

SPRING LAKE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Band

Dear Future Fifth Grade Parents:

As I'm sure you know, fifth grade is the year that students have the wonderful opportunity to start a band instrument. Since the year is winding down, we thought we'd send out a letter to inform you of when and how we start band. There's always so much excitement to start band that we get many questions this time of year and over the summer. We actually will not begin any band related activities until the fall.

At the beginning of the next school year, we will begin the process of pulling kids out of their general music class and helping them find an instrument with which they will find enjoyment and success. We hope to be done with the "fitting" process in a couple weeks. After which, we will develop a band list of all the students and the instruments they will be playing. Just about everyone will get their first instrument choice, but some students may need to play a second choice if it is a better fit for them.

After the fittings are done is where you come in - each student needs to get an instrument to play. The best choice is to rent an instrument from a reputable dealer. Meyer Music (located by the Lakes Mall) will be at our fifth grade parent meeting with instruments so you can pick one up here at the school. You can also go directly to the store and rent one. If you are purchasing or borrowing a used instrument, please have it checked at the shop at Meyer to make sure it is a quality instrument and in good working condition. We would like all the trumpet students to start on a trumpet, not a cornet if possible. Also, please do not be tempted by the inexpensive instruments that are popping up at Sam's Club, Wal-Mart, Meijer or online. They will not play well or last long and are nearly impossible to repair. Your student will also need the book, "Band Expressions" which is available at Meyer Music. If you forget the title, just tell them that your child goes to Spring Lake - they have the name of the book on file.

5th Grade Calendar

September 13
Parent Meeting
MS Band Room - 4:00pm

February 11
Concert with HS
HS Auditorium - 7:00pm

May 6
Spring Concert
HS Auditorium - 6:30pm

Band meets during the school day from 11:10am until 12:00pm. Each student will come twice a week.

The parent meeting will take place in the Middle School Band Room on September. Please be in attendance so we can discuss all that your fifth grader will be learning and make sure that he or she is ready to begin this new year.

We will always have the latest and most up to date information at www.springlakebands.org We'd love for all the fifth graders to take part in band - it's such a great experience! We do want all band students to

make at least a one-year commitment to the program and give it a solid effort during that year. Like anything worth doing, it does take some work and effort. Please encourage your child to be a part of the band. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us anytime. We're looking forward to a GREAT year!

Contact Information

Mr. Grevengoed
Mr. Truszkowski
Phone: (616) 846-5502 x3419
mgrevengoed@springlakeschools.org
mtruszkowski@springlakeschools.org
www.springlakebands.org

Mr. Grevengoed and Mr. Truszkowski