

## BAND PROGRAM OVERVIEW

**Hill-Murray School** provides the band program to eighteen 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 concerts under the direction of band teachers employed by Hill-Murray. The concerts are held at Christmas time and in the spring.

Band is offered to students in 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. 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.

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 the 2009 - 2010 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. Pius X Holy Family | St. Anne               |            |
| Elizabeth Larson  | St. Jude                          | St. Mark             | Highland Catholic      | St. Thomas More        |            |
| Heather LeVesseur | St. Jerome/<br>Footprints Academy | St. John             | Nova Classical Academy | St. Croix Catholic     | St. Pascal |
| LeAnn Lindgren    | St. Mary of the Lake              | St. Charles Borromeo | Transfiguration        | Lakes Int. Lang. Acad. |            |
|                   |                                   |                      |                        | St. Matthew            |            |

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, and 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.

All Advanced Band students have the opportunity to perform as a soloist or member of an ensemble in our **Solo/Ensemble Festival**, held at Hill-Murray School in April. Participation is encouraged, but not required.

## PRACTICING

Practicing at home is very important. We highly recommend that parents purchase a music stand to enable the student to have proper playing posture while practicing. 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.

## PROGRESS REPORTS

A band progress report will be sent home with your child's school report card.

## TUITION

| 2009-2010 Tuition rates are as follows: | <u>Initial</u> | <u>January 15<sup>th</sup></u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|----------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Child in Program        | \$295          | \$295                          | \$590        |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Child in Program        | \$275          | \$275                          | \$550        |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Child in Program        | \$255          | \$255                          | \$510        |

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.

Band tuition payments will be made on the internet. Detailed instructions on how to make these payments will be provided separately.

The 1<sup>st</sup> semester payment deadline for returning students is Friday, September 18, 2009. The deadline for beginners is Friday, October 2, 2009. The 2<sup>nd</sup> semester deadline is January 15, 2010 for all students.