

BAND ENROLLMENT FORM for the 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR MUST RETURN FORM TO....

4th grade teacher - Middle School Office - Mr. Shimmons in the band room

Or complete online at <http://farwellbands.weebly.com>

Or complete online by scanning the QR code on your phone/tablet

Students Name: _____

4th Grade Teacher _____

Have you had piano lessons? _____

Instrument Choices:

First choice: _____

Second

choice: _____

Do you own any of these instruments? _____

If so, which one?



ENROLL ONLINE HERE

Do you want your child enrolled in Band for next school year? Either Fill out this form or complete the online form.

I would love to have my child enrolled in Beginning Band for the 2018-2019 School year at Farwell Middle School. I understand that I need to provide a quality instrument by the second week of school in the fall. (Either own, rent from an instrument company, or rent from the school (School instrument rentals are mostly for those who wish to play the larger instruments))

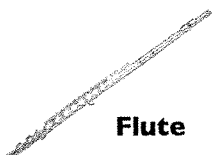
Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Phone: _____

Below is a list of Beginning Band Instruments. Please select their instruments from this list:

Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Percussion (very limited numbers in this section! Students with prior piano lessons are a huge asset!)

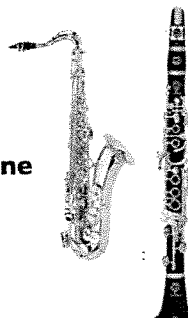


Flute

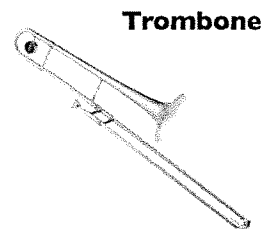


Trumpet

Saxophone



Clarinet



Trombone

RETURN THIS FORM to a school Office or
complete online at the band website
<http://farwellbands.weebly.com>



JOIN THE BAND



CHECK OUT THE BAND WEB SITE

FARWELLBANDS.WEEBLY.COM

Farwell wants you join in the music & fun!

Being a member of the band, a student has the unique opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument, form lasting friendships, and to

explore and broaden their musical experience. And these days, that is a significant positive influence.

The following is information regarding instrument rentals, student success and parent involvement.

Instrument choices are filled on a first come, first filled basis so be one of the first to get your students form returned!

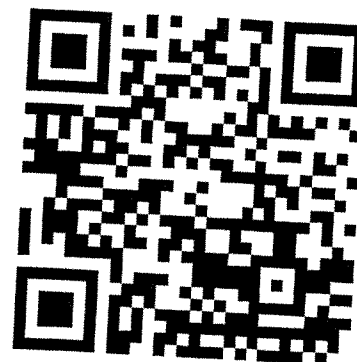
BE A PART OF THE BAND!

Parent Meeting

**Thursday
May 31
6PM**

FHS Band Room

HOW DO I GET STARTED?



ENROLL ONLINE HERE

Band General Info

All 5th Grade Students have the opportunity to a member of the 5th Grade Beginning Band.

Band is a year long class and will include two after school performances.

OUR STUDENTS ENJOY BEING ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN BAND ALONGSIDE PARTICIPATING IN SPORTS LIKE VOLLEYBALL, LITTLE LEAGUE AND FOOTBALL

Selecting the Right Instrument

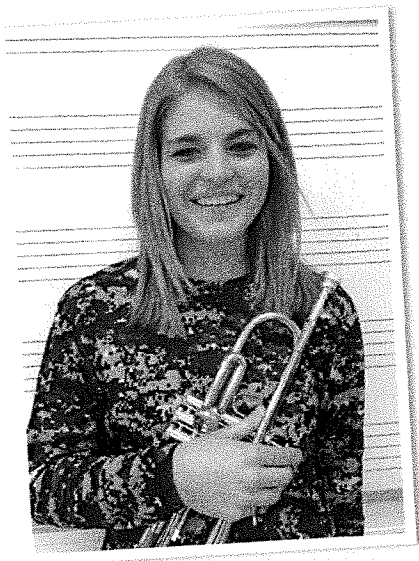
Students will be guided in their selection of an appropriate instrument. Factors such as size of hands, teeth, lips, physical size, motor co- ordination and other physical characteristics are all considerations in choosing an instrument. In addition tonal and rhythmic readiness are also important factors.

