

Ridgely Elementary School Band Program

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Ridgely Elementary School Band Program offers students the opportunity to learn how to play the flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, trombone and percussion instruments. Students who are in the fifth grade may participate. While participating in this program, your child will be given the opportunity to:

* Learn and develop excellent technique and beautiful tone
* Read music
* Develop a repertoire of folk and classical music
* Perform in an ensemble
* Value and appreciate music in his or her life
* Build new friendships
* Develop positive self esteem through successful performance

You are invited to attend Rental Night on **September 26th , 2017** at 7:00pm at Greensboro Elementary School. At this time, you will be able to get your child’s instrument and method book. You will need to have some funds available and/or a debit/credit card or checkbook for a deposit and other optional costs including a music stand. **If you are not able to attend instrument rental night you may make arrangements with B&B Music to get your instrument.**

I look forward to meeting with you and to sharing our music with you!

Musically yours,

Julie Hawley

Elementary Music Specialist, Chorus and Band Director

Ridgely Elementary School

(410) 634 - 2105

Hawley.Julie@ccpsstaff.org



Ridgely Elementary School Band Program

**BAND POLICIES**

**REHEARSALS**

Rehearsals will take place once a week before school on Tuesday mornings from 8:00am – 8:45am, as well as a 20 minute lesson during the school day on Thursday afternoons between 1:00pm and 3:30pm.

Students must be present for both times, as different instruction is provided during each rehearsal. Band students are also responsible for making up any work that is missed during their lesson time.

After **3** unexcused absences, a student’s name will be removed from the band list and they will not be considered a member of band.

Examples of unexcused absences include:

* Forgetting
* Not following the Ridgely Elementary School Code of Conduct during rehearsal

Examples of excused absences include:

* Absent from school (sickness, coming in late, etc.)
* Making up work, tests, etc. from classroom teacher (with documentation from the teacher)

**BOOKS AND MUSIC STANDS**

You must purchase the book *Essential Elements 2000*. I highly recommend the purchase of a music stand for home practice. It is essential for correct playing position.

**PRACTICE**

To experience success in musical performance, musicians must practice consistently! I recommend a *minimum* of four days of practice each week. Students are given a practice chart to record their daily practice. It is the student’s responsibility to fill in the chart each day. Parents sign the chart at the end of each practice week. *Parents must be prepared to enforce regular practice habits!*

**PERFORMANCE**

Concert performance gives students the opportunity to share their music with family, friends and fellow musicians. Our winter and spring concerts are wonderful celebrations of each student’s achievements!All band members are required to attend two evening performances (one performance each semester). Please check your calendars carefully! Sporting events, dance rehearsals, etc. are not excused absences from the performance.

**Dress Rehearsal: December 11th and 12th , 2017**

**Concert: December 13th , 2017 at NCHS Auditorium at 6:30pm**

***Please keep this page for your records ☺***



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**\_\_\_\_\_\_**\_ My child will participate in the Ridgely Elementary School Band

 Program. Our first and second choices are:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ FLUTE

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CLARINET

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ SAXOPHONE

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ TRUMPET

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ TROMBONE

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ PERCUSSION

*I have reviewed the band policies for rehearsals and concerts. I agree to fulfill the commitment to the Ridgely Elementary School Band Program throughout the entire 2017 -2018 school year.* ***Please return this entire form by September 25th, 2016.***

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Student Name (please print neatly ☺)

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Student Signature

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Parent/Guardian Signature Phone #

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(Email Address)