

Harvard Public Schools Music Department

Welcome Parents and New Band Members!

We are starting another exciting year of music here at H.E.S. On September 2, 2010, your children will be shown all the different types of instruments in the band. If interested, it is now time to choose which instrument they would like to learn. If you have a sixth grader, this would be a good time to obtain an instrument as well, if he or she does not already have one.

Attached is a rental form from David French Music Co. They provide weekly instrumental services through the school and have shown excellence in service and quality. You are not required to use this company. But remember a quality instrument is important to the success of a first year music student and a less expensive instrument may end up costing you more money in the long run.

Please fill out and return the rental form to your child's homeroom teacher by **September 7**. We will be holding our **first band meeting** on **Wednesday, September 8 at 6:00pm** in the **Cafeteria** at **Bromfield** for all parents and new band students. At this meeting your child will be able to pick up the instrument they have selected. I will also go over the details of the program and answer any questions you may have.

We apologize that the first band meeting is on Rosh Hashanah and will ensure this is not a barrier to starting an instrument. It is imperative that you and your child let us know if you cannot attend the instrument rental meeting on Wednesday, September 8, so that we can arrange for David French Music Co. to contact you individually about the instrument that you choose to rent. Please check the rehearsal dates below, if you are unable to attend any band rehearsals or group lessons please let us know.

In addition to the full band rehearsals, there will be mandatory group lessons of like instruments scheduled for each instrument during the last period of the school day from 2:30-3:00 and/or from 3:15-3:45. The small group lesson schedule will be handed out to all parents at the instrument rental night and given to all students by their grade 5 homeroom teachers. Small group lessons will begin the week of Monday September 13.

If your child is still not sure which instrument they would like to play bring them to the meeting and we may be able to assist them with their choice.

If you already have an instrument or plan to get one elsewhere, it is important that you still attend the meeting. Also if you do not go through David French Music Co. you will still need to obtain a lesson book. The name of that book is Standard of Excellence, Book 1, written by Bruce Pearson and published by A. Kjos Music Co. There will be lesson books available at the meeting.

If you have any questions please e-mail me at cmyers@psharvard.org (the best way) or call at 978-456-4152 Ex. 571.

Look forward to seeing you all,

Collin J. Myers
Harvard Elementary School Band Director

Talia R. Mercadante
Harvard Elementary School Lesson Instructor

Band Rehearsal Dates Harvard Elementary School Band rehearsals will be held on the following dates during the 2010-2011 School Year beginning at 8:00am in the HES Cafeteria:

SEPT 2010 – ~~13(M)~~, 17(F), 22(W), 28(T)
OCT – 1(F), 7(R), 14(R), 20(W), 25(M), 29(F)
NOV – 3(W), 9(T), 15(M), 19(F), 29(M)
DEC – 3(F), 8(W), 14(T), 17(F), 23(R)
JAN 2011 – 5(W), 11(T), 18(T), 24(M), 27(R)

FEB – 2(W), 7(M), 11(F), 16(W)
MAR – 1(T), 4(F), 10(R), 15(T), 21(M), 24(R), 30(W)
APR – 4(M), 8(F), 13(W), 26(T), 29(F)
MAY – 5(R), 10(T), 16(M), 19(R), 25(W), 31 (T)
JUNE – 6(M), 9(R), 15(W)

Day Letter Codes: (M) – Monday, (T) – Tuesday, (W) – Wednesday, (R) – Thursday, (F) – Friday