Clayburn Middle School - Band Information Letter (New Student)

***What is band class? Does my child need to know how to play music to join band?***

* Band class is an **optional** class that students can take at Clayburn Middle.
* Students choose the instrument that they will learn how to play from the Concert Band family which includes:
  + Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Double Bass & Percussion
* Many students who join band have never seen a musical note or played an instrument before.

***Does my child need to take private music lessons?***

* Band class is a teacher-directed group lesson. There are usually between 30-60 students in a band class.
* Private music lessons are not required, however, some students find the additional one-on-one support helpful.
* Here are some ideas and suggestions for private lessons:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sibling or Peer | King’s Music | Long & McQuade | A&D Sound | Abbotsford Community Music School |

***Are there any fees or costs associated with band class at Clayburn Middle?***

* There is a fee of $20 for Band which helps cover the costs of the textbook, sheet music and supplies
* Students are expected to acquire their own instruments.  King’s Music provides instrument rentals at a low cost.
* Clayburn owns and provides the following larger more costly instruments in **limited quantities** to students:
  + Tubas / Baritones / Bass Clarinet / Saxophones\* ($140/year)  Double Bass (Free if it stays at School)
  + Clarinet / Trumpet / Trombone\* ($70/year)

*\*Mr. Long prioritizes saxophones and trombones for students that are enrolled in Jazz Band.*

***How are learning goals and homework communicated to students and parents?***

* Learning goals and homework will be communicated using email.

***Are there other music performance groups?***

* We have one extra-curricular group that goes on trips/tours and performs throughout the community
  + Jazz Band - Practices once a week.  See schedule for more information.
* Jazz Band focuses on high quality performances.
* The music is more difficult & performance expectations are higher than in Grade 6/7/8 band class.

***When do band classes take place and what are Band PODs?***

* Students who **sign-up for band** are organized into class groups of 15-25 students.
* Each band class group is combined with other students (not in band) and form a band POD (60 students)
* Every other day, band students leave their regular classroom to attend band class in the music room.
* The regular classroom will engage in alternate learning activities during band.

**Band Sign-ups are DUE the 2nd Friday of June.**

**Summary of Information**

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| --- | --- |
| Band PODs | Students will be organized into Band PODs. We intend to have 2 Band PODS per grade.  Each POD will have approximately 15-25 band students out of 60 total students. |
| Due Date | Students who are interested in band next year need to fill out the band sign-up form.  **Band Sign-ups are DUE the 2nd Friday of June.** |
| Music Fee | There is a band fee of $20 that covers Grade 6, Grade 7, Grade 8 and/or Jazz Band. |
| Concerts, Trips & Events | All bands will perform at both the Winter Concert (4th Thursday of January) and Spring Concert (2nd Friday of June). Grade 8 Band will also perform at the Remembrance Day Assembly and the AMEA Middle School Band Night.  Jazz Band will also perform at the AMEA Nights of Music, go on a 2-3 day festival trip and also perform at some elementary schools. |
| Jazz Band | Jazz band is an enrichment performance group for band students.  Students are required to be enrolled in Grade 6, 7 or 8 band in order to participate. **Jazz Band Sign-ups are in the Fall.** |
| Form Submission | Band Sign-up Forms can be submitted by dropping off the completed sign-up form at **your child’s** school office or at Clayburn Middle School’s office. |

**\*Tentative Music Schedule for the School Year**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Day 1 | Day 2 |  | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 7:15 - 8:15 am |  |  |  | \*Jazz Band (Extra Rehearsal Notice will be given) |  | Jazz Band (Doors open at 6:45am) |  |  |
| Lunch |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12:30 - 1:25 pm | Grade  6-1 Band | Grade  6-2 Band |  |  | Grade 6 Percussion  (As Needed) | Grade 7 Percussion  (As Needed) | Grade 8 Percussion  (As Needed) | Jazz Band Rhythm  (As Needed) |
| 1:25 - 2:16 pm | Grade 8 Band | Grade 7 Band |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2:30 - 3:30 pm |  |  |  | \*Jazz Band (Extra Rehearsal Notice will be given) |  |  |  |  |