**Beginning Band**

Dear future Band students and parents/guardians,

As 5th grade students, you will have the opportunity to begin a new adventure by choosing to join Band.  Being in Band will require hard work and determination, but playing instruments and making music with your friends is great fun and will make you a “whole” learner by providing you with an Arts education.  You will learn great skills such as working with a team, responsibility, creativity, and perseverance.

Please read the outline below for the important information you need to join band.

1. No student will be turned away from band.  Band lessons will start  2-3 weeks after the start of school.  Group Band will start 2nd quarter.
2. You will be able to sign up for a rent-to-own program through Music Mart in Mankato.   If you would like to purchase an instrument you can do so through the music stores, any number of online instrument retailers, or from someone in the community.  Please speak with Miss Erpelding before purchasing an instrument on your own.  There are brands to stay away from.  Generally speaking for musical instruments, you get what you pay for.  Purchasing an instrument online for $100 might seem like a good deal, but the instrument is likely very poorly made, out of tune, and will require repairs often.  As a rule of thumb, stay away from instruments that are not gold or silver in color.

1. The school has a very limited number of instruments available for rent.  School instruments will be rented on an as needed basis.

Band is such a great experience and you will learn so much about music and even learn and strengthen many life skills such as teamwork, leadership, strong work ethic, responsibility, creativity, perseverance, etc.  Thank you for taking the time to consider joining band!  I hope to see you in the band room soon!

Sincerely,

Miss Rachel Erpelding

5-12 Instrumental Music

Rachel.Erpelding@isd330.org