Dear Parents,

**Did you know??????**

Music students out-perform non-music students on achievement tests in reading and math. Skills such as reading, anticipating, memory, listening, forecasting, recall, and concentration are developed in musical performance, and these skills are valuable to students in math, reading, and science.

*B. Friedman, “An Evaluation of the Achievement in Reading and Arithmetic of Pupils in Elementary School Instrumental Music Classes,” Dissertation Abstracts International.*

This letter is to invite all **4th through 8th Grade ICS** students who have not participated in the band program in the past to consider joining us for the first time. We had an extremely exciting and successful year in 2018/2019 with several spectacular concerts, as well as a band competition with Music in the Parks where we received ‘Excellent’ ratings for both 6th Grade Band and 7th & 8th Grade Band!

The ICS Band is a curricular program open to 4th grade through 8th grade. We offer a concert band in each grade level and two levels of Jazz Bands open to students in grades 5 through 8. Band students are pulled once a week from class on a rotating schedule to avoid interference with academic studies. Each band rehearses once a week (grades 4 and 5 during recess, grades 6, 7, and 8 during activity periods.) A band schedule will be emailed and posted on a bi-weekly schedule.

We currently have **100 students** in our program and we are always happy to welcome more musicians! If your child has never participated in the **ICS Band**, it is never too late to start! We welcome beginners of any grade level.

**How to get started:**

1. **New Students:** New to ICS or considering joining band for the first time??? Come see Ms. Canavan to find an instrument that fits you best!
2. **Band Fee:** A **$100.00 fee** is requested to help offset the cost of the program. If this fee poses a financial burden, please contact Mrs. Beverly Gaffney in our Finance Office for consideration, as we do not want to exclude anyone who wishes to take instrumental lessons from doing so.
3. **Attendance Policy:** Weekly instrumental lessons and band rehearsals are a mandatory part of participating in the ICS band program. **Students with 3 or more unexcused absences from rehearsals will not be allowed to participate in the band concert.** Students must come prepared each week with their instruments and music; a consistent failure to do so will result in a grade deduction. 7th and 8th grade band members are required to attend half-day rehearsals on the first Wednesday of each month from 12:30 – 2:15. By signing on the next page you are agreeing to cooperate with this attendance policy throughout the school year and review the requirements with your child.

**4. Sign-up Sheet:** Turn in the accompanying sign-up sheet and **$100 fee** to Ms. Canavan’s mailbox no later than **Monday, September 9th, 2019.**

I look forward to meeting and working with the students in building our high quality music program.

 Sincerely,

 Ms. Elizabeth Canavan

*Instrumental Music ecanavan@ics41mtn.org*

**2019/2020 ICS Band Sign-up**

**(New Band Students)**

**My Child\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Teacher\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Student’s Name

**has my permission to join the ICS Band.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Parent’s signature

**As a member of the ICS band program students may also join (this is not a requirement) the ICS 5th & 6th or 7th & 8th gr. Jazz Band at no additional cost.**

**Please put a check below if your child wishes to join the ICS Jazz Band in addition to the Concert Band.** *ICS band students must participate in Concert Band if they wish to be a part of the Jazz Band.*

**\_\_\_\_\_\_ Jazz Band**

**\*Email and the ICS Band website are the main forms of communication for lesson schedules and the full concert calendar.** *The ICS Band website can be located by clicking on Ms. Canavan’s name on the ICS website.*

**Parent/Guardian’s email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Please enclose with the sign-up form a check written to ICS for $100 to cover band fee.**

**Please list the instrument your child would like to play in order of choice. i.e. 1st, 2nd and 3rd:**

**FLUTE\_\_\_\_**

**CLARINET\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**OBOE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**ALTO SAXOPHONE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**FRENCH HORN\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

(students who sign up for French Horn are recommended to rent a double horn.)

**TRUMPET\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**TROMBONE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**BARITONE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

(Please note that any student who signs up for baritone may borrow a school instrument for school use. An instrument should be rented for at home use to eliminate toting the instrument back and forth.)

**PERCUSSION** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(There are a limited number of slots available in the percussion section. Students will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.)