



5th Grade Band Sign Ups



Returning Member Information Welcome to 2nd Year!

This packet will describe the band program for 2nd year students. Please look over the expectations for participation. **ALL STUDENTS MUST RETURN THE INCLUDED FORM, WHETHER YOU ARE RETURNING TO BAND OR NOT.**

Band Program Expectations

Lessons

Band lessons will begin the week of September 26th. Lesson days and times and times will be announced prior to this date.

Practice

Band students are expected to practice a minimum of 15 minutes a day, 5 days a week for a total of 75 minutes per week. I highly encourage parents to set up and maintain a practice schedule for your child. Practice is essential for progress, and parents who help set aside a time each day set their children up for success.

NEW Advanced Band Ensemble

Advanced Band is open to any 2nd year band student. It is much like KEB (see below) but is geared toward 5th grade students and begins in the fall. This ensemble is strongly recommended but is not required. The first rehearsal for Advanced Band is Tuesday, October 4th from 6:30-8:00pm. All rehearsals and the concert will be held at Keene High School. Please see the attached schedule for a complete list of dates and times. This year's dress rehearsal and concert are on Saturday, December 3rd due to scheduling restrictions.

There is no cost to participate in Advanced Band. All music will be provided.

Benefits of playing in this group are

- 1) Playing fun music geared towards 5th graders
- 2) Preparation for a leadership role in KEB
- 3) Preparation for middle school band
- 4) Performing a concert

In the event of a weather-related school cancellation or early dismissal on a Tuesday, the Advanced Band **will not** hold rehearsal that evening. Otherwise, we will plan to rehearse.

Finally, if your child is able to make most but not all rehearsals, or you have another scheduling conflict, he/she may still be able to participate in Advanced Band. Please email or call me to discuss special arrangements.

To register for Advanced Band: It's easy! Check the box for "Yes I want to play in Advanced Band" on the sign up form included with this packet. Return the form to your child's classroom teacher by September 16th. Bring your child to the first rehearsal on October 4th!

Keene Elementary Band (KEB) Ensemble

KEB begins Tuesday, January 3rd. Same format as last year. Open to 4th and 5th graders. This ensemble is strongly recommended but is not required. KEB rehearsals are from 6:30-8:00pm on Tuesday nights from January through mid-April. Sign ups come home in October/November. The benefits of this group are: 1) Working with a high school mentor 2) Playing with students from the entire Keene School District 3) Learning the skills of playing as a band 4) Performing a public concert for friends and family 5) Faster progress. This program is a GREAT way to motivate students to keep playing and practicing!

There is a small participation fee of \$20 for KEB (includes music and a T-shirt). However, any student may participate regardless of financial situation. Scholarship money is readily available upon request.

Instrument

Please make sure your instrument is in good working condition. You should wipe off any old slide/cork grease or oil and apply new grease and oil. Make sure all notes are working correctly and that the sound is coming out easily. If not, you should have the instrument serviced (Ellis Music if you are renting 802-234-6400 or Cheshire Music 357-4277 if you have your own instrument)

It is strongly recommended that students stay with their current instrument. Any requests to switch instruments must be approved by a parent and Mrs. Clark. Students will also be expected to make a commitment to extra practice to catch up to 5th grade level on their new instrument. Please contact me to discuss this possibility prior to making a decision kclark@sau29.org or 352-8012)

Lesson Book

We will again be using "Essential Elements 2000, Book 1" to start the year. If you need a new copy, please purchase one from Ellis Music or Cheshire Music.

Additional Materials

Please make sure you have reeds, oil, grease, swab, etc. for your instrument by the start of lessons (Sept. 26th). You should also have a music stand for home practice. You may purchase any of these items by calling Ellis Music 802-234-6400. You may also choose to attend Rental Night to purchase the items (Rental Night is Tuesday, September 20th at 6:30pm at Jonathan Daniels gym).

Rental Night for new band members is September 20th at 6:30 at the Jonathan Daniels School gym. 5th graders and parents do not need to attend this meeting unless you are coming to purchase materials.

The Keene Elementary Band program now has a website! You can follow a link from the main page (www.sau29.org) to the "Schools & Districts" drop down menu along the top. Then hover over "Keene District" and follow the drop down to "Keene Elementary Band." Or, you can simply type the following URL into your browser

www.sau29.org/keeneelementaryband298.html

This page will include all forms, schedules, and other important information about the elementary band program. Please check in from time to time to stay up to date.

PLEASE KEEP THIS PACKET FOR YOUR REFERENCE!

QUESTIONS?

The best way to contact me is by email. You may also call me at Jonathan Daniels School.

Kim Clark
kclark@sau29.org
352-8012

Ellis Music
Bethel, VT
802-234-6400

Cheshire Music
The Center at Keene
357-4277

Lessons start the week of Sept. 26th

Advanced Band starts Oct. 4th

Please Return Sign Up Form by Friday, September 16th!