

Double Peak 6th Grade Beginning Band

Welcome back to the World of Music!

Welcome back to school! This year we will continue to develop your musical skills by focusing on one instrument. **This will be an instrument of YOUR CHOICE.**

The Beginning Band Experience: The first few weeks of school will be used as a time to explore the different available instruments. Mr. McGhee and the Beginning Band coaches will work with students to help them to determine which instrument they would like to play.

Recommended Instruments: Trombone, Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, French horn, Baritone or Tuba. Guitar and piano are not offered. *Please refer to Jazz band for these instruments. I do recommend that when your student makes a choice for an instrument that you refer to **Mr. McGhee's hints for obtaining an instrument.**

Percussion & Bass Guitar: Due to the unique aspects of percussion instruments and the bass guitar, these instruments have certain restrictions. See separate sheet enclosed in your First Day Packet. Note: bass players are only allowed in Beginning and Concert Bands.

Music Book & Stand: ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS 2000 Book #1 (for their instrument). Students will also need a music stand for practicing at home.

Band Room Instruments: I understand that the cost of an instrument can be prohibitive and may not work out financially for every family. The good news is that I do have clarinets and trumpets in the band room that your student may use during class time; however, these instruments must remain in the band room and cannot be taken home. Your students will be offered time during school to do their music homework. If this is a hardship, please contact me at the beginning of the school year.

Practice Software: We use a software called **SMART MUSIC** for students to practice and turn in their homework. I will tell you more about this computer program at the beginning of the school year. The cost is \$40 per student.

Beginning Band Uniform: All Band Students will need a band tee shirt, which we will use as a uniform. Our Music Boosters sell these shirts at cost for \$12. In addition to the tee shirt, the uniform will be dark LONG pants, shoes, and socks (high enough to cover the ankles).

Beginning Band Performances: At Double Peak School, you will have the opportunity to perform for your family and friends on at least three occasions!

- **Fall "Turkey" Concert – November 14 at 7 p.m.**
- **Coffee Concert – April 12th or 13th (depending if even or odd) (during 1st period)**
- **Spring Concert at the California Center for the Arts in Escondido – TBA**