

 **Milford** 



**Beginning**



 **Band** 

# Milford Instrumental Music Department

Brian Brown

Paul Schrameck

John Espy

May 18, 2011

Dear 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents,

Beginning band instruction will be available to your child on a variety of musical instruments next school year! To ensure all beginning musicians get a proper start, the Milford School District will conduct a one week beginning band program held at Milford High School the week of August 1 - August 5. Instruments offered include the flute, clarinet, trumpet, french horn, trombone, baritone and tuba.

The summer band course will be held during the morning and will be taught by the Milford instrumental staff. Participation in the summer program is required for all students planning to participate in 6th grade band. After completing the summer program, sixth grade band members meet for rehearsals before school three times per week. Families are responsible for providing transportation to band class throughout the school year.

The Milford Band program has established itself as one of the finest instrumental music programs in the tri-state area. The concert bands, marching band, and jazz ensemble have received numerous awards and honors. The Milford Junior High Concert Band (2010, 2005, 2002) and the Milford High School Symphonic Band (1996) have received the honor of performing at the Ohio Music Education Association Professional Conference. The High School Concert Band, Symphonic Band and Junior High Concert Band consistently receive top ratings at the annual OMEA concert band festival. The marching band has appeared at the King Orange Parade in Miami, Magic Music Days at Disney World in Orlando and the Bands of America Grand National Championships at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis. In addition to large group honors, students are encouraged to attend the OMEA Solo and Ensemble Festival at both the Junior High and High School levels, as well as audition for various honor bands.

After reviewing the information contained in this packet, the attached instrument preference questionnaire should be returned to their classroom teacher at school. The forms will be collected by the band directors when they visit 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes the week of May 23<sup>rd</sup> to conduct personal interviews and assist the students in making a wise instrument choice. Parental involvement is essential if your child is to successfully take advantage of this important educational opportunity. **A meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 31st at 7PM in the high school auditorium.** Both educational and business aspects of the program will be discussed in detail, and information regarding the instrument rental process will also be covered. It is absolutely essential that an adult be present at this meeting, as it would be impossible to cover all of the necessary material in a phone conversation or email.

Please take a moment to review the material enclosed and offer your child the opportunity to participate in something new and exciting - MUSIC. By completing and returning the questionnaire, you are giving your child something that he/she will have for the rest of their life.

Sincerely,

Paul Schrameck

John Espy

Brian Brown

Chrissy Hutzell

## Milford Beginning Band - General Information

### Who is eligible?

Any student who will have completed 5th grade, returned an information form, and had a personal interview with a member of the Milford Instrumental staff.

### Location

Beginning Band classes will be offered at Milford High School the week of August 1 - August 5. Once school begins, classes will be held before school at each elementary school three times per week.

### Schedule

Each instrument group will meet for one hour per day the week of August 1 - August 5. Please see attached schedule for exact times.

### Transportation

Transportation to and from Milford High School is the responsibility of the parent. It is suggested that carpools are organized. Address lists will be available the first day of instruction to assist in the formation of carpools. Any severe problems that may keep a child from participating should be directed immediately to one of the instructors. Parents are urged to be prompt in picking up their children following the rehearsals, as instructors are unable to provide supervision for students due to their responsibilities with the next rehearsal group.

### Fees

There is no charge for instruction. Lesson books for all instruments are \$8.00. This includes shipping and handling charges. Please make checks payable to the Milford Band Boosters and send the check with your child on the first day of class. Reeds and other upkeep merchandise will be offered at a discounted rate.

### Instrument Rental

Instrument rental will be discussed at the May 31st meeting. If you already own an instrument, you should bring it to the meeting on May 31st for an instructor to check. Some larger, more expensive instruments (french horn, baritone, and tuba) will be available through the school.

### Private Instruction

Private lessons are always encouraged for all band members. Private lessons are available throughout the school the school year as well as the summer months. For the students' convenience, many of our private instructors teach at Milford High School or Milford Junior High. Please see the attached list for private teachers and their contact information.

