

5th and MS Band Information

BAND REGISTRATION

Please fill out this returning band form:

<https://forms.gle/yR3aCRgEXJn8W1zP9>. This will help me plan music, events, and assist in registration for band through the school.

REHEARSALS

5th grade will meet Wednesdays and Thursdays afterschool till 4 pm.

MS will meet Tuesdays and Fridays from 7:15-8:00 am (and head directly to class).

IMPORTANT DATES

7th and 8th Grade Only: SCIBA MS Honor Band entries are due by September 13th. I need to know if your student is interested in auditioning by September 6th. Auditions are on October 1st at Timberline Middle School and the event takes place on November 5th at Ankeny Centennial High School.

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Only: All-City Marching Band will happen on September 27th this year, with a call time of 6:45 pm at Valley Stadium. Rehearsal will take place at Dowling's soccer field the day before (September 26th) from 4-5 pm.

Christmas Concert: This will take place at St. Joseph this year (in the gym). The concert is on December 19th at 6:30 pm. Concert dress is all black. Students will rehearse with CKS students at a time TBD at SJCS.

8th Grade Only: 8th graders are invited to perform at Dowling Deep Maroon Serenade. They will rehearse on February 27th at Dowling, and perform at the concert on March 2nd at 4 pm.

Solo Contest: Interested students may attend solo contest at CKS on March 4th. Students will prepare a solo during their lesson time.

5th, 6th, and 7th Grade Only: All-City Band will take place on March 25th at Dowling. The concert will be that evening after a daytime rehearsal at Dowling.

Spring Concert: This will take place at Christ the King. The concert is on May 8th at 6:30 pm. Concert dress is all black. Students will rehearse with CKS students at a time TBD at CKS.

LESSONS

I am currently working with teachers to develop a lesson schedule. On days students have their lesson, they will need to bring their instrument and sheet music to school. The lesson day will be communicated via email.

Missing Instrument/Sheet Music Policy: If your student does not bring their instrument to school on a lesson date, I will reschedule their lesson one time per trimester. Students will write an email with me during their designated lesson time to parents/guardians with a request for a rescheduled lesson and a plan to help remember their instrument. If a student forgets their instrument again in the same trimester, the lesson will not be made up.

Missed Lesson Policy: If I am unable to be at a lesson, I will reschedule the lesson for a different time/day. If a student has a classroom party/other classroom major event/field trip, I will reschedule the lesson. If a student is not at school due to sickness/family reasons/etc., parents need to email me BEFORE the scheduled lesson in order to reschedule the lesson.

PRACTICING

Practice outside of school is a vital part of a student's musical growth. The 2 hours students have of rehearsal with me are for me to help them with concepts they do not yet understand, not to sit with them as they practice skills we have already learned that just need more practice. Students in 5th grade will be expected to practice for an hour and a half each week and students in middle school will be expected to practice for 2 hours each week. I would suggest breaking this up into 15 or 20 minute sessions 6 days out of the week, but students and families can divide this as they see fit.

Students will be given a practice log for each trimester. They need to record how much they practice each day and get parent/guardian initials for each week of practicing. If a student has their practice log complete for their lesson, they can choose a sticker/other prize from my bin. Students with 11 complete weeks for a trimester will be invited to our "practice party" at the end of each trimester.

BAND FEES

Band fees are \$650 for the year. This is billed through Odyssey and instructions will be sent to you. If you qualify for ESA funds, those funds can be put towards band fees.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. My email is mparker@stjosephcatholicdsm.org. I look forward to this school year with your students!