

# BEGINNING BAND 2015



## FOR FRIDLEY SCHOOLS

In preparation for the upcoming school year, Fridley Middle School is holding Beginning Band Lessons for Beginning Band Students. These lessons are required for students to be placed in band in the Fall of 2015. The kickoff and events for beginning band are as follows:

- **Tuesday, February 10th at 7:00 PM - Beginning Band Information Night** – Middle School Band Room. This event will allow perspective students and parents an opportunity to see what band has to offer them along with a chance to understand to process of selecting, obtaining and learning an instrument.
- **Tuesday, February 24th from 4:00 to 7:30 PM Band Information and Registration Evening**. This event will be a walk up information and registration time.
  1. Parents/Guardians need to bring this packet with instrument interest, lesson registration, financial need request and school rental information filled out.
  2. When you arrive, parents and students will sit down with an instrument specialist to mouthpiece test. This test will help confirm student success on the instrument that they have chosen. Parents and students will determine instrument at this point.
  3. Eckroth Music will be available for instrument rental options and we will have computers available for parents to register for beginning band through the community center. Paper copies of registration materials will be accepted at that time, too.
- **Monday, April 6th to Friday, May 1st Elementary Beginning Band Spring Bootcamp**: Students will have one week of class from 3:50 to 5:00 PM in which they will learn the basics of the instrument to help them better transition into band in the fall of the upcoming school year.

### **April 6th to April 10th**

Hayes Elementary Woodwinds  
(Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone)

### **April 13th to April 17th**

Hayes Brass and Percussion  
(Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba)

### **April 20th to April 24th**

Stevenson Elementary Woodwinds  
(Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone)

### **April 27th to May 1st**

Stevenson Brass and Percussion  
(Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba)

- **Monday, May 18th to May 22nd Middle School Beginning Band Spring Bootcamp**: Current 5th and 6th Graders will have one week of class from 3:15 to 4:25 in which they will learn the basics of the instrument to help them better transition into band in the fall of the school year.
- **Monday, August 17th to Friday, August 21st, Beginning Band Bootcamp** will be scheduled for students Monday through Friday for *an hour* lesson. The schedule for each lesson is as follows:

### **August 17th to August 21st**

2:00 PM Percussion

3:00 PM Brass Instruments

*Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone or Tuba*

4:00 PM Flute

5:00 PM Clarinet and Saxophone

- **Tuesdays, June 9th through July 21st, Private 20 Minute Band Lessons** for students who play specialty instruments (French Horn or Oboe) along with other students who would like a private lesson in place of or addition to the Spring Bootcamp. Lesson will be scheduled from 8:00 AM to Noon by instructor.



## What's Inside??

- Commonly Asked Questions about Band
- Instrument Background Information
- Registration forms for Beginning Band
- BRING PACKET TO BAND MEETING!!

# BEGINNING BAND 2015



FRIDLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Commonly Asked Questions about Beginning Band

### **In what grade may my child begin to play an instrument?**

The best time to begin is during the summer between their 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade years. Your child will have fewer distractions and will be able to focus more on their learning. We have also added a Beginning Band Class during the Month of April and May for 4th, 5th and 6th Graders who are not able to attend summer lessons or who would have difficulty providing transportation.

### **How do I enroll my child in the band program?**

There will be a Beginning Band Information Meeting on Tuesday, February 10th in the MS Band Room to explain the process of band and time to answer questions. On Tuesday, February 24th we will have Beginning Band Registration from 4:00 to 7:30 PM in the Middle School Cafeteria to select an instrument, obtain an instrument and register for beginning band lessons.

### **How does a student acquire an instrument?**

Eckroth Music has a simple lease to own plan where parents may lease an instrument for a low four month introductory fee without obligation to purchase. At the end of the four month period, you could continue on a low month to month fee where all of the lease payments apply towards ownership. There is no obligation as the instrument could be returned at anytime to Eckroth Music which is now conveniently located in Roseville. The Eckroth Music lease to own plan is the most popular option for parents. Another option from Eckroth Music is to purchase an instrument and receive a discount off the value of the instrument as well as receive a buy back guarantee. Eckroth Music offers weekly school visits and can facilitate bringing accessories, repairs and exchanges directly to the school.

If you need to rent an instrument, all necessary details including paper work and payment of fee can be taken care of at the time of the registration. The representatives from Eckroth are offering this service for your convenience. A good privately owned or borrowed instrument is also possible.

The school has a limited number of instruments. We reserve these instrument for students who have limited financial means. Large instrument like tuba, baritone and tenor sax will be provided through the school.

### **Is there a piano requirement for percussionist?**

Due to the complexity of the percussion section, we require students who want to play percussion to have two years of piano experience. There have been exceptions for students who have played other instruments or at the discretion of the director.

# BEGINNING BAND 2015



FRIDLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

## **What instrument should my child play?**

Unless very unusual conditions exist, the child should play the instrument she/he likes best. Interest will then be high and the chances of success are greater. Many parents have asked, "Which instrument is the easiest to play?" Every instrument has their own difficulties; some may be easier to start to play while others may be easier to continue to play. It all depends upon the effort and practice of the individual.

## **How much daily practice should my child complete?**

There are only two things that will determine the success of a beginning band member: attending lessons, so we may make adjustments and PRACTICE. Being a successful beginning musician takes dedication, commitment, and time. 20 to 30 minutes every day alone and without distractions is sufficient. The instructors have found that even two missed lessons in the summer can make a huge difference on success.