### Elementary School Band Times

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Pattison Elementary      | 7:30-8:05AM every Monday, Wednesday and Friday |
| Mulberry Elementary      | 8:15-8:50AM every Monday, Wednesday and Friday |
| McCormick Elementary     | 7:30-8:05AM every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday |
| Meadowview Elementary    | 7:30-8:05AM every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday |
| Boyd E. Smith Elementary | 8:15-8:50AM every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday |
| Seipelt Elementary       | 8:15-8:50AM every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday |

### Communication

All parents are encouraged to subscribe to the Milford Band Boosters group email by going to [www.milfordbandboosters.org](http://www.milfordbandboosters.org), clicking on "Contact" on the left side of the page, and selecting "subscribe" to become active on the group email. Concert, fundraising (Kroger and Scrip Cards), and other important information will be communicated this way.

## Milford Summer Beginning Band Schedule Week of August 1 - August 5

Classes will meet daily at their appropriate times. Students will be separated by instrument upon arrival the first day and have class in different rooms.

9:00-10:00 AM      Flutes  
                         Trumpets  
                         French Horns

10:15-11:15 AM    Clarinets  
                         Trombones  
                         Baritones  
                         Tubas

- Please submit a check or money order for \$8.00 on the first day of band class (August 1) to one of the directors. This is to cover the cost of the beginning band book. Please make checks payable to the Milford Band Boosters. No cash, please.
- This is the only notice you will receive about the times and dates of the summer band session. Please save this paper to help remind you of these dates.

### Private Lesson Teacher List

|                   |                    |               |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| FLUTE             | Shauna Hodgson     | (806)283-2833 |
| FLUTE             | Evelien Woolard    | 891-5216      |
| CLARINET          | Miriam Culley      | 891-7430      |
| TRUMPET           | Adrienne Doctor    | (412)965-0669 |
| TRUMPET           | Wes Woolard        | 891-5216      |
| FRENCH HORN       | Rachel Hockenberry | (540)336-3369 |
| FRENCH HORN       | Ben Flanders       | 531-2177      |
| TROMBONE/BARITONE | Andrew Peoples     | 407-2345      |
| TUBA/BARITONE     | Anthony Lazzeri    | (614)499-1360 |

## Milford Beginning Band Recommended Instruments

### Flute

Silver-plated body and head joint only (not nickel-plated). Deford or Yamaha

### Clarinet

Yamaha or Buffet with Clark Fobes Debut mouthpiece

### Trumpet

Yamaha, King or Blessing with Bach 7c mouthpiece

### Trombone

Yamaha or King with Bach 6 1/2AL mouthpiece

### *Important note:*

Many discount chain stores and internet sites carry very inexpensive musical instruments, which are manufactured under numerous different brand names. Please be forewarned- they are of inferior quality compared to the instruments listed above or ones you will find at a reputable music store. Many instruments do not work properly when they are brand new, and most local repair shops will not fix the instruments. If you have a question about a specific brand name, please ask one of the band directors.

### French Horn, Baritone or Tuba

Talk with an instructor regarding use of school-owned instruments. Students will be required to purchase their own mouthpiece.

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"Without music, life would be a mistake."

Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche

"When you know that you are reaching children...

it gives you a gratification that is enormous."

Leonard Bernstein

"Music is not developed solely by inspiration and fits of genius.

Success comes in music like success comes in every other form of human endeavor -  
by hard work, over a long period of time."

John F. Kennedy

"Music...is the difference between life and death...the proof of immortality."

Meredith Wilson (The Music Man)

# A RESPONSE FOR MUSIC'S PLACE IN THE CURRICULUM

Inspired by Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser

## MUSIC IS A SCIENCE

It's exact, specific; and it demands exact acoustics. A conductor's full score is a chart, a graph which indicates frequencies, intensities, volume changes, melody and harmony all at once with the most exact control of time.

## MUSIC IS MATHEMATICS

It is rhythmically based on the subdivisions of time into fractions which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.

## MUSIC IS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Most of the terms are in Italian, German, or French; and the notation is not English but a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music is the most complex and universal language.

## MUSIC IS HISTORY

Music usually reflects the environment and time of its creation; often even the country, ethnics and racial feeling.

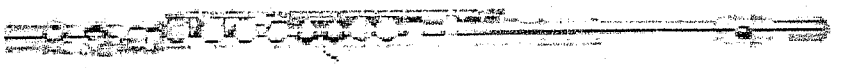
## MUSIC IS PHYSICAL EDUCATION

It requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lip, cheek, and facial muscles, in addition to extraordinary control of the throat, lung, stomach, and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.

But most of all, MUSIC IS ART. It allows a human being to take all these disciplines and use them to create humanism, feeling and emotion.

