

BAND PROGRAM

Hill-Murray School provides the band program to nineteen area parish schools, two public charter schools, and one private school. Band students at these schools receive instrument lessons, participate in band rehearsals, and perform in Christmas/winter and spring concerts under the direction of band teachers employed by Hill-Murray.

At most schools the band director comes to the school one day per week. That day is called the school's **Band Day**. Most Band Days will include one 1/2-hour small group lesson (two to four students) and one 1/2-hour band rehearsal. Lessons and band rehearsals are scheduled during the regular school day. The schedule is rotated so students do not miss the same classes each week. Because of field trips, school testing, etc., some Band Days will include only a lesson or a rehearsal. There will be a minimum of 28 Band Days per year. Following is this year's Band Day schedule:

	M	T	W	TH	F
Warren Starr	St. Rose		M of M - St. Andrew	Presentation	
Beth Johnson	St. Odilia	St. Odilia	St. Anne	St. Pius X	
Elizabeth Larson	St. Jude	St. Mark	Highland Catholic	St. Thomas More	
Heather LeVesseur	Nova Classical Academy	Holy Trinity	Nova Classical Academy	St. Croix Catholic	St. Pascal
		St. John Vianney			
LeAnn Lindgren	Lakes Int. Lang. Acad.	St. Charles Borromeo	St. John the Evangelist	Transfiguration	
		Footprints Academy	St. Jerome	St. Matthew	

Band is offered to students in 4th through 8th grade (11th at Nova). First year students perform in the Beginner Band. Second year students are automatically promoted to the Intermediate Band. Advanced Band is offered to students who successfully complete an audition. Seventh and eighth graders in the Advanced Band are eligible to join our Jazz Band.

In March, all students in our program have the opportunity to perform together in our annual "**Almost Spring Concert**" held at Hill-Murray School. The big, combined school Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced and Jazz Bands sound very impressive and are a lot of fun for the students. Rehearsals for this concert are held on Tuesdays at Hill-Murray, after school, beginning in January. Students are expected to attend at least five rehearsals, including the dress rehearsal, to be eligible to play in the concert, and are encouraged to attend them all. Band parents need to arrange for their children's transportation to Hill-Murray. Following the "Almost Spring" Concert, the Advanced Band and Jazz Band take an annual field trip to present a daytime concert at one of the schools in our program.

Jazz Band has extra Tuesday evening rehearsals at Hill-Murray. It also has an extra spring concert. Jazz Band members must agree to attend a minimum number of Jazz Band rehearsals, as specified in the Jazz Band letter, and attend at least five Advanced Band rehearsals at Hill-Murray. They must also agree to perform with both groups in the "Almost Spring" Concert and annual field trip concert, and in the extra, spring Jazz Band concert. The Jazz Band letter and rehearsal schedule will be passed out in the fall. Again, Jazz Band parents need to arrange for their children's transportation to rehearsals and concerts.

PRACTICING

Practicing at home is very important. We encourage 30 minutes of practice time six days per week. Practice time should be recorded daily on the student's practice record and signed weekly by a parent. Practice time will also be noted on the progress report. An example of the progress report is printed below.

5 points possible per category

Attendance*/Punctuality	_____
Brings Instrument/Music	_____
On Task	_____
Lesson Assignment Progress	_____
Learned Band Music	_____
Practice Time**	_____
Grade _____	_____

A = 30-27, B = 26-21, C = 20-15, D = 14-9

* **Unexcused absence from rehearsal or lesson.**

** **Practice time is based on three hours per week.**

We highly recommend that parents purchase a music stand to enable the student to have proper playing posture.

TUITION

Tuition rates are as follows:	<u>Initial</u>	<u>February 5</u>	<u>Total</u>
1 st Child in Program	\$310	\$310	\$620
2 nd Child in Program	\$290	\$290	\$580
3 rd Child in Program	\$270	\$270	\$540

Tuition is the fee for lessons and band rehearsals. It includes the purchase of lesson books and use of band music.

Enrollment is for a full semester. No refunds will be given for students who do not finish a semester.

For each semester, lessons cannot be given until the semester payment has been received. The 1st semester payment deadline for returning students is Friday, September 16. The deadline for beginners is Friday, September 30. The 2nd semester deadline is February 5 for all students.

Band tuition payments will be made on the internet using a credit card or bank account. The account chosen for payment of the 1st semester tuition will also be used for payment of the 2nd semester tuition. The payment for 2nd semester will be automatically withdrawn from the account on February 5, 2012. A reminder email will be sent 15 days prior, on January 21, 2012. A detailed instruction sheet on how to make these payments will be provided separately.