A successful band program depends on a balance of instrumentation. The selection of instruments should reflect this concern. Both parents and students must be made to realize the importance of controlled instrumentation. This must be stressed throughout the selection process.

Quality and Price

Today parents are faced with more choices than ever when choosing student instruments—which are now readily available on the Internet and from “big box” mass merchandisers as well as from traditional music retailers. With the dizzying array of brands currently on the market, all claiming to be the best, which to choose?

While price is an important consideration, the cheapest is by no means the best choice when it comes to something as important as your child's



KATE

I LOVE BAND BECAUSE I ENJOY LEARNING NEW THINGS AND CHALLENGING MYSELF. THE PEOPLE IN BAND ARE AWESOME AND I LOVE PLAYING MUSIC.

KATE PLAYS VOLLEYBALL, BASKETBALL AND SOFTBALL.



AUSTIN

I LOVE MUSIC AND I ENJOY BEING WITH MY FRIENDS WHILE WE MAKE MUSIC. I FEEL LIKE IF I WASN'T IN BAND I WOULD BE MISSING AN IMPORTANT PART OF MY LIFE.

AUSTIN PLAYS FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL AND BASEBALL.

musical education. The low-quality products currently sold under various off-brand names might seem like a great deal at first, but there are many reasons why quality instruments—bearing any of the respected names, are truly the outstanding long-term value.

Whether you plan to rent or buy the instrument for your child, it's crucial that you consider the issue of quality as well as price; otherwise your child risks getting off on the wrong foot with faulty equipment, which can only add frustration to the challenges of learning.

Need Assistance?

No student will be denied participation in any band event because of financial concerns. If there is a financial need, please contact the director immediately. A limited number of school instruments are available for a small user fee.

Used Instruments:

Are used instruments acceptable and available?

The importance of your child's first steps in learning a musical instrument cannot be overstated. If you make the mistake of starting children on inferior instruments "just in case" they lose interest and quit, you nearly guarantee that they will.

Band Instruments are very commonly used but instruments should be evaluated by a knowledgeable repair technician and good working order. Directors

and students should not have to lose valuable instruction time due to poor quality equipment or constant repairs.

If you find a used instrument and have questions or need us to evaluate it please contact us. You may contact us by any of the following method:

- Herter Music sends a representative to the our school once a week.
- John Manley is a repair technician who lives here in Farwell. He can fix many of the smaller issues.
- Central Michigan Music in Clare has used instruments as well as qualified repair technicians.

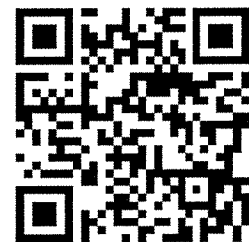
CHECK OUT THE LIST OF APPROVED INSTRUMENT MAKES FROM OUR BAND WEBSITE!



WHY BAND?

OKAY, PARENTS. LET'S FACE THE MUSIC.

Parents can contrive lots of excuses for denying music to their children, yet music education is one of the oldest, most readily available and probably least expensive routes available to family solidarity. It's one of the few hobbies that can last for life and improve with age. Take a look at your friends whose lives have been enriched by music over the years. Think of your own child's future. Remember that music is "the food of love" and that you can become a better parent by helping a new generation to "play on."



SCAN THIS QR CODE
WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE
FOR EVEN MORE
INFORMATION ON OUR
BAND WEBSITE

BAND SUPPLIES NEEDED

- A quality, name brand instrument.
- Essential Elements Book I
- 3 good reeds in their case at all time
- Valve Oil or Slide Oil
- A place at home to practice on a regular basis

Why Choose Music?

