



Parents,

We have great news! We are starting a fifth grade band program at Hill Intermediate. My name is Benjamin Loyer and I am the middle school band director for the Bethel-Tate Local School District. I am very excited for the chance to share my musical knowledge with your students this school year. Below you will find more information about the 5th grade band program and information about instrument purchasing and renting.

Band this year will meet during the student's music specials classes on Tuesday and technology classes on Thursday. The 5th grade band program will be featured in 2 concerts this year. These concerts are a positive reflection of your children's hard work and are the summative assessments for our classroom work. Mr. Goist and myself are in the process of scheduling these concerts. We will communicate these dates as soon as they are available.

When a student chooses to participate in band, they are making a year long commitment. When students do choose to participate in music, they get the chance to improving their math, language, history, reading, and science skills every day and build leadership skills that transfer to other programs across their curriculum.

For 5th grade beginning band, we will be offering 5 different instruments for students to play; Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, French Horn, and Trombone. When picking the right instrument, the key to the success is not only having the student pick an instrument that they are excited to play, but also pick an instrument that they are best fit to play and succeed on. The combination of the two will help foster a love of music and learning.

I am very proud to have the chance to work with Buddy Rogers Music this year in dealing with the rental/purchasing/and obtaining supplies for the music program in Bethel-Tate Local Schools. Buddy Rogers is a top notch company that has your student's best interests in mind. **All parents and students interested in 5th grade band must attend a band information night in the Middle School band room on Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm for information about rental and purchasing of instruments and more information about the band program.** If you have any questions about the band program please email me at [benjamin.loyer@betheltate.org](mailto:benjamin.loyer@betheltate.org). Instruments ordered before or on that evening will be available for class on September 5th.

While you may see musical instruments for sale in department stores and online, I do recommend staying away from these instruments. While they may seem like a great buy at the time, most of them will come with issues and repairs needed right off the bat. It will be far cheaper in both the short term and the long term to RENT an instrument. Instruments bought through department stores and online tend to break with in the first year and require expensive repairs as well as make performance difficult. Most of these types of instruments normally come with a very short warranty or no warranty at all. For the reason I STRONGLY encourage parents to RENT from Buddy Rogers through their rental program. They will cover any cost related to accidental damage throughout the rental period and provide loaner instruments if their instrument needs repaired. They also have many programs available to help finance instruments along with having all of the suggested instruments for students. If you do decide to go through a different shop then Buddy Rogers I do ask that you consult with Mr. Loyer first before you purchase the instrument. On the back of this letter you will find a list of preferred instruments.

Musically Yours,  
Benjamin Loyer  
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