

June 9, 2009

Dear Parents,

The beginning of the school year also marks the beginning of our band program. Your student will be participating in this musical opportunity for the first time, and it is my hope that we can make some great music by winter break.

Each student is responsible for choosing an instrument to play. Possibilities for beginning band include **flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet** or **trombone**. The chosen instrument must be obtained and be in working condition by the first day of school. You may choose to purchase, rent, borrow, or recycle a family heirloom. Several local stores sell and/or offer rental contracts, and most are similarly priced. Additionally, each student needs to purchase the beginning ***Best in Class*** method book for his or her particular instrument. These books are usually in stock at Saied Music Company.

Regular practice is also a large part of this program. Each student will be required to spend 200 minutes per week playing his or her instrument. This requirement is recorded on a monthly time card that I will initial each class meeting. The result of this recorded time will average 125 minutes per week leaving only 75 out-of-class minutes to accomplish. These cards also must be ***signed by a parent*** so that we'll all be aware of the habits and resulting progress of our students.

Playing an instrument in a group is a very rewarding experience. Its many benefits include teamwork, responsibility, and developing musicianship. If you have questions, please feel free to email me, and I will be happy to discuss the musical future of your student.

Thank you,

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