It has been called the international language. Its roots are ancient, interwoven with the fabric of every culture. "If music be the food of love," wrote Shakespeare, "play on."

Music both entertains and inspires. It has the power to shape our moods, to rally or soothe us. You don't need to be a musician to appreciate music or its role in our lives. The opportunity to play music is an extraordinary gift and the process of learning to play music not only rewards children with the hands-on experience of music itself, but also provides students with a remarkable array of other advantages.

Consider the teamwork, mental discipline and sense of accomplishment that students derive from learning music—they won't get that from simply hanging out, from passing their time with TV or video games. Music teaches a sense of purpose, with goals and rewards. Along the way, they'll forge friendships with their fellow band members and enjoy the camaraderie of belonging to a group with a common purpose. And they'll learn the responsibilities that make each and every student musician a valued member of the band. On top of which, their creativity and self-expression will continually develop with the music itself.

It sounds too good to be true, doesn't it? But the numbers prove it. In recent years, research on many fronts has shown conclusively that studying music—and the earlier the better—equips students to excel in all other areas of study. The inherent logic of music, coupled with its sequential study, seems to "hardwire" young minds to learn better and faster.

Recent statistics from the College Entrance Examination Board reveal that students with more than four years of music study scored 56 points higher than their peers on the verbal portion of the SAT and 38 points higher on the math portion.

In school district after school district, music students consistently show significantly higher grade-point averages than the general student population.

An analysis by the Pittsburgh School Board revealed that the dropout rate for non-musicians was 7.4%, but only 1% for students with one or two years of music training. And for those with three or more years, the dropout rate was a remarkable zero.

Colleges have taken note of the importance of music education in preparing students for higher learning. A survey of admissions officers at major American universities shows that 70% look for achievement in the arts when considering entrance applications.

So encouraging your child's participation in the school band has implications that go well beyond "making music." But your child needn't know that—he or she can simply enjoy the experience of discovering music and being part of a creative experience that will reap lifelong rewards.

Questions?

Email the Band Director Mr. Shimmons
pshimmons@gmail.com

Excuses Why Not To Choose Music

But I don't know a thing about music.

A musical instrument is a key that unlocks a bounty of treasures: self-respect, cooperation, understanding, resourcefulness, pleasure, escape, family harmony, and on and on. Why, then, do some parents deny this experience to their children? Do any of these reasons sound familiar?

My Child has no talent.

How do you know until he or she is exposed to a learning situation where music is involved? Shouldn't all children be offered a chance at such an enriching adventure? Furthermore, if only the highly talented become musically literate, who will support our symphonies or appreciate our musical heritage or simply enjoy all the music that surrounds our lives?

My Child is not the type.

There is nothing to be gained if we label and pigeonhole everyone. It's natural to hope that our children will carry out our unfulfilled dreams for us, but it's risky to put our own dreams before theirs. Maybe you call Johnny the "athletic type" because you want him to be a sportsman. But does that mean he can't be an athlete who also enjoys music? No career is an alternative to music, but each is enriched by music's rewards.

My Child shows no interest in music.

Are you sure? Almost all young people respond to life with sound and song. Sing a lullaby to an infant, and the baby coos in return. Hand a stick to a toddler, and he or she will beat out a fascinating rhythm. Kids spend a good part of life humming, strumming, tapping, whistling, swaying, rocking and rolling. By its very nature, the world of childhood is saturated with music.

Excerpt from: Parents' Guide - Conn-Selmer, Inc.

My Child hasn't asked for music instruction.

Does your child beg permission to go to school or church or scouts? You normally assume responsibility for these decisions as part of parenting. Children can't know what experiences will be meaningful for them. They need you to make choices, set directions and open up new horizons for their growth.

My Child should be out playing ball.

In an era of dishwashing fathers and working mothers, we can no longer stereotype interests and activities as feminine or masculine. And why would we want to? Both sexes should feel encouraged to experience life in all its richness. Music and the arts help nurture every child as a well-rounded person.