

BREA OLINDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Elementary Beginning Band Enrollment Packet

FLUTE



CLARINET



SAXOPHONE



TRUMPET



TROMBONE



September 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are very pleased that your child has expressed an interest in joining our instrumental music program! The overall purpose of the program is to begin the study of a musical instrument and experience the pleasure of music through playing that instrument. Benefits from this kind of study go beyond the learning of music. Students also develop self-confidence, a good self-image, responsibility, self-discipline and they learn teamwork through playing with the band. Participation in our district elementary band program will also give your child the opportunity to participate in our award-winning band programs at Brea Junior High and Brea Olinda High School!

The following contains information about the instrumental music program and some helpful suggestions to help students succeed. Please read all of this information carefully with your child.

Instruments Offered

Students have attended an assembly where they could see and hear all of the instrument options for beginning band. These instruments include:

Flute
Clarinet
Alto Saxophone
Trumpet
Trombone

Beginning Bands Schedule

The scheduled day of the week and time for each school's band are as follows:

Olinda: Tuesdays, 9:10 – 10:05
Arovista: Tuesdays, 11:25 – 12:15
Country Hills: Wednesdays, 9:30 – 10:25
Laurel: Wednesdays, 1:30 – 2:20
Mariposa: Thursdays, 8:50 – 9:40
Fanning: Thursdays, 1:00 – 1:50

Attendance and Responsibilities

Students in the band are required to attend every scheduled band class at their school. Missing a class will cause most students to fall behind quickly, and it can be difficult to recover! If a student is absent from school for an excused reason, their absence from music is also excused. Most other absences are unexcused. Excessive unexcused absences may result in the student being dropped from the band program. Occasionally, students will forget their music book, or even their instrument. Students are allowed one lesson absence for "forgetting" something for class. After this absence, students will be returned to class, and will be marked with an unexcused absence. Everyone, of course, makes an occasional mistake.

Concerts

Concert participation is strongly encouraged. Most concerts occur outside school hours. The most significant of these are the annual all-district band concerts in January and May. These performances are a wonderful opportunity for a district-wide band to showcase their hard work. Information regarding performances will be given to you as they get closer, but **put these dates in your calendar now:**

Thursday January 18, 2018: Winter Concert

Wednesday May 30, 2018: Spring Band Concert

Practice

The vast majority of students who feel they are not successful in band fail because of only one reason: they just didn't practice enough! Each instrument requires a unique set of skills that are not natural. They are learned. They must be practiced daily. Students will be expected to practice 15 minutes a day, every day of the week. While students may occasionally miss a day for family activities, etc., these days should be rare. Practice is the key to success in music, especially in the first few formative years. There are no shortcuts. Success is worth the effort!

Selecting and Obtaining an Instrument

Students need to select an instrument that they really want to play. If a student attempts to learn an instrument because an older sibling played it, or because there is one lying around, but the student isn't really interested in that instrument, the chances of success are lowered. Also, students who pick a certain instrument because it's easy to carry often aren't really interested and aren't successful. There have been many successful students who learned on an instrument that seemed bigger than they were at the time. They succeeded because they were genuinely interested.

There are some restrictions on the number of students playing certain instruments. We need a balanced number of instruments across the band, and we also need to consider the needs of the junior high and high school bands. On the attached enrollment form, students should list the three instruments they would like to play in order of interest. Mr. Hallum has the final say on which instruments each student will play, although he will try to stay true to the students' desires.

Instruments can be obtained from any reputable music store. It is suggested that renting rather than purchasing instruments might be prudent for beginning band students. These stores rent instruments and most offer a program in which the rent applies to purchase. Basic rental fees vary. You should contact the stores to check their rental rates.

You may have relatives or friends who have a reasonable quality instrument. You certainly should avail yourself of these if possible. Selecting a quality instrument enhances a student's success. You can't learn to play on a broken instrument, just like you wouldn't learn to drive on a car with four flat tires! A quality instrument is more conducive to your child's success.

Please Note: It is recommended that you avoid purchasing instruments that do not come from a reputable maker. Many of these instruments are made with less quality metals, faulty valves or keys and therefore do not last long. Feel free to ask Mr. Hallum any questions regarding instrument quality and manufacturers.

On the following pages, you will find a list of the suggested cleaning and maintenance supplies that your child should have for each individual instrument. Please take this with you when you rent your instrument to eliminate confusion.

Later in this packet you will find a list of several local music stores. Of course, you may obtain your instrument wherever you like. The district does not endorse any particular music store.

Dropping the Instrumental Music Program

Mr. Hallum would like every student who begins the instrumental music program to finish the year. However, there will be some students who will drop. No students should ever drop before the first eight weeks are over as this is a good interval for students to really investigate what the music program is like. If there is a problem that you would like to discuss, please contact Mr. Lucas. Also remember, if you have a question about instruction in music class, contacting Mr. Lucas directly will get you the quickest response to any concerns you may have. **If a student puts in a good effort and decides that instrumental music is not of interest to them, they may drop by giving a written note, signed by the parent/guardian, to Mr. Hallum.**

Deadlines/Important Dates

Enrollment Form Due Dates:

Laurel, Mariposa, Fanning, Olinda, Country Hills, and Arovista - Friday, 9/15
Turn in enrollment forms to your school office or email directly to Mr. Hallum at rhallum@bousd.us

Instrument Petting Zoo

Location: Brea Junior High School Band Room
Date/Time: Wednesday 9/13, 5:00 - 8:00 P.M.

