Dear Grade 5 Parents and Guardians, June 26, 2019

Your child is entering grade 6 next year and will be taking band. Students will have the exciting opportunity to learn a new instrument throughout the year and perform in the concert band ensemble.

Students attended a session where they heard and learned about the various instruments in band. Many have selected their preference and were notified which instrument they will play next year. Students who did not have their instrument choice confirmed this week will have an opportunity to select one in September.

Options are *flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, trombone,* with exception being given through careful consideration for *bass guitar* and *percussion*.

**Rental/Purchase Options**

If you own the chosen instrument already, I advise taking it to a music store over the summer to give it a basic repair check-up (especially if it has not been played in a long time). If you do not yet own the instrument your child will play, options are as described.

* Purchase: A music store will have your selected instrument to sell, new or used.
* Rental/Rent-to-Own: The recommended system for most is rental. Rentals are paid at a monthly fee. A store will typically do a rent-to-own program, where every month paid goes towards owning the instrument – after enough months spent paying for rental the instrument is completely paid-for and owned by you. This cost in the end will often be a little higher than an outright purchase, but is a good decision for most who don’t know if they will play the instrument past grade 7.

**Stores**

Tapestry Music (White Rock) will be our school’s primary connection this year. Attached to this letter is their instrument information sheet. Other good, nearby stores you may want to acquire an instrument from are Tom Lee Music (Surrey) or Long & McQuade (White Rock and Richmond). Please use a music store instead of alternative stores and services.

**Instrument Rental Night**

To simplify the rental process we are planning to have a rental night in September. This will be one evening where Tapestry Music comes to the school and offers their rental services right there, while providing other materials your child will need for band class. *The date is not yet determined*. You do not have to wait until rental night to rent if you know your child’s instrument, and can even rent starting in the summer if that is more convenient.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me. Hope you enjoy the summer!

Mr. Curtis Wiens

Music/Band Teacher

crwiens@deltasd.bc.ca