

DIXIE SCHOOL DISTRICT

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

HANDBOOK

2009-2010



Every student has the innate ability to create music. Music and the arts are vital to human culture and are essential to the education of the whole child.

- Shelly Urquhart

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Contact Information

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Dixie School District
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903
hlarisch@marin.k12.ca.us

Ph (415) 492-3708

Fax (415) 492-3707

You may email or call **Heidi Larisch** if you have any questions regarding the music department.

Staff Contact Information

Patrick Hughes

Director of Bands
phughes@marin.k12.ca.us

Sara MacBride

Choral Director
smacbride@marin.k12.ca.us

Shahrazad Vakharia

Orchestra Director
svahkaria@marin.k12.ca.us

Annette Pirrone

Elementary Music
apirrone@marin.k12.ca.us

Heidi Larisch

Music Department Coordinator
Instructional Assistant
hlarisch@marin.k12.ca.us

Staff Biographies

Annette Pirrone has been teaching music in lower elementary schools in the San Francisco Bay Area for 10 years. After working as a vocalist, actor, talent agent, and casting director, she returned to school to earn her teaching credential at Dominican University. Her introduction to the Orff Schulwerk process of learning and teaching music lead her to specializing in music education. Annette fulfilled a dream of singing with a big band as vocalist with the Berkeley Alumni Jazz Band, and she was one of the founding members of the Oakland Jazz Choir. She now sings locally with the Ross Commons Singers, as well as in the car traveling between schools.

Patrick Hughes began his music education by taking clarinet lessons in the fourth grade at Deer Park School in Fairfax, California. Mr. Hughes continued to practice and play music, shifting to the tenor saxophone at Drake High School under the direction of Perry Smith. He earned a B.A. in Jazz Studies from Sonoma State University and a M.M. in Composition and Arranging; University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Outside of music, he worked in the construction and structural steel business owned and operated by his father (Hughes Structural). Mr. Hughes also played soccer for ten years from age 8 to 18. He and his wife have lived in Santa Rosa for the past 13 years and they have a four year old son. He enjoys family time, classic automobiles, sports, films, hiking and MUSIC!

Sara MacBride was born and raised in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and began singing at the age of ten. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Michigan School of Music, and her Master's Degree in Vocal Performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. She has had the opportunity to perform throughout California, New York and in Europe. Highlights have included performing with San Francisco Opera, New York City Opera, San Francisco Symphony and Chorus, Berkeley Opera, San Francisco Lyric Opera, Cinnabar Opera Theater, and the Prague (Czech Republic) recital series, to name a few. She was twice a finalist for the Metropolitan Opera Awards, and was awarded a scholarship from the Metropolitan Opera and International Education Fund. When she is not teaching or singing, Ms. MacBride enjoys spending time with her family, running, snow boarding and relaxing!

Heidi Larisch is a native Californian. She was born in San Francisco, and raised in Novato and Bend, Oregon. She started her musical journey with the piano at age six. Heidi convinced her father to get her a real saxophone at age ten after learning numerous pop songs on her toy saxophone. Noted Marin musician Wayne Collier was her first saxophone teacher. She participated in choir and band all through junior high and high school. After graduation from Mt. View High School in Bend, Oregon, Heidi enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. Sergeant Larisch performed with the talent group Tops In Blue and toured all over Asia and the United States while playing her first saxophone. After the USAF, she attended Berklee College of Music in Boston where she earned her Bachelor of Music in Film Scoring and Arranging. Heidi is currently enrolled at Dominican University pursuing her teaching credential and Masters Degree.

Shahrazad Vakharia is the newest member to the Dixie School District music staff. Ms. Vakharia grew up in Ohio and received her degree in music education from Bowling Green State University in 1998. Ms. Vakharia has taught band and orchestra at the elementary, middle, and high school level. She has taught in Columbus, Ohio's Odessa, Texas, and most recently in Livermore, California. Ms. Vakharia is thrilled to be the orchestra teacher for the Dixie School District.

