

Elementary Band and Orchestra Fall Enrollment Form

Dear Parents:

Your child will have an opportunity to learn to play an instrument this school year. Classes will be offered during the school day to all interested fourth and fifth grade FCPS students. Students will usually receive one forty-minute class each week. We encourage our FCPS students to take instrumental music for the joy of the experience as well as the development and use of higher level thinking skills. Research has shown that children who take instrumental lessons are better able to understand math concepts and achieve higher scores on SAT tests than their equally able peers who do not.

Students and parents should consider the following before deciding to play an instrument:

- Students should select the instrument they most want to play.
- Every student must practice on a regular basis to be successful.
- Parents must take an active role in encouraging and monitoring regular practice.
- Parents are responsible for obtaining an instrument and any materials needed.
- No child will be penalized for missing regular classroom time while in band, but students are responsible for making up any work missed while in instrumental music classes.

After your child has returned the attached enrollment form, you will be receiving written instructions from the instrumental music teachers telling you what instrument, books, and accessories you will need. Final scheduling will be done in the first weeks of school. Renting an instrument from a music store works very well with our program, as all rent paid usually goes toward purchasing the instrument. If you already own an instrument or have access to a used one, have it checked by a repair shop. (Please see the letter on the reverse side for more rental information.)

<u>First Year Instruction</u>	<u>Second Year Instruction</u>
First year fourth or fifth graders choose from the following instruments: Violin, Viola, Cello, Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, and Snare Drum.	Fifth grade students may take a second year of instruction on their instrument.

If you have any additional questions, please contact your student's instrumental music teacher(s) listed below:

Instrumental Music Teacher(s):	
Contact Info:	



**Please detach and return this enrollment form to your Homeroom Teacher.
Please PRINT all information clearly.**

Instruction Level: 1st Year _____ 2nd Year _____

Student Name _____ School _____

Present Grade _____ Homeroom Teacher _____

Parent Name (Please print) _____

Home Phone _____ Work/Cell _____ E-Mail _____

Instrument Desired: 1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Visual & Performing Arts, PreK-5
191 South East Street
Frederick, MD 21701
301-644-5161 phone
301-644-5241 fax



Susan L. Thomas
Curriculum Specialist
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Renee V. Rosa
Administrative Secretary
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Dear Parents,

Re: Student Instruments

Here are some important considerations when obtaining an instrument for your child.

If you choose to purchase an instrument, please use a reputable music vendor to insure good band quality. In the past, instrumental teachers have encountered problems with inferior quality instruments when not purchased from a reputable music vendor. Ask the store if they will repair or replace the instrument if it is faulty, and if they are affiliated with a repair shop. Some instruments might need occasional repairs or maintenance.

Renting may be as beneficial as purchasing especially if your child isn't sure that he/she wishes to stick with that instrument indefinitely. If your child does decide to switch instruments, many rental programs will allow for the change. Generally, the rental fees can be applied towards the purchase of the instrument. Some rental programs even offer instrument maintenance and damage coverage options.

Be very careful if you purchase an instrument via the Internet, or a store that does not specialize in music. It is difficult to know the quality of the instrument you will receive, and the seller may not be willing to refund your money if it is an inferior product.

If you have any questions in this regard, please contact your student's school instrumental team. If you need additional assistance, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Thomas".

Susan Thomas

SLT/rvr