

8/16/16

Dear FE Parents,

Welcome to our FE Band! I am glad that your child is in Band, and I am *excited* to get another year of Band going at FE! Here is some information that I hope you will find helpful, to insure your child has the *best* possible Band experience.

Our Bands meet every Monday, Wednesday, & alternating Fridays. Please make sure your child brings their instrument to school on these days. Please see the backside for Friday Band Days. Band Students will have PE on Tuesdays, Thursdays, & alternating Fridays.

Instruments, accessory equipment (reeds, valve-oil) and Band books, & repairs - may be purchased at our local Music Store, Manning Music. Their contact information is listed below.

Manning Music
3400 SW 6th ST
Topeka, KS 66606
Phone # - 272-1740 – website - www.manningmusic.net.

***All FE 5th Grade Band Students will need the following Band Book** - “Traditions of Excellence, Book # 1, by Bruce Pearson.

***All FE 6th Grade Band Students will need the following Band Books** – “Traditions of Excellence, Bk. # 1 (last year’s book), by Bruce Pearson, Traditions of Excellence, Bk. #2, **AND** “Christmas Favorites, Solos & Band Arrangements,” by Mike Sweeney. We will start rehearsing in the Christmas Favorites Book on Monday, Oct. 3.

I recommend that your 5th Grade Bandsman rents their instrument, as this is the more economically feasible route if your child decides to quit band, or change instruments. I also encourage you to purchase an instrument from a Music Store, and not from a Department store. A Music Store instrument is of much higher quality, and can have parts repaired or ordered. Music stores will not repair Department store instruments, and the Department store instruments do not offer parts or repairs. Instruments are a prime example of “you get what you pay for!”

FE has the following school-owned instruments available for rental: 5 Baritones, 1 Bass-Clarinet, 1 Flute, and 1 Clarinet,. **These instruments require a \$45.00 per semester rental fee.** **Please call or e-mail me if your child is interested in renting a school-owned instrument.**

PRACTICE (at home) is needed for most students to succeed. Please encourage daily practice of 20 minutes, even if it sounds bad at first. You will start recognizing tunes soon!

Private Lessons- are not required but recommended, as they will allow your child to improve even faster! In a week or two, I will be sending-home a letter explaining my after school lessons at our school.

******Please see the backside for more information!******

Please have your child bring their instruments for our first rehearsal, as follows:

5th Grade Band – Monday, August 22.

6th Grade Band – Friday, August 19.

All 5th and 6th Grade students need to make their instrument and/or Music Class choice by Friday, August 19, so we can establish our class rosters.

2016 -2017 Band Fridays

Our 5th & 6th Grade Bands will rehearse on the following Fridays:

August – 19.

September – 2, 9, 16, 30.

October – No Fridays, HOWEVER, we will rehearse during our PLC times!–9:00 a.m.–9:40 a.m.

November – 4, & 18.

December – 9.

January – 6, & 20.

February – 3, & 24.

March – 17, & PLC times! – 9:00 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.

April – 7, & 21.

May – 12, & PLC times! – 9:00 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.

Concert Dates – Please see the FE Website for all of our FE grade-level concerts. You will find them listed under “Music News.”

Questions?

Please feel free to contact me at the contact information listed below.

Phil Karns, FE Music Teacher
School Phone – 408-8362
School e-mail – karnsphi@usd437.net