Course Descriptions by Grade Level

Third Grade Music

Students in the third grade meet with their music teachers once a week for 45 minutes. The emphasis is on music literacy and singing. The curriculum is varied and includes singing solfege (do-re-mi, etc.), singing traditional and not so traditional songs, basic music notation, note reading, rhythm exercises and movement. The second part of the year we include the Flutophone. The Flutophone is a real instrument that the students get to keep at the end of the year. It resembles a tone flute or recorder in sound and technique. Students will apply the concepts of “reading music” to the flutophone, in preparation for 4th grade instrumental curriculum. Students will expand comprehension of culture, history, math, and language arts through exploring multicultural music. Students will work cooperatively to prepare musical selections to share in performance. At the end of the year we expect students to be able to sing simple melodies within in octave by sight using solfege. They also will be able to identify styles of music and musical instruments. The third graders perform in two school concerts - the Winter concert in December and Spring concert in June.

The 3rd grade students will review and increase skills in:

- matching vocal pitch
- breathing techniques
- establishing a steady beat
- understanding rhythm
- understanding dynamic variations
- understanding tempo variations
- applying music vocabulary
- identifying musical patterns
- beginning music notation and reading
- singing songs
- appropriate sitting and standing

Deciding what instrument your child will play in Fourth Grade Music Class

In April, your 3rd grader will receive a music choice letter. Your future 4th grader will have the following options for music: Clarinet, Trombone, or Violin. Be sure to complete the form by the due date.

Fourth Grade Band

The fourth grade band program meets twice a week at the elementary schools. Students are offered either clarinet or trombone. The emphasis is on instrumental technique, music reading, and ensemble skills. By the end of the year students will have learned the first five notes (or more) of the B-flat major scale and be able to read, count and describe the whole note, half note, quarter note and equivalent rests. Students will also learn conducting cues.

Fourth Grade Orchestra

Students in 4th Grade Orchestra learn the basics of instrument care and maintenance, how to hold and play the instrument safely, and basic rehearsal and concert etiquette. Basic music literacy include both pitch and rhythm recognition and the ability play those pitches and rhythms on their instruments. Pitches on all open strings and fingered pitches E, F#, G, A, B C#, D, as well as eighth notes, quarter notes, and half notes are introduced and practiced.

Fifth Grade Band

Music reading skills and instrumental technique exercises are accomplished with daily method book studies from Essential Elements Bk. 1. The Fifth Grade Band will perform at both a Winter and a Spring school assembly concert during the year. Students will learn the full 8 notes of B flat major scale and add eighth notes and dotted quarter notes, and dotted half notes. By February, band students will rehearse and perform a variety of fun band arrangements. Instrument choices expand to include: flute, clarinet, bass clarinet, trumpet, trombone, and baritone horn.

Fifth Grade Choir

In the fifth grade students begin to learn basic technique for choral singing, which includes learning about proper breathing and vocal production. They are introduced to a wide variety of music and styles that are sung in unison, two parts, and three parts. Students are also exposed to literature in different languages highlighting various cultures. Music reading skills, theory and ensemble technique is also taught at this time. Students perform twice a year.

Fifth Grade Orchestra

Students in the 5th Grade Orchestra learn the basics of instrument care and maintenance, how to hold and play the instrument safely, and basic rehearsal and concert etiquette. 5th Grade Orchestra students further refine basic pitch and rhythm skills. Viola, cello, and bass are offered in addition to the violin. Pitches through one octave in D major are reviewed. Concert repertoire is more advanced than 4th Grade.

Sixth Grade Band

BEGINNING BAND (Sixth Grade):

In Beginning Band, students will rehearse and perform a variety of fun and challenging band arrangements from the beginning to intermediate levels. Music reading skills and instrumental technique exercises are accomplished with daily method book studies from Essential Elements Book 1. The Beginning Band will perform at concerts throughout the school year, including fall and spring band performances.

