

Welcome to the Silva Valley Band Program!

We're so happy that you're here. 😊

All Silva Valley students in grades 4 & 5 can join our growing band program.

4th & 5th Grade Concert Band

This is our first & second year combined Concert Band at SV. All band students will learn music basics, which will include learning how to read music and how to play an instrument.

What instruments can I choose from?

Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, and Snare Drum.

How will I know which instrument to choose?

A few weeks after the new school year begins I will be presenting an introduction to the band program for all 4th and 5th graders. This will include a demonstration of all of the instruments that were mentioned above. Additionally, you can listen to music or watch videos on each of the above instruments to get an idea of how they sound and how they are played. Lastly, search within your heart and listen to what gets your attention. Or another way to put this is, which instrument makes you smile?

After I've chosen my instrument, where do I get it?

- a) Local music stores will rent instruments. These include El Dorado Hills Music or Nicholson's Music (in Folsom). Please note, there are other music stores you can rent from as well. Lastly, if you are planning on renting, I would strongly suggest that you reach out to a music store sooner than later as they sometimes run out of rentals.
- b) Purchase an instrument (new or used).
- c) Please see the link below from the Woodwind & Brass Company. They are currently (8/8/23) having some terrific student bundles sales. Here's the link: https://www.wwbw.com/Bundles-for-Beginners.wwbw?source=TTPCH8BA&epcm_Inkid=ce341ff7d4094f82923f974a7a442b9f&dtm_em=9eb93dc17df112c7ddb3511ed3aa1cb7&epcm_dep

id=217e460b-47e9-4998-96c0-11c4cfe407db&epcm_custid=1000417453477

Are there any other items that I will need?

Music Method Book – *Sound Innovations Book 1 for Concert Band* (for your child's instrument).

Clarinets and Alto Saxophones will need reeds and cork grease. I would suggest a package of 10-12 Rico Reeds- size 1.5 for clarinet & size 1.5 for alto saxophone, and D'Addario natural cork grease.

Trumpets and Trombones will need valve oil, and slide oil. I would suggest Blue Juice valve oil for trumpets, and Music Nomad T-slide for trombones.

Snare Drums will need to have 2 pairs of drum sticks on hand. I would suggest Vic Firth sticks 5A or 7A.

Optional item- a music stand.

What else do I need to do to participate in the band program?

A commitment to a daily practice schedule of 15 minutes of home practice time per day. You can use a timer to keep track. You will see and hear the results of this simple plan!

Along with your instrument and your music, bring a happy and joyful heart to the band room, because we are going to have a lot of FUN making music!

Can my child still join band if they didn't participate in the first year concert band program?

YES!:) It's my personal philosophy that all students should have an opportunity to join our band program. With that said, and so that your child can catch up with the rest of the band, I will make some additional suggestions. Please see me or send an email.

Can my child switch instruments?

Yes, although only at the beginning of the new school year. I would strongly recommend two (2) years of study on the same instrument before switching or doubling on a different instrument.

What if my child plays the piano or the guitar or another instrument that you haven't mentioned, and they still want to participate in the band program?

Since piano and guitar are not part of the concert band instruments, I would recommend that your child tries to learn to play one of the concert band instruments within our concert band program. Discovering and playing a new instrument in a new setting will open up their music vocabulary and experience.

Where and when do the band students meet?

All band sectionals and rehearsals are held in the band room – G6

SV BAND SCHEDULE FOR 2023-2024

4th & 5th Grade Concert Band students will have sectional classes one time per week. Once I have the overall number of students that will be participating, I will send another notice out that addresses the day that your child will be coming to band class. For now, these are the times that are designated during the school day for our band program classes.

Monday- **section 1:** 12:45pm-1:15 pm, **section 2:** 1:15-1:45pm

Tuesday- **section 1:** 12:45pm-1:15 pm, **section 2:** 1:15-1:45pm

Friday- **section 1:** 12:45pm-1:15 pm, **section 2:** 1:15-1:45pm

When are concert events held?

Typically, we have concert events two times per school year.

The Winter Concert is held in December before our winter school break.

The Spring Concert is typically held in early May.

Specific dates will be forthcoming as we move closer to our concert seasons.

As a parent, can I do anything to help?

YES!:) I can always use the assistance of parents at our dress rehearsals and concerts.

I'm here to help, and to pass along the joy of making music to all of our students!:)

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any other questions or concerns.

Email: acarafone@buckeyeusd.org

Anthony Carafone is a Veteran Band Director with over 20 years of experience as a music educator. This is his 3rd year within the Buckeye School District. His primary school sites include Valley View Charter Montessori and Silva Valley.