

Hello 5th Grade Families,

We are excited to share an awesome opportunity with you! This year, 5th graders will have the option to participate in **General Music or Band**. Since Band is new to 5th graders, we want to provide you with important information about the program and upcoming events.

General Music OR Band

Students will choose between General Music or Band—students may **not** participate in both. In the past, all 5th graders were in General Music, and those interested in Band participated during two of their recesses each week.

Now, if your child chooses Band, they will come to SGMS **twice a week**:

- **Music Special Block on Monday, Wednesday or Friday: 9:30–10:20**
- **Small Group Lesson: 11:00–11:30**

This is an exciting opportunity, as students will receive both a large group class and a weekly lesson focused on their chosen instrument.

Instrument Petting Zoo

To help students explore which instrument they'd like to play, Mr. Shepard and Mr. Mayhak are hosting an **Instrument Petting Zoo**. SGMS students will visit East Side during their music class this week to demonstrate instruments and give 5th graders a chance to try them out. This will help students make an informed decision if they choose to join Band.

Rental Night

When: Tuesday, September 2nd, 5:00–7:00 p.m.

Where: East Side School

At this event, students will receive their instruments for the school year. Families have several options:

1. Rent-to-Own (Recommended)

- Monthly payments made to Eckroth Music towards owning the instrument.
- Insurance is available to cover most repairs.
- If your student stops Band, you may cancel and return the instrument without penalty.

2. Purchase Your Own

- Families may purchase an instrument directly.
- Please contact Mr. Mayhak or Mr. Stannard before purchasing so we can confirm it is a reliable option.

3. Rent Through SGMS

- While we recommend the options above, SGMS offers a limited number of rentals.
 - Cost: \$100 for the 2025–26 school year.
 - A small number of scholarships are available for families in need.
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Questions?

If you have any questions or need clarification, please don't hesitate to reach out. We are excited for this opportunity and look forward to a great year of music-making!

Best,

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