## Why Music?

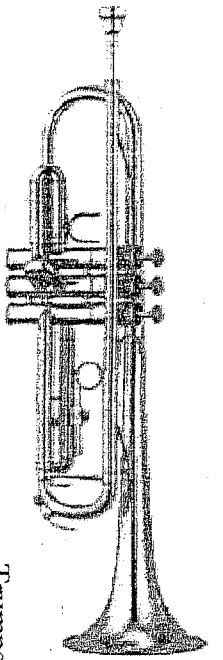
- Researchers at the University of Munster in Germany have discovered that music lessons in childhood actually enlarge the brain. An area used to analyze the pitch of a music note is enlarged 25% in musicians compared to people who have never played an instrument.
- Studying music strengthens students' academic performance. Studies have indicated that sequential, skill-building instruction in art and music integrated with the rest of the curriculum can greatly improve children's performance in reading and math.
- There is a very high correlation between positive self-perception, high cognitive competence scores, healthy self-esteem, total interest and school involvement and the study of music.
- Studies have shown that student absence from class to study a musical instrument does not result in lower academic achievement. No academic achievement difference could be found between sixth grade students who were excused from class for instrumental study and those who were not.
- Students with course work/experience in music performance scored 52 points higher on the verbal portion of the SAT and 36 points higher on the math portion than students with no course work or experience in the arts.
- College admissions officers give special consideration to students who have mastered the arts in depth by taking arts courses in high school.
- Many of the nation's top business executives point to the skills the arts teach- creative thinking, problem-solving, risk-taking, teamwork, and communication - as the tools that will prepare workers for the careers of the 21st century.



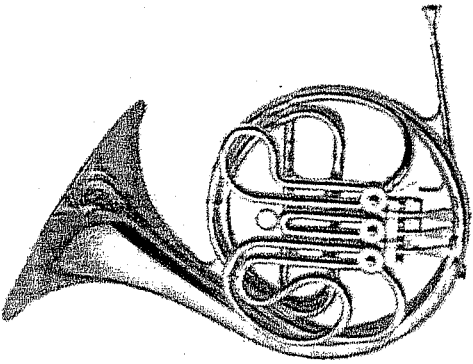
Flute



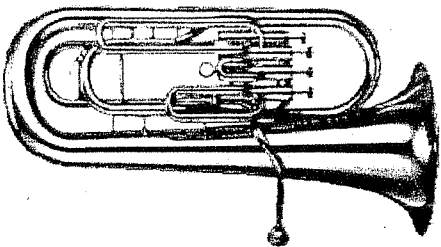
Clarinet



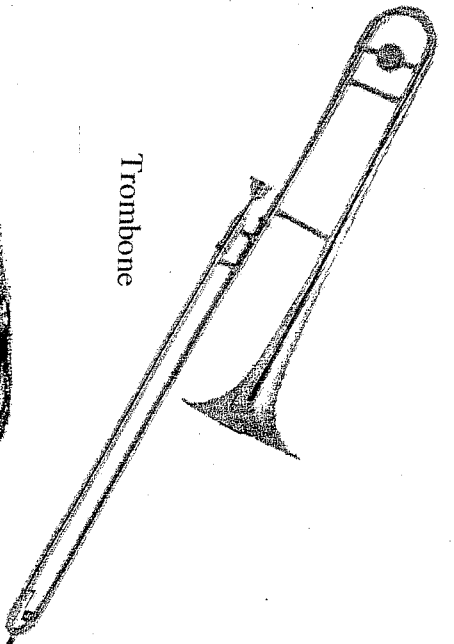
Trumpet



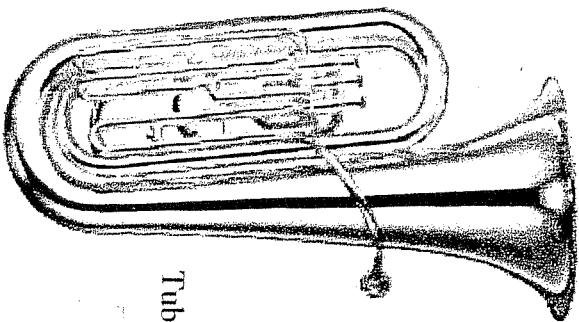
French Horn



Baritone/Euphonium



Trombone



Tuba

Please print clearly:

1st instrument choice: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_

School attending next year: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd instrument choice: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Please return this form to one of the band directors. They will be visiting individual classrooms the week of May 23rd.

City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_