RECOMMENDED: Students have completed at least three months of instrumental studies.

INSTRUMENT CHOICES

WOODWIND: flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone

BRASS: trumpet, trombone, French horn, baritone horn, tuba

PERCUSSION: (snare drum, bass drum, cymbals/auxiliary, bells/tympani) Open to 4 students. Audition requirement Students interested in percussion may audition by playing percussion during the first two weeks of band, demonstrating their best teamwork, responsibility and skill level. All students will select a “second choice” instrument (woodwind or brass) prior to their audition.

ELECTRIC BASS: Open to 1 student. Audition requirement: Students interested in electric bass may audition by playing bass during the first two weeks of band, demonstrating their best teamwork, responsibility and skill level. All students will select a “second choice” instrument (woodwind or brass) prior to their audition.

Sixth Grade Choir

At the middle school level choir is an everyday participatory and performance class. Because the student receives vocal instruction everyday, we have a very strong program. Students continue to learn musical terms, read notes, understand technique and apply it to everyday work. We also incorporate history, foreign languages, math and overall expression. Vocal physiology is also taught throughout the year, to help students in understanding proper vocal technique.

Beginning Choir 6th Grade:

In the 6th grade, choral students learn more about vocal technique, production quality and how to achieve an excellent choral sound. Basic ensemble techniques such as following a conductor, working as a team, producing a balanced sound, and listening to the ensemble sound as a whole are also introduced. These goals are achieved by using quality unison, two-, and three-part vocal repertoire, that covers different styles of music. Students continue to develop their musicianship through studying music theory, history, and learning how to sight read music. This group will perform at various locations in the Bay Area including Northgate Mall, the Dixie elementary schools, California Music Educators Festivals and within the Terra Linda community.

Sixth Grade Orchestra

Students are introduced to the fundamentals of ensemble playing. The instruments offered are violin, viola, cello and bass. Students who have previously studied violin, viola and cello have the option to study bass. Students learn to develop the skills of watching a conductor, interpreting music symbols and notation in parts, technical proficiency of playing with varied bowing styles and playing independent parts while listening to other parts. Music is of varied style ranging from baroque to contemporary style. There is a heavy emphasis on correct posture, tuning, rehearsal etiquette and concert etiquette in string orchestra performance. During the year, students are exposed to professional performances by visiting guest artists and ensembles. There are two main performances during the year in the winter and spring at Miller Creek School. In addition, advanced level students may also participate in field trips and performances outside of school for the community. Students are also encouraged to attend local symphony performances and field trips to attend music performances are occasionally scheduled by the teacher.

Seventh and Eighth Grade Concert Band

In Concert Band, students will rehearse and perform a variety of fun and challenging band arrangements from the intermediate to advanced levels. Music reading skills and instrumental technique exercises are accomplished with daily method book studies from Essential Elements Book. 2. The Concert Band will perform at concerts throughout the school year, including fall and spring band performances.

RECOMMENDED: Students have completed at least three months of instrumental studies.

INSTRUMENT CHOICES

WOODWIND: flute, oboe, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone

BRASS: trumpet, trombone, French horn, baritone horn, tuba

PERCUSSION: (snare drum, bass drum, cymbals/auxillary bells/tympani) Open to 4 students. Audition requirement Students interested in percussion may audition by playing percussion during the first two weeks of band, demonstrating their best teamwork, responsibility and skill level. All students will select a “second choice” instrument (woodwind or brass) prior to their audition.

ELECTRIC BASS: Open to 1 student. Audition requirement: Students interested in electric bass may audition by playing bass during the first two weeks of band, demonstrating their best teamwork, responsibility and skill level. All students will select a “second choice” instrument (woodwind or brass) prior to their audition.

Jazz Band (seventh and eighth grade)

In Jazz Band, students will rehearse and perform a variety of fun and challenging “big band” jazz arrangements from the intermediate to advanced levels. Music reading skills and instrumental technique exercises are accomplished with daily method book studies from Essential Elements Jazz Ensemble Method. The Jazz Band performs at concerts throughout the school year.

