



SUMMIT MIDDLE SCHOOL

SUMMIT BAND PROGRAM 2015 - 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Extensive research has shown that students enrolled in music classes are stronger in verbal and math scores and achieve higher academic success. We often see many of our band students at the head of their classes, taking on leadership roles in school, and moving on to institutions of higher learning. The interdisciplinary skills learned in band are identical to those required for success in life. These include teamwork, responsibility, co-ordination, expression, creativity, social-emotional development, cultural understanding, self-confidence and self-esteem.

Summit Middle School has an excellent band program consisting of three Concert Bands and a Jazz Band. Beginning Band is open to all ability levels, from beginners with no previous training, to experienced musicians. Intermediate, Senior, and Jazz Band are generally for students with 1 or 2 years of band experience. Band rehearsals are normally held before school. All students will also take "Performing Arts (Music & Drama) Explorations" as one of the "Exploration" courses for a quarter of the year. Except for Jazz Band, which is extra-curricular this year, all Band and Performing Arts classes are graded, credited courses. Rehearsal schedules are as follows*:

BEGINNING BAND: Monday & Thursday, 7:45 AM (starting Sept. 21)*

INTERMEDIATE BAND: Tuesday & Friday, 7:45 AM (starting Sept. 22)

SENIOR BAND: Wednesday, 7:45 AM (starting Sept. 23)

JAZZ BAND: (audition and start date in October, To Be Announced)

* Beginning Band will have a very important **Start-Up Lesson** with clinicians at **7:30 AM** on **Monday, Sept. 21**.

For more information about instruments, rentals, schedules and expectations, a **BAND PROGRAM INFORMATION NIGHT** (for new students) is scheduled for **Thursday, Sept. 10 at 7:00 PM** in the Summit Band Room. For your convenience, a **BAND INSTRUMENT RENTAL NIGHT** will also take place in the Summit Multi-Purpose Room on **Friday, Sept. 18 from 7:30 to 9:00 PM**. At this event, Tom Lee Music representatives will have instruments, supplies, and books available for rent or purchase. I will also be on hand to answer questions. If you are unable to attend the Info. Night or Rental Night, you may contact me with any questions you may have and are free to rent or purchase your instrument elsewhere.

If your child is interested in joining Band, please fill out and return an attached **Registration Form** to the Summit Band Room or Office by Sept. 14. While students' 1st instrument choices will be granted as much as possible, some students may be asked to try a 2nd or 3rd instrument choice for balance or suitability reasons. Instrument assignments will be posted outside the band room by Sept. 17th. Additional program details are also available on the **Band Program Web Page** under "Programs and Services" or "Classes – Mr. Faoro" on the Summit web site (www.sd43.bc.ca/summit).

Thank-you and we look forward to striking up the bands for 2015-2016!

Sincerely,

Mr. Faoro
Band and Performing Arts Director
Summit Middle School