

2022-2023 VVCM CONCERT BANDS AND JAZZ BAND PROGRAM

Welcome Back VVCM Families & Students!

I would like to take a moment to introduce myself (just in case you're new to the VVCM Band Program). My name is Anthony Carafone. This is my second school year teaching with the Buckeye School District. Similar to last year, I am absolutely thrilled to begin this new school year as the VVCM Band Director.

Though you may have heard some of the following at our Back to School Night presentations, I would like to provide a layout of this year's VVCM Band Program.

PLEASE NOTE, if your child is interested in participating in the VVCM BAND PROGRAM:

FILL OUT THE VVCM CONCERT BAND 2022-2023 GOOGLE INTEREST FORMS/SURVEYS (see the links on the VVCM website).

Middle School Concert Band members will meet at Zero (0) period from 7:25-7:55am, Monday through Friday (**please note the new starting time**). The recommended requirement for participation in the Middle School Concert Band is a minimum of one year of prior concert band experience. Please come by and speak to me if you do not meet the recommended requirement. All Middle School Concert Band members will need to purchase **Sound Innovation Book 2** (for their respective instrument) after our Winter Break. We will be using this book for the 2nd half of the school year.

The starting date for Zero (0) period Middle School Concert rehearsals is Monday, 8/15/22.

5th Grade Concert Band will begin the school year meeting in sectional groupings once per week. Each sectional will meet on their respective day from 8:10-8:45am, Monday through Friday. **Please refer to the list below for your child's sectional day.** As the school year moves forward we will meet for full band rehearsals with all sections. I will notify parents by email regarding our full band rehearsal dates and times.

Monday- flutes

Tuesday- clarinets

Wednesday- alto saxophones

Thursday- trumpets and trombones

Friday- snare drums/percussion

All 5th Grade Concert Band members will need to purchase **Sound Innovations Book 1** (for their respective instrument). You do not have to purchase the book if you purchased it last school year (we will be using the same book).

The starting date for the 5th Grade Concert Band sectionals is Monday, 8/22/22.

4th Grade Beginner Band will begin the school year meeting in sectional groupings twice per week on Monday through Friday. **Please refer to the list below for your child's sectional days.** As the school year moves forward we will meet for full band rehearsals with all sections. I will notify parents by email regarding our full band rehearsal dates and times.

Monday

8:55-9:25am- flutes 9:30-10am- clarinets

Tuesday

8:55-9:25am- alto saxophones 9:30-10am- trumpets

Wednesday

8:55-9:25am- trombones 9:30-10am- snare drums

Thursday

8:55-9:25am- flutes and clarinets 9:30-10am- alto saxophones

Friday

8:55-9:25am- trumpets and trombones 9:30-10am- snare drums

All 4th Grade Band members will need to purchase ***Sound Innovations Book 1*** (for their respective instrument) by the first day of their sectional class.

The starting date for the 4th Grade Beginner Concert Band sectionals is Thursday, 8/25/22.

The VVCM Middle School Jazz Band will hold rehearsals after school on our abbreviated scheduled Wednesdays from 1:15-2:00pm. Rehearsals will begin late September. More information will follow.

Instruments can be purchased or rented.

Here are a few suggestions for music rental stores:

El Dorado Hills Music or Nicholson's Music (in Folsom).

Accessories to keep your instrument in good working condition:

Clarinets and Saxophones – please purchase cork grease and 3-5 back up reeds. The cork ends need to be kept moist so that they don't tear or crack. Cork grease will ensure longevity to the cork ends. Over time and usage reeds can break or chip. It's always smart to have extra reeds in your case. I suggest Rico or Rico Royale reeds. Additionally, reeds come in varying sizes. The higher the number, the thicker the

reed. I suggest that 4th and 5th graders use #2 reeds. Middle Schoolers with prior experience can use #2½ or #3 reeds.

Trumpets and Trombones- please purchase valve or slide oil. Slide spray is also available for trombone players. Valves and slides on instruments can become sticky or sometimes lock up. Adding valve oil or slide oil will ensure that your instrument works properly.

Snare drums- please purchase 2-3 pairs additional drum sticks. Drum sticks can crack or break. Drum sticks come in varying sizes. I would suggest size 5b drum sticks. Vic Firth makes terrific sticks.

All of the above accessories, including the *Sound Innovations* books, can be purchased on Amazon or you can speak to a representative at one of the music stores that I mentioned above.

Extra help will be available for all students Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 2:15-2:45pm. Please contact me in advance if you need or want some extra help with your music studies.

Additional full band, after school rehearsals may be scheduled throughout the school year on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 2:15-2:45. Advance notice will be provided to both parents and students.

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Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns (email is best):

acarafone@buckeyeusd.org or 916-939-9640 ext 3482

I'm looking forward to another FUN FILLED year of music with all of the VVCM Bands. I will send an email regarding our upcoming performance dates once they are set into our schedule. As of now, we will be having a Winter Concert before our winter break, and a Spring Concert near the end of the year.

With Gratitude, Appreciation, & Passion for Music,

Anthony Carafone

VVCM Band Director