RECOMMENDED: Students have completed at least three months of instrumental studies.

INSTRUMENT CHOICES

BRASS SECTION: trumpet , trombone

SAXOPHONE SECTION: alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone

RHYTHM SECTION: piano, guitar, bass, drum set & percussion (including vibes, congas and other percussion instruments).

Concert Choir

Seventh/Eighth grade choral students continue their vocal education by being introduced to more complex vocal repertoire that has three, four, and five part harmonies. Literature of different eras is sung, and ranges from classical works to popular songs of present day, including Broadway medleys. As in the 6th grade, this group participates in the California Music Educators Festivals, performs locally at community venues, and performs at our regular school concert schedule. Continued sight-singing work and advancing musicianship skills.

Concert Orchestra

Students continue to study fundamentals of ensemble playing with the addition of full orchestra literature. Advanced woodwind, brass and percussion players are mixed together with the string students for twice a year performances in the form of excerpts from symphonies, opera and ballet overtures and suites. The music increases in complexity. Music analysis and understanding of musical forms is emphasized. Students learn to relate the important elements of dynamics, balance, articulation and style to performing pieces. During the year, students are visited by guest artists and ensembles. There are two main performances during the year in the winter and spring at Miller Creek School. In addition, accomplished students are invited to participate in the annual countywide honor orchestra festival and often perform outside of school at civic events. Students are also encouraged to attend local symphony performances and fieldtrips to attend music performances are occasionally scheduled by the teacher.

Program Requirements

Instrument, text book, and accessory requirements for home and school

If your child plays the CLARINET

Every clarinetist must have workable reeds. If the reeds are chipped even slightly, it makes it impossible to generate a sound from the clarinet.

The best buy is to purchase a box of 10 *Rico* reeds. Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grade clarinetists should be playing 2.5 - 3.0 reeds.

Keep 3-4 reeds in the case at all times. **THERE IS NO NEED TO BRING THE WHOLE BOX** to school.

Be sure to treat the reeds with extra care as they can chip easily.

If you purchased a book for your musician -- please keep your copy at home. We have classroom sets at each school.

Band students must have a copy of our band method book and a music stand at home.

If your child plays the SAXOPHONE

Every saxophonist must have workable reeds. If the reeds are chipped even slightly, it makes it impossible to generate a sound from the saxophone.

The best option is to purchase a box of ten *Rico* reeds.

Make sure you have a comfortable padded neck strap. The saxophone can be heavy for some students.

Keep 3-4 reeds in the case at all times. **THERE IS NO NEED TO BRING THE WHOLE BOX** to school.

Be sure to treat your reeds with extra care as they can chip easily.

Band students must have a copy of our band method book and a music stand at home.

If your child plays the FLUTE

Every flautist needs a soft, thin cloth to clean their instrument. We suggest a cotton handkerchief. Cloth must be thin to slide through instrument. **DO NOT USE PAPER TOWEL OR TISSUE.**

Every instrument should have a cleaning rod. This rod should have been included in your rental. If you do not have one, contact your rental store.

Band students must have a copy of our band method book and a music stand at home.

If your child plays the TRUMPET, TROMBONE, or BARITONE HORN

All Brass students need a soft cloth to clean the instrument. We suggest a cotton handkerchief. Do not use tissue or paper towel.

All Trumpet and Baritone players need valve oil. Contact your rental store if you did not get this accessory.

Trombonists need liquid slide cream. Do not use slide grease for the trombone. If your trombone came with slide grease, contact Ms. Larisch on the specifics on how to use it. Please apply your valve oil and slide crème at home during practice time. One small application every two weeks should be enough.

DO NOT TAP THE MOUTHPIECE WHILE IT IS ON YOUR INSTRUMENT. MOUTHPIECE EXTRACTION IS EXPENSIVE.

Band students must have a copy of our band method book and a music stand at home.

