

May 17, 2019

Dear 5th Grade students and parents:

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you and your child to join the band program at WHA. Studies continue to focus on the arts (music) as a vital component in a positive growth of every child. For years we have pointed to the music students as those who have demonstrated a special talent. However, based on extended studies we now know it is the very process of learning music that develops the artistic mind and brings forth the creative potential in all young people. For this reason and many more, becoming a member of the band is strongly encouraged.

When you join the Instrumental program, you will need to acquire an instrument either by purchase, borrowing or renting a school owned instrument. Books and supplies may be purchased at NFLX in Bemidji and instruments may be acquired from different sources such as Popplers Music in Grand Forks, Schmitt Music in Fargo, or Books n More in Bemidji or perhaps you know someone who has a suitable instrument you can borrow or purchase. The school does have a **limited** number of instruments available for rent on a first come, first serve basis. Proper care and maintenance of the instruments will be included in your child's instrumental music curriculum.

If you and your student are interested in becoming a part of the WHA Band program, please fill out the attached form and return it to your classroom teacher by **Thursday, May 30, 2019**.

Thank you for your interest in the WHA Band program. With your help, together, we will build a strong instrumental foundation for your students. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

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