

BE PART OF THE MUSIC

February 22, 2021

Dear Parents:

As a fourth grade student, your child finally has the opportunity to do what so many successful students in schools across the United States have done before them, Be Part of the Music!

In this difficult time that we live in, being involved in a positive group activity will help your child be a part of a community where competition is not necessary. We are all a part of the same team and everyone plays. We know that for some of you, this will be your first exposure to music education and I wanted to take a brief minute to share some information with you.

Attached to this letter is information regarding our program and the different opportunities it provides for your child. This is a time where the both of you can explore the different options and get help choosing the experiences and classes that will help them be successful in high school and beyond. If you after reading these materials you still have questions, please feel free to contact me at any time using the info listed below.

Music education is more than just playing an instrument. It is immersing your child in a culture of successful students and teachers who care about education. It challenges each child to use the creative side of his brain while, at the same time, learning a foreign language...MUSIC.

All of the current data clearly states that students involved in music education academically out perform their non-musical counterparts. But, more importantly, studies are showing that music students are less likely to engage in risky behaviors such as drugs and alcohol.

Every destination starts with a decision to embark on a journey. Now is the time to start your child in high school music and Valley Elementary is the place to do it. We can't promise that every child will be a musical prodigy, but we can promise they will learn, laugh, and grow along the way.

Please go to my webpage to view the beginning instrument videos I have made:
<https://www.hasdk12.org/Domain/579> .

Please return page 5 of this document to me by email. I will be happy to get you started on getting an instrument for your child.

Sincerely,
Mr. Thomas J. Fadden
faddent@hasdk12.org

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COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What if I am not sure if I want my child to do music?

Remember when your children wouldn't eat the food you made for them? You always said, "Try it before you decide you don't like it." Music is the same way. Your child should sign up for band even if you or they are unsure. If at some point you decide that music is not for you, drop the class. It is much easier to drop something after trying it, than to join late when everyone else has already started. If at any time you wish for your child not to continue in the band program, please contact me and do not simply just return your instrument to the store. Every student and I rely on EVERY band member to have the best experience in band as possible. Music is written so that every instrument is important!

What if I don't know anything about music?

That's ok! We will teach your child everything they need to know, step by step. From how to assemble and care for the instrument to reading notes and rhythms, we will guide your child through the process. All that is needed from you is an enthusiastic attitude and patient ears when your child comes home and makes their first sound.

How much out of school time is required?

Music is no different than any other curricular area. We ask that your child spend some time with their instrument each and every week. Think of it as musical homework, but much more fun.

What instrument should my child play?

The answer depends on a variety of things, but in the end, it is most important that they play something that they enjoy. I encourage you to visit the website www.bepartofthemusic.org, watch the different instrument videos with your child, and discuss the different options. I will also help guide your child based on his/her musical interests, physical make-up, and instrument availability. Your child knows what she wants, you know your child, and I know music. Together we will find the instrument that she will not only enjoy but will give her the best chance of musical success.

What are the costs?

The costs associated with music depend on which instrument your child chooses and if you already own an instrument. We wish funds were available for us to provide every child with an instrument, however, this is simply not possible. The school may have certain instruments available for at school use. If not, you can rent a quality instrument from a local music store at a very reasonable price. If financial constraints prevent you from being able to do this, please contact me and allow me to help. We will not let instrument availability or financial constraints keep your child from participating.

How do I procure an instrument?

The school provides many of the larger and more expensive instruments such as tuba. We encourage students playing smaller, less expensive instruments to either rent from Robert M. Sides or purchase their own instrument from a reputable source. Information can be found both on my website and at <http://www.rmsides.com>. If you can purchase toilet paper at the same place, then this would probably not be the best place to buy an instrument. There are many instrument shaped objects out there...

What if I have other questions?

Please know that I am here to answer any and all questions that you may have. Due to the busy nature of our program and schools in general, it is sometimes difficult to contact me by phone. The best way for you to reach me is electronically at faddent@hasdk12.org. This will allow me to respond to your query, whether you are available by phone or not. You may also visit our school website at <https://www.hasdk12.org/Domain/579>.

If you would like to know more about the individual instruments or music in general, visit www.bepartofthemusic.org.

BE PART OF THE MUSIC

Famous Band Members

Flute

Alanis Morissette (singer)
Halle Berry (actress)
Celine Dion (singer)
Calista Flockhart ("Ally McBeal")
Alyssa Milano (actress)
Noah Webster (Webster's Dictionary)
Gwen Stefani (singer from No Doubt)
Jennifer Garner (actress from "Alias")

Clarinet

Rainn Wilson (actor from "The Office")
Julia Roberts (actress)
Woody Allen (actor/director)
Gloria Estefan (singer)
Tony Shaloub ("Monk")
Eva Longoria ("Desperate Housewives")
Jimmy Kimmel (comedian/talk show host)
Allan Greenspan
(former Chairman of the Federal Reserve)
Steven Spielberg (movie director)