Required text

Band method book:

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS 2000 BOOK 1, Hal Leonard Publisher. Price: \$6.95.

Get the method applicable to your instrument.

Music stand:

Be sure to get an adjustable folding stand that can support the music book.

If your child plays the VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO, or BASS

All string players must have rosin and a lint free cloth. The cloth must be small enough to fit into the case. No wash cloths please.

All Violin and Viola players need a shoulder rest. Cello players need a rock stop.

We also recommend an extra set of strings for all instruments.

Orchestra students must have a copy of our string method book, *All for Strings Book 1 – 4 & 5* (\$7.00) and a music stand at home.

Traditional Concert Events to Plan For

- Aug/Sept Middle school music starts the first day of school.
Middle school students need to bring their instruments to school on the third day of school.
Elementary music classes begin one week after start of school. Students must have their instrument for music class.
- December Elementary concerts at Dixie School, Mary E. Silveira, and Vallecito for grades 3 – 5. Concerts during the day at each school.

Winter concerts for Band, Choir, and Orchestra at Miller Creek Middle School for grades 6-8. Concerts in the evening at Miller Creek.
- May Dixie District-wide Band, Choir, and Orchestra festivals.
These festivals are a showcase of all our students in the District. Each program concert will be in the evening at Miller Creek Middle School.

Festivals will include the following music students:
- Band grades 5-8
 - Choir grades 5-8
 - Orchestra grades 4-8
 - Spring elementary concerts at Dixie School, Mary E. Silveira, and Vallecito for grades 3–5. Concerts are during the day at each school.

Required Concert Dates

Once concert dates are announced, it is expected of students and their families to make all possible arrangements for concert attendance. Please notify your music teacher if there are extenuating circumstances which prohibit your attendance.

Attendance at all concerts in which the students is performing is mandatory - every student is needed for the ensemble to perform at its best. Exceptions will be made for emergencies only, and will need to be verified. Please note your grade may be affected.

Elementary

Each elementary school will have a daytime Winter concert during school in December. Each elementary school will have a daytime Spring concert in June. Some elementary students will be required to participate in District-wide Music Festivals in May at Miller Creek Middle School.

Miller Creek Middle School

The Band, Choir, and Orchestra programs will each have an evening Winter Concert in December held in the Multi-Purpose Room at Miller Creek. Each program will have a n evening district-wide Festival in May.

Other events may include CMEA Festivals, basketball games, local community field trips and assemblies. Your music teacher will distribute information as needed.

Concert Dress for all Musicians

When concert dress is called for, please make sure your child has the proper outfit.

ALL musicians must wear white tops and black bottoms.
Tops must be dress. NO tee-shirts or sweatshirts.

Girls must wear nice black slacks or skirts with black stockings and closed toed shoes. All skirts must be of medium length.

Boys must wear solid black pants and black shoes. Shirts must be tucked in.

Shoes must be dress shoes. NO athletic shoes. NO skateboard shoes. NO colored logos or images on shoes.

Class Rules

Respect for Individuals:

- No negative comments about yourself or others.
- No interrupting a person who is speaking or playing.
- Take proper care of music.
- Do not do anything that harms an individual.

Respect for the Ensemble:

- Always bring your music and a pencil to class.
- Always have your own music.
- No food or drink during rehearsal except water in spill-proof containers.
- Do not talk or sing unless asked to do so. We will warm up together.
- Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking.
- Do not do anything that disrupts the rehearsal.

This form letter will be used if your student fails to bring their instrument to music class on a regular basis.

Missing Instrument Policy

Progress Report

Date _____

Dear Parent/Guardian -

Your musician _____ Grade _____

Music Class: ___Band ___Orchestra

School: ___Dixie ___Mary Silveira ___Vallecito

did not bring their instrument to music class today.

According to my records, this is the _____ time this has occurred this trimester.

In order for your child to be successful in music, they need to bring their instrument to their music class twice a week on their scheduled music day. Please review our policy and make adjustments.

