

## GRADE 7 BAND – INSTRUMENT SELECTION

\* Please do not get an instrument for your child until I have met the class and a decision has been made.

*I recognize the importance of your child playing the instrument he or she really wants to play. However, the overall experience suffers without a full range of instruments. I have a very good track record of helping your child choose an instrument on which he or she will have success.*

<b>Brass</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Trumpet 	<input type="checkbox"/> Trombone 	<input type="checkbox"/> Horn 	<input type="checkbox"/> Baritone 
<b>Woodwind</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Flute 	<input type="checkbox"/> Oboe 	<input type="checkbox"/> Clarinet 	<input type="checkbox"/> Bass Clarinet 
	<input type="checkbox"/> Alto Saxophone 	<input type="checkbox"/> Tenor Saxophone 	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Percussion</b> I prefer to choose people from sections with lots of players when I need percussion. If you really want to play percussion, I will expect you to play bells as well as drums so you learn to read pitches.	<input type="checkbox"/> I want to play in the band but I'm not sure what instrument to play. In September I will let Mr. D help me choose an instrument best suited to me.

- When we meet to determine instrumentation I will bring a mouthpiece and sterilizing liquid for students to make a sound on a trumpet and trombone mouthpieces to determine which brass instrument is best suited to each student. Horn: challenging, must love the sound of the horn.
- Flute: takes the most air, fingerings are more difficult than clarinet/saxophone; Oboe: private lessons are recommended. A well-made reed is very important to early success on the oboe; Clarinet: most like the recorder; Bass clarinet: parts will be easier to play than the other woodwinds; Saxophone: makes a good deal of sound which means only students committed to practicing at home should apply; relatively easy to play, students who wish to play the tenor saxophone (an important instrument to have in the band) must have a good sized hand.
- to have a well-rounded instrumentation, 40+% brass, 10% saxophones, 10% flutes

**Please fill in the questionnaire on the other side of this page**



**Beginning Band Questionnaire**  
**Please print neatly**

**Parent's contact information** (I shred all collected information at year end)

Contact name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email \_\_\_\_\_ Contact cell: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student's contact information** School name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 is least favourite, 10 is most favourite),  
please list four instruments you would like to play this year.

Brass instrument 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Rating /10: \_\_\_\_\_

Brass instrument 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Rating /10: \_\_\_\_\_

Woodwind instrument 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Rating /10: \_\_\_\_\_

Woodwind instrument 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Rating /10: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you already own one of these instruments?  yes – type \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently taking private music lessons  yes –instrument \_\_\_\_\_

If you are taking lessons, what R.C.M. level are you working on? \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. D, I want to take band because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. D, something I'd like to tell you is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

[Stephen.Denroche@sd41.bc.ca](mailto:Stephen.Denroche@sd41.bc.ca)

<http://blogs.sd41.bc.ca/denroches/>

*Please go to my blog site for links to articles outlining the benefits of a music education*