

2009-2010 RRPS Elementary BAND Program

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Fifth grade students enrolled in Rio Rancho Public Schools will have the opportunity to learn a band instrument for the school year. The program will start the week of September 8th. During the school year, students will meet during the school day, available at select elementary locations, and before or after school at one of three elementary locations in the district (listed below). You select the before or after school location that best suits your needs. Instruments taught will be flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet and bells.

Fees

The cost for this program is \$80 per school year, which covers materials and the Hummingbird Music Camp. Payment is due in our office no later than September 25th. ***DO NOT GIVE THE FEE AND REGISTRATION FORM TO YOUR CHILD'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OR TO THE MUSIC TEACHER. IT MUST BE MAILED OR DELIVERED TO THE DISTRICT FINE ARTS OFFICE***, address: 1600 40th Street; Rio Rancho NM 87144. If you need to make payment arrangements, contact Aminda Bowen at 994-2811 ext: 512.

Class Description

This beginner band class is open to any student regardless of musical experience. Students will learn to play melodies in unison and in simple harmony. Important skills learned during this first year include self-discipline, appropriate posture, beautiful tone (sound quality), musical literacy (reading notes), and self-confidence. Students will play both by rote (by copying the teacher) and by reading music off of the page. Students are required to participate in at least four evening performances and will attend Hummingbird Music Camp during this school year.

Instruments

It is strongly suggested that you rent an instrument (rather than buy) during the first year. We highly recommend you consult with the band teacher before renting or purchasing an instrument, as the durability of the instrument is very important. It is also recommended that you be wary of internet and pawn shop purchases. These instruments may be very poorly constructed and generally do not work properly. Be sure the seller allows you to try an instrument out without the obligation to buy. This gives you the opportunity to get the instrument looked over by a teacher and at least one other qualified specialist before making a final decision.

Rental programs in the area are:

Baum's Music	Alma Music Center
3301 Southern Blvd., Ste 403	510 Los Lentos
Rio Rancho NM	Los Lunas NM
994-1108	866-4012

NOTE: For a minimal fee, there are a limited number of instruments available for rent from the RRPS District Fine Arts Office. If you are unable to rent, purchase, or borrow an instrument elsewhere, contact Aminda Bowen at the District Fine Arts office, 994-2811 x512. ***An appointment, with a completed, signed contract, is required to get a rental instrument.***

Accessories

All students (regardless of whether they rent, borrow, or own an instrument) need the following accessories daily: cleaning cloth, extra reeds, pencil, and a *clearly labeled luggage tag* for their case. Students must also invest in a folding music stand (approximately \$15) for home practice.

Band – Before or After School Times, Days and Locations:

Ernest Stapleton Elementary

Portable 11, Music Room
Monday and Thursday: 4:15-5:15 PM

Puesta del Sol Elementary

Portable 501, Parent Room
Tuesday and Friday: 8:00-8:50 AM

Rio Rancho Elementary

Room 214, Music Room
Tuesday and Friday: 8:00-8:50 AM

Vista Grande Elementary

Music Room
Tuesday and Friday: 8:00-8:50 AM

Band Directors:

Catherine Danner, Band Director, ERMS
Teaches at ESE and PDSE locations
892-6630 ext: 346
cdanner@rrps.net

Laura Jackson, Music Teacher, RRE
Teaches at RRE location
892-0220 ext: 214
ljackson@rrps.net

Matt Casarez, Band Director, RRHS
Teaches at VGE location
896-5748
mcasarez@rrps.net