Forgotten Instrument Policy:

1st time: Written warning

2nd time: Written warning

3rd time: Parent/Guardian will be contacted by Music Teacher.

4th time: Additional grade reduction noted in progress report or final grade.

Exceptions:

Instruments getting repaired are exempt. *Please inform your child's music teacher via email, note, or call to let him/her know when repair is going to be complete.*

Please sign and return this form acknowledging you have read this notice. Return this form to the MUSIC TEACHER, not the classroom teacher.

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Signature _____

Practice Guidelines

What can I do to help my student practice?

Just like other classes students will usually have nightly assignments and a student should include practicing in his/her regular homework schedule. Parents can help the student by establishing a regular homework/practice time of the day. Students also need a quiet, uncluttered space where they can practice. Students need to practice 40 minutes a week. A good way to accomplish this is by practicing 10 minutes a day, 4 days a week.

Band

Miller Creek Middle School Band Grades

- Daily Class Sessions: Warm-up/Technique/Rehearsals
- Practice Log: Students will continue a weekly practice schedule
- Performance Tests: a. Full group, b. Section, c. Solo (extra credit)
- Performances: Concert attendance and concert etiquette

Choir

Practicing is critical in becoming a better singer and performer. All choir students are expected to practice five times a week, for 15-20 minutes. Besides singing through the music, daily practice can also include working on warm-ups and memorizing the words of the pieces we are working on. Practicing improves vocal technique and the overall sound of the choir. Here is a list of many of the vocalises and warm-ups that we have done this so far this school year. A few new ones will replace some of these shortly. Remember, practice makes perfect.

Orchestra

Students in orchestra are graded on concert attendance and etiquette, materials, playing tests, and home practice.

All students are expected to practice 20 minutes a day. Students must practice 100 minutes per week. All signed practice sheets are due on Wednesday, and they will not be accepted late.

Sixth Grade Orchestra - 15 minutes/day

Concert Orchestra - 20 minutes/day

Honor Orchestra - 25 minutes/day

Your daily homework will be to work in “All For Strings,” “Essentials For Strings,” (for scales and rhythms) and your orchestra repertoire in your music binders. After you practice you need to log-on to www.moltomusic.com and enter your information into your practice log.

Family Involvement

How can you help your student succeed?

Parental encouragement is a vital component of our program

- Establish a place for them to practice
- Encourage a regular practice schedule
- Ask them to play for you and others (relatives/friends)
- Ask them what they are working on
- Ask them how their instrument works
- Attend their performances

What can I do to help my student practice?

Just like other classes students will usually have nightly assignments and a student should include practicing in his/her regular homework schedule. Parents can help the student by establishing a regular homework/practice time of the day. Students also need a quiet, uncluttered space where they can practice. Students need to practice 40 minutes a week. A good way to accomplish this is by practicing 10 minutes a day, 4 days a week.

Another way that parents can help add to the success of the music program is by assisting with events, tours, festivals, performances, and as chaperones.

Instrument Loan Policy

Instrument loan program revision

Dear Families –

We are quite fortunate to have a thriving, exciting and award-winning music program in the Dixie School District. Every year, we teach over 700 students the joys of music making.

The Music Department has a very limited selection of inventory and can loan instruments to students with real financial needs. We ask that families be honest in assessing their financial situation before requesting a loan. Due to our limited inventory, our goal is have all music students – regardless of their situation – be able to learn with a quality instrument of their choice.

We welcome donations to help us maintain our inventory for future music students. Every summer we must repair and perform routine maintenance for our instruments.

Because some instruments cost more to maintain, we have a sliding donation scale for our instruments. When compared to the cost of renting, our requested donations are quite reasonable.

- Violin, viola, Clarinet, flute, oboe, trombone, trumpet: \$40.00-60.00
- Cello, Baritone Horn, saxophones, bass clarinets, Tubas, French horn: \$80.00-100.00

Please note anything you can donate is much appreciated.

Contact Heidi at the Music dept. office 492-3708 if you have any questions.