## **How will we know how our child is progressing?**

A final report will be sent home with the student on the last day of the class. Students will be given recommendation for things to work on until school starts along with a progress report.

## **When will we have an opportunity to speak to the instructors?**

You will be able to ask questions during the information and registration night on Tuesday, February 24th from 4:00 to 7:30 PM in the Middle School Cafeteria.

## **Will my child be able to participate in athletics as well as in the Band?**

There is no conflict with any after school activities and band class. Band practice is held during the class day to avoid any such conflict. Many of Fridley's finest athletes are also band members.

## **Is there a fee for the summer band program?**

A \$70.00 tuition fee will be charged for Beginning Band Boot Camp Classes. There is scholarship available for those in need (please fill out need form in the back of the mouth-piece check form). If your child really wants to be in band, please call Mr. Berger if financial difficulties are the only thing stopping you from joining band. I may be able to help.

## **Other Questions?**

Call Mr. Berger at 763-502-5594 or email at [blair.berger@fridley.k12.mn.us](mailto:blair.berger@fridley.k12.mn.us)



Lifelong Learning: Opportunities for All Ages

## Registration Form—Beginning Band

Mr. Blair Berger, MS Band Director/Phone 763-502-5594  
Stephen Keeler, Registration Coordinator/Phone: 763-502-5106  
6085 7th Street NE, Fridley, MN 55432

For Online Registration go to: <https://fridley.ce.feepay.com>

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade '15-'16 \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### **Class Options:** (Choose *ONLY* One Bootcamp Class)

#### **Spring Bootcamp: One Hour and 10 Minutes for Five Days (Monday Through Friday)**

*Elementary Lessons are from 3:50 to 5:00 PM/Middle School Lessons are from 3:15 to 4:25 PM*

##### **Lessons - \$70.00**

\_\_\_ April 6th to April 10th Hayes Elementary  
Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone (Class #2410A)

\_\_\_ April 13th to April 17th Hayes Elementary  
Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba (Class #2410B)

\_\_\_ April 20th to April 24th Stevenson Ele.  
Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone (Class #2410C)

\_\_\_ April 27th to May 1st Stevenson Ele.  
Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba (Class #2410D)

\_\_\_ May 18th to May 22nd Middle School  
All Instruments (Class #2410E)

#### **Summer Bootcamp:**

##### **One Hour Lesson for Five Days**

###### **Monday, August 17th to Friday, August 21st - \$70.00**

\_\_\_ 2:00 PM Percussion (Class #2420A)

\_\_\_ 3:00 PM Brass Instruments (Class #2420B)

\_\_\_ 4:00 PM Flute and Oboe (Class #2420C)

\_\_\_ 5:00 PM Clarinet and Saxophone (Class #2420D)

#### **Private Summer Band Lessons**

##### **One 20 Minute Lesson for 6 Weeks**

###### **Tuesdays, June 9th to July 21st - \$90.00**

*No Lessons during the Week of June 29th*

\_\_\_ Lessons time will be arranged by instructor  
(Class #2430)

**Band Instrument Selected** \_\_\_\_\_

CHARGE MY: \_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ Discover

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Verification # \_\_\_\_\_  
(3 digits on back of card)

Name (as it appears on card) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Fridley Middle School Band Program  
Fridley Community Education  
Financial Assistance Application

Dear Parent or Guardian:

It is my goal to have all students who want to participate in band at the Middle School have that opportunity. In order to ensure that everyone who is in need has a chance to join band, I am formalizing the process so that I can better serve those in need. Please fill out the following form if you are in need of financial assistance to participate in band.

If you have questions or concerns, feel free to contact me and I will do my best to help out.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Does your child participate in Free or Reduced Lunch Program: Yes No

Fee for Beginning Band Lessons are \$70.00. Reduced fee for students who qualify for free and reduced lunch would be \$35.00. Students who cannot afford to rent an instrument from Eckroth or do not have one in their possession can rent from school for a yearly fee of \$30 for small instruments and \$40 for large instruments. Inventory at the moment is very small and will be based on the highest need first. Please Fill out the Rental Form attached to this packet.

Would you need to rent from school? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your first choice of instrument would you rent? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your second choice of instrument would you rent? \_\_\_\_\_

How much could you pay for lessons? \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact Mr. Berger, Band Director if you have questions.  
763-502-5594 or [blair.berger@fridley.k12.mn.us](mailto:blair.berger@fridley.k12.mn.us).



**Fridley Public Schools**

A World-Class Community of Learners.

**FRIDLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
6100 W. Moore Lake Drive  
Fridley, MN 55432  
Learning Academy Coordinator:  
Terri Rieser  
(763) 502-5502

## After School Learning Academy Activity Bus Application

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Male: \_\_\_\_\_ Female: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Resident District: \_\_\_\_\_ Last School Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Check	Place	Dates
_____	Hayes	April 6 to 10
_____	Hayes	April 13 to 17
_____	FMS	May 18 to 22

Check	Place	Dates
_____	Stevenson	April 20 to 24
_____	Stevenson	April 27 to May 1st

Teacher Mr. Blair Berger

Room # Band Room

\*\*\*\*I give my permission for my child to participate in the Learning Academy, and I will do my part to ensure his or her success.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_