



## Crossler Area Fifth Grade Beginning Band



September 7, 2021

Dear Parents,

I would like to make you aware of a very special opportunity: I would like to invite your child to become a member of the Crossler Area Fifth Grade Beginning Band. If you are wondering why your child might want to continue their music education through membership in band, here are some quick facts about band programs in schools:

Band is a beneficial and important program that will enrich every other part of your child's educational life. Students who study music are 52% more likely to go on to college and other higher education. Skill tests on fifth graders in 75 schools showed that students who were learning a musical instrument received higher marks than their classmates in *every single test area*. The longer they had been playing, the higher they scored. On a survey of CEOs and U.S. Congressmen, 90% attributed their study of music as children to their development of character and leadership skills. As you can see, the research supports that band will make a difference in your child's life.

In order to get your child started on the correct instrument so that he/she/they will be successful, I will be holding a **Band Start-Up Night**. **This event will be Thursday, September 23, 2021 at Crossler Middle School in the Gymnasium.** There will be two sessions at the Start-Up Night: the first from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm, and the second from 7:15 pm – 9:00 pm. You only need to attend one of the sessions. At this time, there will be stations set up for your child to observe and learn about each band instrument; band directors will be available at each station to ensure that your child chooses an instrument that is right for him/her. Representatives from Willamette Valley Music will be there to get you started with instrument rentals.

**Please do not let financial concerns keep your child from participating in band.** There are many programs available to fit your needs. We will be happy to tell you about them.

All other information you need will be covered at the Band Night. If you have any questions, please contact me.

I look forward to meeting you and working with your child.

Sincerely,

James Nowickas  
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Crossler Middle School  
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