



Dear 5th Grade Parents:

As a 5th Grade Student, your child finally has the opportunity to do what so many successful students have done before them, *Be Part Of The Band!*

I wanted to take the opportunity to invite you to our band try out nights. We understand that this may be your first encounter with band, and we intend to make it a positive experience for you and your student.

We will hold band registration and instrument try-out nights on August 27th, 28th, 30th and September 4th at Carriel Jr. High. This is a time where you and your child can explore the different instruments and get help choosing the instrument that will give them the best chance of success. If you are unable to attend your school's designated night, feel free to come to another night. Please contact me if you need to set up an alternate time.

6-8pm, August 27th	Schaeffer and Evans try-out night at Carriel Jr. High
6-8pm, August 28th	EK and Hinchcliffe try-out night at Carriel Jr. High
6-8pm, August 30th	Moye try-out night at Carriel Jr. High
6-8pm, September 4th	Makeup (Anyone) try-out night at Carriel Jr. High

In addition to trying the instruments, we will be registering students for band, and covering some basic information about the band program. The band fees for the program are \$90, plus instrument rental (\$20-\$60 per month depending on the instrument). Students will return the following week to pick up their instruments and begin learning how to play them. You will have the opportunity to meet Mr. Donahue and ask any questions you may have.

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 their 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 outperform their non-musical counterparts. But, more importantly, studies are showing that music students are choosing to be a part of a positive environment, and are less likely to engage in risky behaviors.

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

Should you have any questions about our band or your child's participation, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mark Donahue
District 90 Band Director
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www.of90bands.com

