumental Lesson Sign-up Form and Payment Form." Be sure to check half-hour or hour lessons and the times available for lessons. Concert Band meets on Wednesdays during lunch recess. Jazz Band, for which membership is by audition only, meets on Monday from 3:15 to 4:00 pm after school. Concert Band and Jazz Band play for several events during the school year, such as: Grandparents' Tea, Fall /Spring Concerts, Spring Band Concert and Graduation.

WHY SHOULD YOUR CHILD JOIN THE BAND?

*Independent studies have shown that students who are involved in an instrumental music program are more likely to have higher test scores, tend to be better citizens of their schools, and generally tend to perform better in all academics.

*Learning an instrument helps students develop coordination, concentration and self-discipline.

*Being part of an instrumental music program immerses the student in learning the language of music, provides opportunity for making music independently and with others, and helps to foster a love of music in general.

If you have any questions, please call Michael Matson or Don Baker starting the week before registration. We can discuss instrument choice, changes in instrument choice, involvement in lessons and ensembles during that time. We can be reached at the music department as of August 22nd at 383-9434 x 107.

Sincerely,

Michael Matson and Don Baker, Band Directors