

Spring Hills School

Music Department Memo

Marcus Cash
Director of Bands

Karen Petelle
Principal

Janien Balgemann
SHS Director

September 2, 2025

WELCOME POTENTIAL 4th GRADE BAND MEMBERS!

Welcome to the wonderful world of band! Your child is about to embark on an experience that will be (perhaps) one of the most rewarding endeavors they have ever pursued. Studies show that people who play instruments are more likely to succeed in math, logic, causal relationships, and have higher self-esteem. In addition, music promotes discipline, character, and a sense of belonging in all those who participate due to “group effort” achievements. Perhaps most importantly, your child will be involved in a lifelong activity that will bring joy and satisfaction for many years.

This packet contains a LOT of information. Please take time to review all the expectations, especially the Calendar of Events. I realize many of you may have questions. However, many of your questions are answered in the following handouts.

Potential band members will try out instruments during the school day. Just because your child wants to play a certain instrument does not mean the instrument is best suited for your child. We will listen to your child play most of the instruments and suggest an instrument (usually more than one) that we feel is best suited for your child to play.

YOU CAN AVOID THE BAND SHOWCASE NIGHT ALTOGETHER! YOU CAN ORDER YOUR INSTRUMENT, BUY A BOOK, AND FILL OUT THE REGISTRATION ONLINE. PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR MORE INFORMATION.

BAND REGISTRATION BEGINS MONDAY, SEPT. 8th

We are looking forward to meeting ALL OF YOU!!!! Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions about the program or check out our website at <https://sites.google.com/sd12.org/roselle-band-program/home>

Musically yours,



Mr. Cash
630.529-1600 x2112 RMS

Janien Balgemann
630.529-1883, x3030 SHS

<https://sites.google.com/sd12.org/roselle-band-program/home>

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IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

Date	Time and Location	Event
Aug. 15 – Sep. 5th During School	Music Classes at SHS	<i>TRY OUT INSTRUMENTS!!!</i> This involves all fourth-grade learners and will occur during their regularly scheduled music class. ALL kids love instruments. Whether or not a long commitment is in their future is irrelevant. Please discuss this with your child and feel free to ask questions. Please allow your child to play an instrument, even if they are just “trying it out.”
Monday, Sept 8th 4:00-5:00pm A-M 5:00-6:00pm N-Z	Parents are encouraged to come at the times listed. However, you can show up anytime between 4-6pm if you have time constraints.	<i>BAND REGISTRATION AND SHOWCASE NIGHT AT SHS!!!</i> On this night, 4th-grade learners and parents will have the opportunity to rent an instrument from a representative from Quinlan and Fabish in Arlington Heights. After renting an instrument, members will receive their horn/percussion kit on the day of their first lesson.
Sept. 15 - 19th <i>4th band begins this week!!!!</i> Schedules will be handed out this week.	Not every band member will start on Monday. Lessons are grouped by instrument. Flutes on one day, trumpets on another day, etc.	<i>BAND MEMBERS RECEIVE INSTRUMENTS DURING SCHOOL AT SHS!!!</i> Band members will receive their instruments this week. Band members who did not receive a book on the night of the band showcase will receive one this week. If you own your instrument or purchased an instrument online... please bring it on the day of your lesson (schedule forthcoming).

Accent on Achievement is our book! Please order the book that corresponds with your instrument choice.

You can purchase this book at [Quinlan and Fabish](https://sites.google.com/sd12.org/roselle-band-program/home) or online.

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4th Grade Band Expectations

1) 4th Grade Band Showcase Night

This night is intended for potential band members (and parents) to rent instruments from Quinlan and Fabish. ATTENDANCE IS OPTIONAL. You may purchase or rent your instrument from anywhere. I encourage band members (and parents) to rent from Quinlan and Fabish because of the quality of their instruments (the instruments are brand new in most cases). Please see the attached pricing list for costs.

2) Instrument and Accent on Achievement book

All 4th-grade band members need an instrument! Regardless of where or how you get this instrument, ultimately, it is the band members' and parents' responsibility to get an instrument.

There are a few options here:

1. **Buy an instrument** (see the suggested instrument list at the end of this document)
2. **Rent an instrument.** We work with Quinlan and Fabish. BUT, you can rent from anywhere! Quinlan and Fabish has a 4-month introductory plan. Prices for all instruments are on their website. The cost is spelled out nicely, and there are no hidden fees. Your start-up price will cost around \$120 (more or less, depending on the instrument and accessories).
3. **Get an instrument** from a friend, co-worker, or family member. Ask around. You would be surprised who has an instrument sitting around that your child can play!

