



2017 Beginning Band!



Walden Elementary School
630 Essex Court
Deerfield, IL 60015

Kipling Elementary School
700 Kipling Place
Deerfield, IL 60015

August 16, 2017

Dear Band Parents and Students,

Congratulations on joining the instrumental music program! School will begin next week and so I'm sending an overview of the band program along with important dates and information. We anticipate an exciting year and look forward to creating a lasting musical experience with your child. *Please have your child bring a picture of him or herself that we can post on our bulletin boards!* Label an envelope with your child's name and instrument, and put it in my mailbox at school.

All students need to have an instrument by September 1st. If you have not yet made arrangements to rent or purchase an instrument, please do so as soon as possible to allow time for the instrument to be fully prepared. If you find what appears to be an incredible deal, purchase contingent on an assessment by a reputable teacher or music store. We have observed some instruments being sold are so cheaply made that they are not repairable when they break down. Buyer beware! If you need any assistance, please let us know; Deerfield School District 109 has a limited supply of some instruments available for rent.

- **Music Center Rentals:** Students who are signed up to rent an instrument through the Music Center of Deerfield will have their instruments delivered directly to their home school. I will distribute the instruments and lesson books at their first lesson.
- **All other arrangements:** Any students who already have an instrument from another source should bring it to the first lesson and purchase "**Measures of Success**" **Book 1** for their chosen instrument. Please have all materials at the first lesson for a successful start to the year. Many of the additional supplies listed below are available for purchase through the music store or come with the rental.

Be sure to check with your rental company for details.

■ **Additional supplies needed by instrument:**

■ **Flute**

- A small lint-free cloth to be used to clean the instrument. Please send this to school with your child at the first lesson.

■ **Oboe/Bassoon**

- Two medium-soft Jones Oboe Reeds.
- One silk swab and stick of cork grease.
- One tube of cork grease.

■ **Clarinet**

- One, #2 Legere reed, or one box of Rico Royal #2 reeds.
- One reed holder
- One swab.
- One tube of cork grease.
- One pencil grip (to be used as a cushion on the thumb rest).

■ **Alto Saxophone**

- One box of Rico Royal #2 reeds.
- One reed holder
- One swab, cork grease, and a neck strap.

■ **Trumpet/French Horn**

- Valve oil.
- Tuning slide oil.
- Mouthpiece brush.

■ **Trombone/Baritone/Tuba**

- Super Slick Slide Cream(trombone only)
- Valve oil (Baritone and Tuba)
- Tuning slide oil.
- Mouthpiece brush.
- Mouthpiece case (Baritone and Tuba only)

■ **Percussion**

- Bell Set and mallets.
- Snare drum or pad and 2 B sticks.

Small Group Lessons

Beginning Band members will attend a small group lesson one half hour each week. Schedules will be made available to parents and students by September 1st, and lessons begin the week of September 5th. After receiving the schedule, some families find it helpful to have the child record his/her weekly lesson time in an assignment notebook to assist with both remembering the instrument and the lesson time.

Beginning Band Rehearsals

Band students at Kipling and Walden will participate in one band rehearsal each week

- Kipling students will rehearse each Tuesday, starting September 26th 12:55 - 1:25
- Walden students will rehearse each Wednesday, starting September 27th 12:55 - 1:25

Concert Performances

Inherent in any group experience is the need for all students to participate in a scheduled performance unless illness or a family situation does not allow. Please send a note so we understand your child's situation. Students should arrive ½ hour prior to the concert time to warm-up and ready themselves for the performance.

All rehearsal and concert dates may be found on my website at:

<http://waldenkiplingbands.weebly.com>

Please add the following dates to your calendar:

October 25: Band Halloween Concert 7:00pm, Shepard Middle School

December 4: Combined Kipling & Walden 4th Grade Rehearsal 7:45am, Walden Elementary School

December 4: Winter Concert Assembly 9:00am, Walden Elementary School

December 5: Winter Concert Assembly 1:40pm, Kipling Elementary School

December 7: Winter Band Concert 7:00pm, Shepard Middle School

February (TBD): Potbelly's Concert

May 7: Combined Kipling & Walden 4th Grade Rehearsal 7:45am, Walden Elementary School

May 7: Spring Concert Assembly 9:00am, Walden Elementary School

May 8: Spring Concert Assembly 1:40pm, Kipling Elementary School

May 10: Spring Band Concert 7:00pm, Shepard Middle School

Concert Dress

Dark dress shoes and socks or hose, black pants or modest skirt, with a white button-down shirt or blouse. *Exception: halloween costumes are the dress at the October concert.*

Fees

The District 109 Board of Education approved a fee schedule that eliminates the fee for instrumental music. So, you will not see a fee for your child's participation in band or orchestra in Family Access.

The removal of the fee means that instrumental music is a curricular program that is part of your child's academic day. Band and orchestra students must maintain a commitment to the program to ensure a consistent schedule for the students and a predictable roster of musicians for the program. Elementary students participate through the winter concerts; if they choose to continue their band/orchestra participation after those concerts, they remain in the program through the end of the school year.

Lastly, if you know of a friend or a neighbor whose child is interested in signing up for the band, it is not too late! Please spread the word!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Emily Dykema
edykema@dps109.org