

# 5th Grade Instrumental Music

## Choosing Instruments!!

As part of the 5th grade music curriculum, your child will be learning to play a band or orchestra instrument this year. We are very fortunate in Ann Arbor that EVERY 5th grader studies a band or orchestra instrument. Today your child had a chance to hear and see the instruments he/she may choose to play. Please take some time at home to discuss these instruments with your child.

During the next few weeks the students will be trying to hold and play several instruments. To get their turn trying the instruments, your child must turn in a **Ticket to Learn** which says that you and your child are taking responsibility for an instrument and will pay for any accidental damages or loss.

After trying the instruments, we will help each child decide which instruments they think they would like to learn. We will ask each student to give us a first, second, and third choice. Once all students have made their choices, we will assign instruments. We do our best to give students their first or second choice whenever possible. At times it is necessary to consider their third choice.

Some students may already be studying a band or orchestra instrument outside of school. If your child has taken lessons on a band or orchestra instrument he/she may choose to play that instrument in school this year or try a different instrument in school.

### **How do students get their instruments?**

Every student is assigned an instrument from our school inventory. To use a school instrument every student and the adult in their home must read and sign the **Ticket to Learn**. **Please read and sign the attached Ticket to Learn and return it to the band or orchestra teacher right away.** Once students are assigned a specific instrument, you will have an opportunity to come to school and inspect the condition of your child's assigned instrument.

### **What instruments do we start in 5th grade?**

WOODWINDS: flute, clarinet (pathway to saxophone)

BRASS: cornet/trumpet (pathway to French horn), trombone, baritone (pathway to tuba)

PERCUSSION: bells & snare (these go together)

STRINGS: violin, viola, cello (pathway to bass)

### **When will students bring their instruments home?**

We will begin learning to play as soon as instruments are assigned (generally the first or second week in October). However, we will keep all instruments at school for several weeks. Once students demonstrate that they know how to care for their instruments properly and can play their first few notes properly, we will send the instruments home. This usually happens a few weeks after instruments are assigned.

**We are all excited about what lies ahead!! Please complete your Ticket to Learn and return it to an instrumental music teacher right away!**

Your Instrumental Music Teachers,  
Mrs. Cara Boden  
Band Director  
boden@aaps.k12.mi.us

Ms. Candace Chappell  
Orchestra Director  
chappellc@aaps.k12.mi.us

# Ticket to Learn a 5th Grade Instrument

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Classroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ School: A2 Steam @ Northside

Do you already play an instrument? Yes No If yes, what? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own an instrument? Yes No If yes, what? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you taken private lessons on this instrument? Yes No For how long? \_\_\_\_\_

Who is your private teacher? \_\_\_\_\_

Please read and sign the agreement below

## **ANN ARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

### **GUARANTY COVERING LOAN OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENT**

We the undersigned, in partial consideration of the loan of the musical instrument described below, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, do hereby individually and severally agree to be responsible for the return of said instrument to the ANN ARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS during or at the close of the present school year, in approximately its present condition: provided, that should the instrument become damaged through careless handling, faulty use, or accidental breakage, during the period of the present loan, to any greater extent than the results of ordinary wear, we agree to reimburse the said Ann Arbor Public Schools in an amount sufficient to restore the instrument to its former condition, and provide further, that should said instrument become lost or destroyed during the said period, we agree to pay the Ann Arbor Public Schools a sum sufficient to pay for the purchase of an instrument of equal value. If the teacher has informed us that this is a shared instrument at the school, we agree to split the costs of damage that the teacher cannot attribute to a specific student or incident.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
home phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
cell phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address - please print clearly