Once again, the 4th-grade band showcase night is provided for your convenience; it is NOT mandatory to attend. In addition to an instrument, band members are expected to purchase an Accent on Achievement book. If you have your instrument, you may purchase a book from Quinlan and Fabish, Amazon, or Mr. Cash in some cases. The book will cost approximately \$9-\$12 (percussion books are \$14-\$16).

3) Co-curricular Fee

A \$50.00 co-curricular fee will be collected for the 4th-grade band in January. 4th-grade band fees are collected ONLY if your child chooses to stay in the band past the second half of school.

4) Grading

All 4th-grade band members will receive an effort grade for band. This effort grade is based on each band member's practice habits, lesson preparation, lesson participation (missing horn or materials), and occasional playing tests. As a reminder, band members will NOT receive an effort grade in band for the first quarter.

5) Private Lessons

Private lessons are a critical part of any member's musical education. Please check our website for a list of current instructors.

6) Auditioning and Chair Placement

We do not audition the 4th-grade band members.

<https://sites.google.com/sd12.org/roselle-band-program/home>

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7) **Band During School**

BAND MEMBERS WILL NOT MISS CLASS FOR BAND IN THE 4th GRADE! Band members will have a lesson once a week during their recess or WIN, and FULL BAND will be every Friday (during recess) unless otherwise notified. Lesson schedules will be distributed the week before band members receive their instruments. Because band members will (basically) have lessons on the same day every week, please help your child remember to bring his/her instrument, book, etc.

8) **Provisional Status**

Occasionally, a band member will be asked to perform in the Varsity band before the end of the semester or school year. This band member is chosen on his/her exceptional ability and practice habits. Despite being invited, the band member and parent will ultimately decide whether the band member will participate.

9) **Uniforms**

Though 4th-grade band members WILL perform in the Spring Concert, they will not be required to wear a uniform. 4th-grade band members who perform with the Marching Band will be fitted for a uniform near the end of the year.

10) **Purchasing replacement items**

At some point, band members will need items such as cleaners, reeds, valve oils, drumsticks, etc. These items may be purchased at a local music store (Music and Arts) or [Quinlan and Fabish](#). For the first couple of weeks, please purchase #2.5 reeds for clarinet and sax players (preferably Rico Royal, though any brand will do) and medium-soft reeds (any brand) for oboe players. I will send out more detailed information when band starts.

11) **Heavy Instruments**

Every effort will be made to provide your child with an instrument both at school and at home if your child chooses to play a “bigger” instrument. However, I cannot promise this will happen for every member, every year.

12) **Music Boosters**

Be an active member of the Roselle Band Boosters!!! We need YOU!!! The Band Boosters meetings are marked on the district calendar. Attendance is NOT mandatory; however, it is helpful to the survival of our band program. As a result of your child's commitment to band, you will be asked to sell tickets for our annual fundraising efforts, the Roselle Band Boosters' Annual Pancake Day Breakfast held in April (\$30). ALL BAND FAMILIES can expect to receive tickets (mailed home) before April regarding ticket sales. In most cases, parents will be asked to volunteer to help.

If you have any more questions about the band program, please do not hesitate to email or call me at the school!!!

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Suggested Instrument List

This is a list of instruments that I suggest for your band member. PLEASE do not buy a cheap instrument (Costco or equivalent). The music stores will not repair the instrument, and they simply do not hold up. When in doubt, please email me. The prices listed below are for new instruments. However, you can search eBay or [Reverb.com](https://www.reverb.com) for good deals on some of these instruments.

Instrument	Brand & Model Options	Price Range
Flute	Yamaha YFL-222 Gemeinhardt 2SP Eastman EFL210 Trevor James 10X	\$600–\$1,100
Clarinet (Bb)	Yamaha YCL-255 Buffet Prodigé Backun Alpha Jupiter JCL700NA	\$800–\$1,200
Oboe	Yamaha YOB-241 Fox Renard 330 Jones JP181 Jupiter JOB1000	\$2,000–\$4,500
Alto Saxophone	Yamaha YAS-26 Jean Paul USA AS-400 Jupiter JAS710GN Eastman EAS251	\$700–\$1,500
Trumpet	Yamaha YTR-2330 Bach TR300H2 Jupiter JTR700 Eastman ETR420	\$1,000–\$1,400
French Horn	Yamaha YHR-314II Eastman EFH320 Conn 14D	\$2,200–\$2,900
Trombone (Tenor)	Yamaha YSL-354 Bach TB301 Jupiter JTB700 Eastman ETB310	\$1,000–\$1,400

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Baritone (Euphonium)	Yamaha YEP-201	\$2,000–\$3,000
	Jupiter JEP700	
	Eastman EEP321	
	John Packer JP274	
Percussion Combo Kit (PCK)	Pearl PL910C	\$400–\$550
	Yamaha SCK-350	
	Vic Firth EP1	
	Ludwig LE2483R	