



KENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Successfully Preparing All Students For Their Futures

Music Department

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Beginning band classes are starting in your school and students are invited to join. Beginning band instruments are flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone and percussion, which consists of both snare drum and bells. Percussion may not be allowed on school buses due to space and safety concerns, so please consider transportation when choosing an instrument. Classes are scheduled two days per week.

This is an academic class. Students will be given assignments and will be expected to practice 80 minutes per week. Support and encouragement from parents/guardians, as well as a commitment by the student to remain in band the entire school year, is vital for the achievement and success of your child.

Many music stores in the area offer a rental/purchase plan for beginners. Used instruments should be examined by an instrument repair technician to ensure acceptable condition. Purchasing an instrument from somewhere other than a music store, such as a discount warehouse or certain online retailers, is not recommended as these instruments tend not to hold up to regular use. Please contact the band teacher if you have difficulty obtaining an instrument.

Items your child will need for band (please label all items with student name):

- *Essential Elements Book 1*, published by Hal Leonard, available at local music stores.
- Music stand for home practice
- Instrument accessories (reeds, valve oil, slide oil, etc.) as indicated on the attached sheet.
- 3 -ring binder or folder which will hold the instruction book, paper and sheet music.

In this packet, you will find our **Partnership Contract for Success**. Please read this contract with your child and discuss the commitments each member makes to ensure the success of your student. If you would like your child to learn to play an instrument in beginning band (flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, or percussion), and agree to support the program to the best of your ability, please fill out the attached **Band/Orchestra Sign-up and Partnership Contract for Success** forms and return them to your school's orchestra teacher at the next class meeting.

We are looking forward to working with your child this year!

KSD Instrumental Music Staff

Beginning Band Supplies Information

If you have never purchased supplies at a music store before, relax and take a deep breath. It is not as involved as it looks. Take this sheet with you to the store. Following are the items that are essential to maintain the instrument. Some stores include some of these items with the instrument and some do not. Some stores sell a maintenance kit that includes more than the items that are listed. The supplies that are listed are what you need.

FLUTE

- Tuning rod
- a swab or cloth for drying the inside of the flute

CLARINET

- minimum of 4 reeds (size #2 to begin)
- a swab for drying the inside of the clarinet
- cork grease

TRUMPETS (cornet) - valve oil

- tuning slide grease
- mouthpiece brush
- valve casing brush
- "snake" for cleaning inside of horn

TROMBONE

- slide oil (not slide cream)
- tuning slide grease
- mouthpiece brush
- "snake" for cleaning inside of horn

PERCUSSION

- percussion "kit" which includes:
 - bells
 - snare drum
 - drum stand
 - snare practice pad
 - 2B drum sticks
 - bell mallets

- All students need a 3-ring binder to hold music, books, journal, pencil, and practice records.
- Music stands are not required, but advisable for the home practice. The music needs to be at eye level.
- You need to purchase the band book at a store. The band book for beginning band is *ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS 2000, Book 1* published by Hal Leonard.

LOCAL MUSIC STORES

A# Music Co.

214 SW 43rd St.
Renton, WA 98055
(425) 251-5929
(Books/Instruments/Repair)

Music & Arts (formerly Mills Music)

13306 – SE 240th St.
Kent, WA 98042
(253) 850-8000
(Books/Instruments/Repair)

Hammond Ashley Violins

970 5th Ave NW, Ste 100
Issaquah, WA 98027
(425)392-3963
(String Instruments/Books/Repairs)

Music & Arts (formerly North Benson)

17711 - 108th Ave. SE
Renton, WA 98055
(425) 255-6506
(Books/Instruments/Repair)

Horns-A-Plenty

(253) 631-2142
(Reconditioned Band Instruments for
Sale / Band Instrument Repair)

The Music Trader

26911 Maple Valley-Black Diamond Rd
Maple Valley, WA 98038
(425) 413-4343
(Books/Instruments/Repair)

Kennelly Keys Music

Email: pw@kennellykeysmusic.com
200 Andover Park East
Tukwila, WA 98188
(206) 431-9195
(Band and String
Instruments/Repair/Sheet Music)

Ted Brown Music

6228 Tacoma Mall Blvd
Tacoma, WA 98409
(253)272-3211
(Books/Instruments/Repair)

Reputable Websites:

Music & Arts

www.musicarts.com

Southwest Strings

String instruments and accessories
www.swstrings.com

Woodwind & Brasswind

Band instruments and accessories
www.wbw.com

Sharmusic

String instruments and accessories
www.sharmusic.com

Band/Orchestra Sign up

Student First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Student ID#: _____

School: _____

Grade: 5th
Level: beginner

Classroom Teacher _____

ORCHESTRA



Bass



Cello



Viola



Violin

Please list your preference for instruments. You may select from both Band and Orchestra

1st choice: _____

2nd choice: _____

3rd choice: _____

BAND

Percussion



Trombone



Clarinet



Flute



Trumpet



To be completed by Parent/Guardian

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Students need a quality instrument to be successful in Band or Orchestra. **Most families rent an instrument from a local music store.** 'Toy' instruments, such as those with color choices or those not purchased at a music store are not quality instruments.

Some instruments can be obtained from the District. These are for families with financial hardship and are assigned based on established need. Percussion is not available through the District. If you do not need financial assistance, instrument rentals are available at a local music store. Please refer to the list provided for reputable places to rent an instrument.

Do you own or can you rent an instrument (Please circle one) Yes No

If **No**, you may qualify for a reduced rental rate at \$80/year maximum. You must allow a district representative to access your free/reduced lunch information.

Do you give permission to access your student's free/reduced lunch information?

- Yes
- No *[Without this information, we cannot verify need or reduce the fee]*

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Partnership Contract For Success

Please discuss this agreement with your student and return the signed form to your band/orchestra teacher.

The Student Will:

- Practice at least 80 minutes each week and fill out the practice record form.
- Work to the best of his/her abilities.
- Attend and be prepared with book, binder, pencil, music, journal, and instrument for all classes and concerts unless excused by the band or orchestra teacher.
- ★ • Be a positive contributor to the band or orchestra throughout the entire year.
- Ask for help, if needed.

The Parent/Guardian Will:

- Arrange a regular place and time for practicing, sign the student's practice record form at the end of every week, and keep a record of the student's progress.
- Show an interest in band or orchestra membership with generous praise and encouragement.
- Insist on faithful attendance with book, binder, pencil, music, journal, and instrument at every band or orchestra class and concert.
- ★ • Support a full year of commitment and participation in band or orchestra.

The Teacher Will:

- Teach the Washington State Standards for Music.
- Assist and support the student in reaching his/her full potential in band or orchestra.
- Provide information to the student and parent/guardian regarding the student's progress and maintain open communication with student and parent/guardian.

Teacher

Parent/Guardian

Student