Bass Clarinet

Zakk Wylde (Guitarist for Ozzy Osbourne)

Saxophone

Jennifer Garner ("Alias")
Bill Clinton (former U.S. President)
Trent Reznor (lead singer for Nine Inch Nails)
Roy Williams (NFL Dallas Cowboys)
Vince Carter (NBA Star)
David Robinson (Retired NBA Star)
Tedi Bruschi (NFL New England Patriots)
Bob Hope (late comedian/actor)
Lionel Richie (singer, father of Nicole Richie)
Tom Selleck (actor from "Magnum PI")

French Horn

Ewan McGregor
(Obi Wan Kanobi from Star Wars I, II, III)
Vanessa Williams (Singer/Actress)
Otto Graham (NFL Hall of Fame quarterback)

Trombone

Bill Engvall (Blue Collar Comedy Tour)
Nelly Furtado (singer)
Tony Stewart (NASCAR Driver)

Trumpet

James Woods (actor)
John Glenn (Astronaut and U.S. Senator)
Michael Anthony (Bass player for Van Halen)
Drew Carey (actor/comedian)
Stephen Tyler (lead singer for Aerosmith)
Prince Charles (future King of England)
Montel Williams (talk show host)
Richard Gere (actor)
Shania Twain (singer)
Flea (Red Hot Chili Peppers)
Jackie Gleason (actor)
Samuel L. Jackson
(Mace Windu from Star Wars I, II, III)

Baritone

Neil Armstrong (Astronaut - first man on the moon)

Tuba

Andy Griffith (actor)
Harry Smith (CBS's "The Early Show")
Dan Aykroyd (actor)
Aretha Franklin ("Queen of Soul", singer)

Percussion

Mike Anderson (NFL)
Eddie George (retired NFL)
Trent Reznor (Nine Inch Nails)
Dana Carvey (actor/comedian)
Vinnie Paul (Pantera)
Walter Payton (NFL Hall of Fame running back)
Johnny Carson (TV Host)
Mike Piazza (former MLB catcher)

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Here are some beginning band demonstration videos that I made this year for you!

Woodwind Instrument Demonstration with Mr. Fadden

<https://youtu.be/KJxg6upBmAs>

Brass Instrument Demonstration with Mr. Fadden

<https://youtu.be/PCm157aTP90>

Snare Drum and Bell Kit Demonstration with Mr. Fadden

https://youtu.be/yi7B4iyN_Kc

Jupiter Wind Instrument Try-Out Kit Demonstration with Mr. Fadden

https://youtu.be/VpW_t90FIVM

If you would like to know more about the individual instruments or music in general, visit www.bepartofthemusic.org.

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Student Information Sheet

Please fill out the following information as completely as possible and email to me at faddent@hasdk12.org

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Instrument(s) of Interest:

_____ First Choice

_____ Second Choice

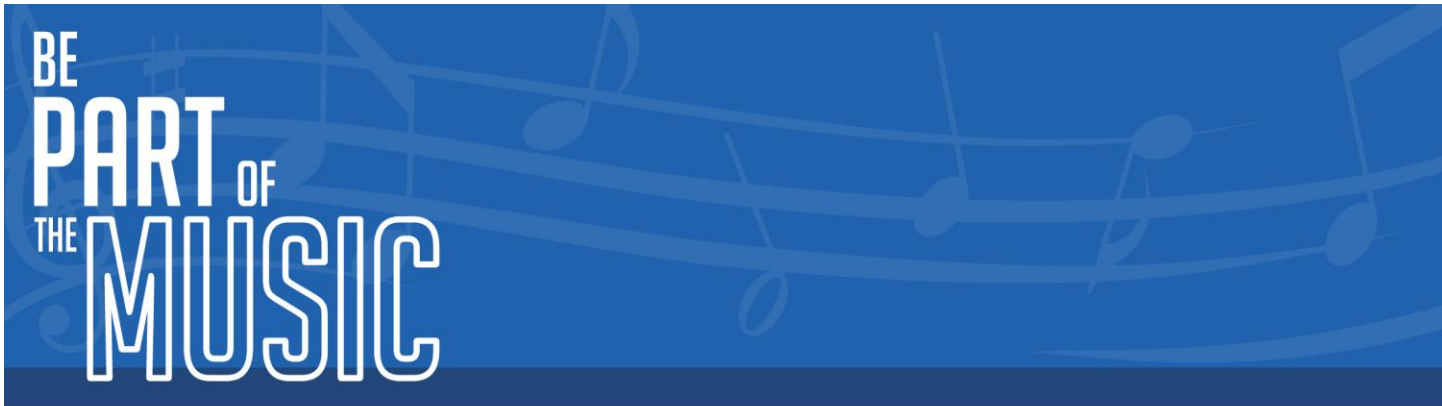
_____ Third Choice

Street Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Parent Email Address: _____

Any questions or concerns that you may have:



Please email this form to me at faddent@hasdk12.org