The instrument petting zoo provides students and parents a chance to try each of the instruments used in beginning band to better select their instrument of choice. Students may test each instrument with help from a knowledgeable student volunteer from BOHS and Mr. Hallum.

First and Second Week of Instruction (NO INSTRUMENTS!):

Week of Monday, 9/11 is the first week of instruction (see the schedule at top of this letter for your school's scheduled day). Please note that band enrollment forms are due Friday 9/15. Instrument assignments will be passed out the week of 9/18. **Do not attempt to rent an instrument until after this time!**

Instruction Begins WITH INSTRUMENTS:

Week of Monday, 9/25 (see the schedule at top of this letter for your school's scheduled day)

Music stores do run out of rental instruments, so it is best to get the instrument and become familiar with it as soon as possible. Please contact Mr. Hallum prior to this date if you have any problems.

If you would like more information about the program or anything related to it, please do not hesitate to email Mr. Hallum at rhallum@bousd.us. We look forward to having your student involved in the music program!

Please keep this letter for future reference.

Sincerely,

Mr. Ryan Hallum - Instrumental Music Director | BOUSD Elementary Bands

INSTRUMENT PETTING ZOO

BOUSD ELEMENTARY BEGINNING BANDS

WHICH INSTRUMENT DO I WANT TO LEARN??

Parents and students, please join us for the beginning band instrument petting zoo at Brea Junior High. The instrument petting zoo provides students an opportunity to tryout all 5 musical instruments used in beginning band. Get more familiar with brass and woodwind instruments and better decide what instrument you want to learn. Gather more information about the band program and the fun activities involved. Come see, hear and play band instruments with knowledgeable student musicians and Mr. Hallum.

INSTRUMENT PETTING ZOO

WHEN

WEDNESDAY, SEP. 13TH, 5-8PM

WHERE

Brea Junior High School
400 NORTH BREA BOULEVARD
BREA, CA

MORE INFORMATION

Instrument Petting Zoo will be held in the quad and band room at BJH. Follow your ears! Enrollment packets may be turned in at the Instrumental Petting Zoo, to your school's front office, or emailed directly to Mr. Hallum.

I look forward to meeting you,

Mr. Hallum
rhallum@bousd.us

Instrument Maintenance and Cleaning Supplies

In addition to your instrument, please look and see what accessories are advised. Take this paper with you to the music store to eliminate confusion! Many stores sell instrument maintenance kits that include all of these listed supplies.

Flute

Cleaning rod
Cleaning cloth for inside of instrument
Plain, soft cloth for polishing outside of instrument
Pencil with eraser

Clarinet

Cork grease
Three #2 size reeds
Reed Guard for storing reeds
Swab cloth or pad saver
Pencil with eraser

Saxophone

Cork grease
Three #2 size reeds
Reed Guard for storing reeds
Swab cleaner or pad saver
Pencil with eraser

Trumpet

Valve oil
Tuning slide grease
Mouthpiece brush
Cleaning snake
Plain, soft cloth for polishing outside of instrument
Pencil with eraser

Trombone

Slide Oil
Tuning slide grease
Mouthpiece brush
Cleaning snake
Plain, soft cloth for polishing outside of instrument
Pencil with eraser

All students will be using the book *Measures of Success Book One* for their instrument. It should be available at any music store or online.

For all instruments, a wire, foldable music stand for home practice is highly recommended!!!

Many music stores teach private lessons. Lessons are always a good idea, and can greatly improve the student's level of success.

Local Music Stores

Here is a list of some local music stores. You should be able to find all of the advised supplies from any of these local stores. Of course, you may obtain your instrument and supplies wherever you like. The district does not endorse any particular music store. Please contact Mr. Lucas if you need assistance.

Imperial Band Instruments
15847 East Imperial Hwy. La Mirada,
CA 90638 (562) 245-6043
<http://www.imperial-band.com>

Music and Arts (Anaheim Band)
504 S. State College Anaheim, CA
92806
(714) 999-5015
www.musicarts.com

Mo's Music
121 N. Harbor Blvd. Fullerton, CA
92832
(714) 871-1805
www.mosfullertonmusic.com

Rowland Music
19760 Colima Rd.
Rowland Heights, CA 91748 (909) 595-8986

La Habra Music
1885 W. La Habra Blvd. La Habra, CA 90631 (562)
694-4891
www.lahabramusic.com

Singer Music
1217 North Hacienda Blvd. La Puente, CA 91744
(626) 917-9300
www.singermusic.com

BREA OLINDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BEGINNING BAND ENROLLMENT FORM

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Names: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____ Parent Cell Phone: _____

Parent Email Address: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

Instrument Choices - choose from Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, or Trombone:

First Choice: _____

Second Choice: _____

Third Choice: _____

Have you ever played a musical instrument before? _____

Which instrument(s) , and for how long? _____

Have you ever taken private lessons on an instrument? _____

Which instrument(s), and for how long? _____

Do any members of your family play instruments? _____

Which instrument(s)? _____

Do you already have an instrument at home you would like to play? _____

If so, which instrument? _____

Is there anything else you would like me to know about you? _____

Contract of Dedication

As a member of the Elementary Instrumental Music Program, I agree to:

Be on time to class with my instrument and other necessary materials.

Maintain my instrument in good playing condition.

Practice at home on a daily basis (15 minutes per day recommended)

Attend necessary performances during and after school.

Remain in music class for at least eight weeks.

If I feel I would like to drop from the program, I will provide a signed note from my parents.

Student Name (Print)

Student Signature

Date

Parent Name (Print)

Parent Signature

Date

Thank You!