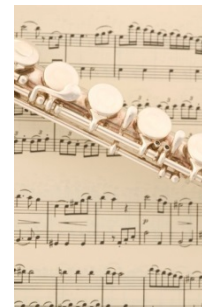


## 2018-2019 Fifth Grade Beginning Band Handbook Cedar Hills Elementary



Dear Cedar Hills 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Beginning Band Parents and Students,

Welcome to the Blue Valley Beginning Band program! I am Lindsay Gamble, Director of Bands at Pleasant Ridge Middle School and Cedar Hills Elementary. I am so excited to get to know you and your students. Beginning Band is SO much fun, and I am very happy that I get the opportunity to introduce students to their instruments!

Participation in band helps students develop self-discipline, group cooperation, high self-esteem, persistence and confidence in performance. Perhaps most importantly, band helps students to develop a life-long love of music. As a parent, the chance to become involved in support of your child is an added bonus!

I hope the attached handbook and information will answer any questions you may have, but please contact me if the need arises. I'll be happy to help!

Sincerely,

Lindsay Gamble  
legamble@bluevalleyk12.org  
(913) 239-5758

### This Handbook contains information on the following:

Page 1-2	Band Calendar
Page 2	Selecting an Instrument
Page 2	Instrument Choices for Beginning Band
Page 3	Instrument Choices for 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , and 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band
Page 3	Instrument Rental and Purchase
Page 3	Required Materials
Page 3	After I get my instrument?
Page 4	Private Lessons
Page 4	Performance Attire
Page 4	Communication
Page 4	Contact Mrs. Gamble

**The Cedar Hills 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band meets twice a week from 2:45-3:15pm in the Pleasant Ridge Band Room.** Attendance at all rehearsals is required, and students are expected to bring their instruments and materials to all rehearsals. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will meet me at Cedar Hills, and I will walk them down to the band hall for rehearsal.

Flutes and Clarinets: Tuesday/Thursday rehearsals

Trumpets, Trombones, Baritones, Tubas: Wednesday/Friday rehearsals

### Important August and September Dates

- Rehearsals without instruments Friday, August 31<sup>st</sup> and the week of September 4<sup>th</sup>
- **Rehearsals with instruments and materials begin the week of September 10<sup>th</sup>**

## 2018-2019 Fifth Grade Beginning Band Handbook Cedar Hills Elementary

### 2018-2019 Cedar Hills Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Calendar

Date	Time	Location	Performance
Thursday, November 15, 2018	7:00-8:00PM	Pleasant Ridge Middle School Gym	5 <sup>th</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> , and Jazz Band Fall Concert
Thursday, March 21, 2019	6:00-8:00PM	Blue Valley West High School Gym	5 <sup>th</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade West Area Band Festival
Wednesday, May 15, 2019	7:00-8:00PM	Pleasant Ridge Middle School Gym	Cedar Hills and Liberty View 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band and Orchestra Spring Concert
Late May 2019	During School	Cedar Hills Elementary Gym	Cedar Hills 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band Assembly Concert

**Attendance at all performances is required.** Absences due to illness or family emergency will be excused, but please try to give Mrs. Gamble at least 24 hours' notice.

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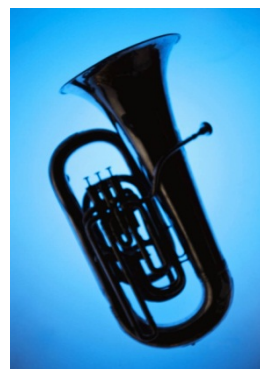
### **Selecting an Instrument**

In order to successfully fit your child on a band instrument, I highly recommend that parents and their students attend the **Instrument Placement at Blue Valley West High School on Wednesday, August 29<sup>th</sup>**. If your child misses the fitting, please arrange for a time with me to choose an instrument.

Sometimes our physical characteristics make one instrument easier for us to play than another and may even get in the way of our ability to play a specific instrument. Selecting the instrument that is best suited to the student allows the student to have a successful and rewarding band experience. I will work with you and your child to select an instrument that he or she will enjoy and let you know what I recommend. Once this process is completed, it will be time to rent or purchase your child's instrument and supplies!

