

JOIN BAND!!!!!!

Dear 4th grade Students and Parents,

This week your student attended (or will attend) an instrument demonstration about the band program here at Greenbriar West ES. All interested students in the 5th and 6th grade have the opportunity to learn an instrument as part of the band program. Students that choose to join the band will participate in a one-hour lesson once a week during our specials block. **While we will review this next year and give your students another opportunity to make a decision, any 4th grader who feels ready to commit to band for next year is welcome to sign up now!**

CHOOSING AN INSTRUMENT

There is a good chance your student already has a strong idea of what instrument they want to play in the band next year. If your student is confident in their selection you may go ahead and allow them to sign up for that instrument. Some students prefer to test out a couple different instruments before choosing which one is the best fit for them. For students who are unsure of their selection I can allow them to try a few different mouthpieces and see what they can most comfortably produce a sound on. Please let me know if you'd like me to help select an instrument for your child.

RENTING AN INSTRUMENT

Most music stores in the area provide an instrument rental/purchase plan. Fees paid during the rental period can be credited toward the purchase of the instrument at a later time. I will include links to many music stores in the area in the online sign-up form. Please email me if you have questions about getting an instrument for your student.

FCPS offers a rental program to students who have applied for financial assistance through the county. There is a reduced instrument rental fee of \$20 which covers the entire school year. We will take care of students that this applies to at the beginning of next school year.

How much time outside of school will this take up?

All of our band classes happen during the school day and there will be one evening concert which all students perform at. Beyond that, band students are expected to practice regularly at home (10-20 minutes per day) but that is done individually so your student is free to work it into their schedule however it best suits your family.

Please scan the QR code to sign up, **REMEMBER – you only need to sign up now if your student is sure of their instrument decision.** If you have any questions about specific instruments or about band in general please email me at dmhill2@fcps.edu. I look forward to working with your students next year!

Sincerely,



Mr. Hill
GBW Band Director