If your family receives a loaned instrument, you will need to come pick-up the instrument at the music dept. office, complete a loan form and contract, and get a tutorial on proper care of the instrument.

Rental Information

Most families rent their instrument for the school year. We have made arrangements with the following vendors to ensure that the best price is offered to our Dixie School District music students.

Resources for Success

Private lessons

What about private lessons?

Private lessons are tutoring sessions where a voice instructor works individually with a student. In these lessons the instruction is geared toward the individual student. Teachers generally work on *technique* - how to produce sound, *style* - how to interpret music and also on basic playing skills. Private lessons are good for all students. For struggling students private lessons can help students feel more comfortable in their music class, for advanced students private lessons can add an extra challenge and help students master their voice. Students at all levels benefit from private lessons. For lists of local private teachers visit Marin Music at www.marinmusic.com/lessonseducation or the Magic Flute at http://www.themagicflute.com/lessons_music.htm

These lists are published by the music stores - the teachers are not affiliated with the Dixie School District.

What to look for in a private teacher:

When is your student (you) available to take lessons?
Does a particular teacher have availability and when is it?
Where will the lessons be held? At a studio or at your home?
Does your student like/get along well with that teacher?
Does that teacher like get along well with your student?

How much of a daily practice commitment does that teacher require of their private students?
How long is a weekly lesson (half hour, 45 minutes, or hour)?
How much do they charge for a lesson?

Music Camps

There are also a number of good summer music camps:

- Cazadero Performing Arts Camp
- Hayward-La Honda Music Camp
- Pacific Music Camp, Novato Summer Music Institute
- San Francisco Conservatory's Summer Music West
- The City of Albany's Albany String Academy.

Common Questions About Our Music Program

Q - When does music start?

A - The first day of music class is typically the second week of school. You will be notified before school starts when music class starts and when you need your instrument.

Q - When is the last day for music classes for grades 3-5 at the elementary schools?

A - The last day of music class for elementary students is the second to the last week of school.

Q - When is the last day for music classes for Miller Creek?

A - Miller Creek music students have music classes until the end of school.

Q - What accessories come with my instrument?

A - Whether you own, rent, or get a loan from DSD, your instrument needs certain accessories to work properly. It is very important you maintain your instrument. Please see....

Q - When and where are the concerts for elementary students?

A - Please see the Concert Info page (pg. 17). Concerts are held at each elementary school and Miller Creek Middle School throughout the year.

Q - When and where are the concerts for Miller Creek students?

A - All concerts at Miller Creek are in the Gym.

Q - Is concert attendance required for the evening concerts?

A - Yes. Emergencies and other situations happen and allowances will be made, but in general, your child is committed to a musical group and must attend the concerts and events.

Q - What concert attire is required for my elementary student?

A - Concerts and performances at the elementary schools during the school day require regular school clothing. We suggest to students they can dress as if it is picture day.

Q - What concert attire is required for my Miller Creek student?

A - Concert dress of white tops and black bottoms are required for Miller Creek music students. Concert dress is also required for field trips and jazz festivals.

Q - How do I get updated music dept. information?

A - The best way is at our website. We also distribute letters and send emails with information for specific events.

Q - Will my student be taking any field trips?

A - Yes. Trips will be determined as the year progresses. You should expect notification of these trips 3 weeks in advance. You will be required to complete a permission slip. You may also volunteer for these trips.

Q - Who do I contact regarding the music program?

A - You can call Heidi at the office or, to reach teachers at Miller Creek, call 492-3760

Q - Where can my child take private music lessons?

A - We highly encourage private lessons. Please refer to our guidelines (pg. 25)

Q - How can I volunteer or help the Dixie School District Music program?

A - Occasionally, we need chaperones and welcome the help. Call or email Heidi.

Q - I'm a musician, can I join in? Can I do a demonstration?

A - We welcome our community to get involved. Please contact the teacher of the program you wish to visit to set-up a demo class.