

Fifth Grade Beginning Band Mr. Kithcart, 2011-2012

- I. The Following schedule is a copy of when the fifth grade students will meet together. They will need to bring their instrument and band materials on these days.

Band is from 2:15-3:00 on Wednesday and Friday.

Participation in band will not interfere with instruction time in other classes.

- II. Student materials:

A. **An instrument.** Tonight you will hear about options for renting, and/or purchasing if you do not already own an instrument. If you have your own instrument already, I would like to have a look at it to make sure that it is in good working condition.

B. **A Method Book.** Each student will need his or her own book for band. We will be using the Essential Elements 2000 book 1. This book can be purchased for seven dollars. It will include a very good fingering chart.

C. **A Folding Music Stand.** Each student will need a music stand so that they can practice their instrument in the proper position (not slouching on a bed or floor.) These can also be purchased at any music store.

D. **A Pencil.** This will be needed to write in assignments, as well as for other in class activities.

- III. Student Expectations:

- a. Band members should give their best effort at all times
- b. Band members should respect the director, fellow students and equipment at all times.
- c. Band members should be on time (being on time also includes being ready to play.)
- d. Band members are to be responsible (have all the necessary materials required to play your part).
- e. Band members should be quiet when the director is instructing the class so that all directions can be heard.
- f. Concerts are the equivalent of exams in other subjects. Band members make a commitment to being at all scheduled concerts and activities when they sign up for the course. (One Concert: Thursday May 17th at 7:00 pm)
- g. Band members are expected to practice their instruments at home on a regular schedule to improve their performing skills. Students should spend around 10 to 20 minutes each day working on their instrument. Long periods of practice are ***not needed*** at the beginning... short intervals are fine to reinforce the fundamentals. Each student will have a weekly practice sheet which they are to fill out with your help. They will practice, have you sign it for them, and then return it to me the following week. Students will need to practice a total of 1 hour each week

*PARENTS: This undertaking is not only the student's commitment, but also of yourself. Students need MUCH encouragement. What comes out of the instrument initially may not be the most pleasant of noises... but, maturity comes with time, effort and encouragement. If parents desire, Mr. Kithcart will be available to give individual private lessons to students after school. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me at the school (419.756.5651 x267).

***PARENT INFORMATION MEETING**

We will be having a parent information meeting in the Band room on **Tuesday, September 6th at 7 PM.** A representative from a music store will be here with instruments for students to sample as well as answer any questions that parents or students may have. Please attend if you are able to, if not, a packet will be sent home with students regarding all of the information that was missed.