

To all 5th grade students and parents:

On January 9th, the Parkview Music Teachers will be visiting the 5th grade music classes. During this visit, we will describe the two music class choices 6th grade students have at Parkview. We will also discuss some physical traits that will be helpful in deciding on band or choir as well as succeeding on various instruments. You should then discuss with your child which class interests them.

If they choose band we ask that you also discuss possible instrument choices before attending one of the fitting meetings in January.

The band parent/fitting meetings will be at 6:00 pm on Monday, January 27th and Tuesday, January 28th in the Parkview Commons. Please select one date to attend.

At this meeting, students will be able to “try on” the instruments that interest them. Band directors from Parkview will be present to help your child with the fitting process. Each instrument has its own set of challenges that can be greatly reduced by matching the musician to the proper instrument. We will look at: shape of lips, dental structure, and other physical characteristics that will help make a proper fit.

Instrument choices for 6th graders include; flute, clarinet, saxophone, French horn, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba and percussion. In order to keep a balanced instrumentation in the band, we may need to limit the numbers of students playing certain instruments. Traditionally saxophone and percussion have fallen under this limitation. (We ask that if you are choosing **saxophone** that you have a second choice in mind in case we meet our quota.)

If you plan on playing **percussion**, we do have a prerequisite of two years of piano lessons. Piano lessons help the beginning drummer deal with the many instruments they are required to play in the section. Percussionists play: drums, bells, xylophone, timpani, cymbals, etc. Percussionists must complete an audition with Mrs. Kuchta or Mr.Dinse. These auditions take place during the fitting meetings. Please call or email to arrange a date and time.

Thank you for your interest in the Ashwaubenon music program. We know this will be the beginning of an experience that will have a positive influence on your child for the rest of his/her life.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Band Directors:

Michelle Kuchta 492-2945 ext.4202 mkuchta@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us

Christopher Dinse 492-2945 ext. 4203 cdinse@ashwaubenonk12.org