### **Instrument Choices for Beginning Band**

Flute  
Clarinet  
Trumpet  
Trombone  
Baritone  
Tuba



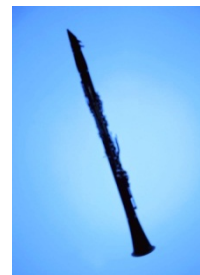
## 2018-2019 Fifth Grade Beginning Band Handbook Cedar Hills Elementary

### Instrument Choices for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band

After beginning on the instruments listed above, some students may choose to move on to, or add one of the following instruments in 6<sup>th</sup> grade:

- Oboe ←————— Beginning Band on clarinet or flute
- Bassoon ←———— Beginning Band on clarinet or flute
- Bass Clarinet ←—— Beginning Band on clarinet
- Saxophone ←——— Beginning Band on clarinet
- French Horn ←——— Beginning Band on trumpet
- Tuba ←————— Beginning Band on trumpet, trombone, or baritone
- Percussion ←——— Beginning Band or equivalent piano experience

Students who have an interest in any of these instruments in the future should play the instrument indicated above while in Beginning Band. Students will be evaluated on their note reading, playing skills, and their practice and rehearsal habits in order to be considered for these instruments toward the end of beginning band.



### Instrument Rental and Purchase

After you and your child meet with Mrs. Gamble at the Instrument Fitting, you may proceed to renting or purchasing an instrument. Many local music stores rent out and sell instruments for beginning band students at reasonable prices. Mrs. Gamble recommends renting or purchasing an instrument through a local music store that is equipped to provide repairs for the instrument in a timely manner. **Beware:** many online instrument companies sell knock-off instruments or may offer cheaper prices for lower quality instruments. Mrs. Gamble highly recommends that families do not purchase an instrument from Amazon, Ebay, or other unauthorized dealers. Please refer to the following document "[Beginning Band Recommended Instrument and Materials List](#)" for more information on recommended instrument brands.



### Required Materials – due the week of September 10<sup>th</sup>

Please refer to the document "[Beginning Band Recommended Instrument and Materials List](#)"

### After I get my Instrument?

After you rent or purchase an instrument, please do not allow your child to play his or her instrument prior to our first class of playing. The first few lessons are critical in establishing the correct way of producing a sound. If your family already owns an instrument, Mrs. Gamble recommends that you take it to a qualified repair person to make sure that it is in good working condition. Mrs. Gamble can also take a look at the instrument on the Instrument Placement evening to let you know if repairs might be needed.

## 2018-2019 Fifth Grade Beginning Band Handbook Cedar Hills Elementary

### **Private Lessons**

As we continue to be supportive of our students' instrumental sounds, it can take a while for us to begin to create a good, quality tone on our instruments. Many students choose to take private lessons in order to get individualized guidance or challenge themselves with more difficult music and techniques. The Kansas City Metro Area has many wonderful teachers who specialize on specific instruments and have much to offer students who need extra help as well as students who are seeking an Enrichment Opportunity. Please refer to the following webpage on Blue Valley West High's School Band's website for a comprehensive list of teachers in the area. Mrs. Gamble highly recommends that students take private lessons, as this short, 30 minute one-on-one with a professional is a great way to learn more about the instrument, become a stronger musician, and raise a student's confidence. As well, every one of our Kansas John Philip Sousa Junior Honor Band members has made the "best of the best" in Kansas because of their participation in private lessons!  
<http://www.bvwestband.com/private-lessons.html>

### **Performance Attire** (to abide by school dress code)

Boys – black shoes, black socks, black trousers, and black collared long or short sleeve shirt

Girls – black shoes, black socks, black trousers, and black blouse

### **Communication**

- **Band Website**  
<http://www.bvwestband.com/5th-grade-band.html>

### **Contact Mrs. Gamble**

Email: [legamble@bluevalleyk12.org](mailto:legamble@bluevalleyk12.org)

Phone: (913) 239-5758



**2018-2019 Fifth Grade Beginning Band Handbook  
Cedar Hills Elementary**

**Band Instrument Vendors in Overland Park and Olathe**

This is a list of music stores and vendors in the Overland Park and Olathe area that provide band instruments. The attached *West Area Recommended Instrument and Materials List* details what brands and models of instruments and accessories the West Area directors suggest. All the music merchants in Johnson County have been provided a copy of these specifications. Because the Blue Valley specifications differ in some ways from how instruments normally are shipped from the factory, these music merchants have taken the necessary adjustments and incurred the additional expense to meet our specifications.

If you would like your music store to be included on this list, please contact your child's band director.

Listed by proximity to the West Area Schools:

Meyer Music Express Rentals (Located at Price Chopper at 151<sup>st</sup> & Metcalf)  
Meyer Music  
BAC Horn Doctor  
Spencer's Music Room  
Schmitt Music KC  
Doctor Note  
REW Music (Olathe)  
Olathe Band Instrument  
REW Music (Lenexa)  
Funky Munky Music  
Blues to Bach  
Palen Music Center