

Spring Lake Intermediate School Band

Dear Fifth Grade Parents:

School is beginning and it's time to start band! Starting TOMORROW (Thursday, August 30) we will be fitting students with the instrument that works the best for them. We hope to be done with this by the parent meeting. When we are done, 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 we need more

of that instrument. This is where you come in. Before we can fit each student, we would like you to talk to your child about participation in band and fill out the section at the bottom of this page. We need to have the bottom portion of the page to be returned when the student comes for his or her fitting. After we are done with all the students, we will post a list at school and on our website detailing which instrument best fits your son or daughter.

Contact Information

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www.springlakebands.org

Each student needs to get an instrument to play. The best choice is to rent an instrument from a reputable dealer. We will have information at our fifth grade parent meeting on September 13th. 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 a reputable instrument shop 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. Also, please do not be tempted by the inexpensive instruments that are popping up at Sam's Club, Wal-Mart or online in places like Amazon. They will not play well, last long and are nearly impossible to repair. Your child will also need the book, "Sound Innovations". This is included in some rental plans or available at a local music store.

The parent meeting this year is on September 13th at 6:30pm in the Middle School AUDITORIUM. We will always have all the information at www.springlakebands.org Even though it's not a required class, we'd love for all the fifth graders to take part in band – it's such a great experience! Please encourage your child to be a part of this class and **remember that it is a minimum one-year commitment.** Many times, it takes several months for the instrument to "click" with the student, so quitting after a few weeks not only messes up the scheduling, but isn't indicative of the student's possible ability on the instrument. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us anytime. We're looking forward to a GREAT year!

Yes! I am interested in band and wish to try out an instrument! I understand that it doesn't always come easily and I am committed to work my hardest on this instrument for my **entire fifth grade year.**

No. We're not interested and we realize that starting an instrument in later grades is not possible.

Please mark your first and second choices.

Flute

Trumpet

Clarinet

Trombone

Percussion (limited openings for students with piano experience)

Classroom Teacher _____

Name _____

Parent's Signature _____