**NSD Band Instrument Teacher Mr. Stoneback, recommends this band instrument for your child:**

Neshaminy Instrumental Music Announcement, Mr. Stoneback (cstoneback@neshaminy.org)

The study of a musical instrument can provide enjoyment while it develops an appreciation of music that lasts a lifetime. It can teach a child success and develop discipline, motivation, responsibility and the ability to cooperate with others. We are glad to be able to invite your child to become part of the Neshaminy School District’s very successful instrumental music program. This letter answers some frequently asked questions about our band instrument program. Please call the office at your child's school or the Curriculum and Instruction Department at (215)809-7253 if you have any other questions. You may also e-mail Mr. Stoneback (cstoneback@neshaminy.org).

**HOW SHOULD WE SELECT A BAND INSTRUMENT FOR MY CHILD?**

Your child attended an assembly program where every instrument of the band and orchestra was shown and demonstrated. Mr. Stoneback, the band instrument teacher in your child's school then visited each classroom in grades 4-5 to meet interested students. Mr. Stoneback has based his recommendation for your child on four criteria:

1. Student’s age (Grade 3: string instruments; Grades 4-5: string, percussion and wind instruments)

2. Student’s interest (as expressed during the teacher’s visit)

3. Student’s physical capabilities or limitations

4. The musical needs of the school band or orchestra (not too many of one instrument or too few of another)

**HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?**

Your child will receive a weekly group lesson scheduled during the school day. **Upon completion of page 13 in the lesson book during group lessons**, your child will be invited to join the band. You will receive a parent letter, band folder and band music. In March, the band will rehearse one morning each week before school. Band music for the concert will be lent to each student and returned at the end of the year. Your child will perform with the band in the May concert. *Lessons, rehearsals and band music are provided free of charge*.

**WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES AS A PARENT?**

1. Encourage your child to practice.
2. Sign your child’s weekly practice record.
3. **Provide transportation to enable your child to attend the weekly band rehearsals beginning in March.**
4. Provide the instrument and necessary lesson book(s).

**It is very important to obtain an instrument and book ASAP. Students will have their first lessons as early as the end of September. Your child should have an instrument at the very first lesson if possible.**

**HOW, WHERE AND WHEN DO I OBTAIN A BAND INSTRUMENT AND LESSON BOOK?**

You may obtain an instrument and *Standard of Excellence Enhanced* lesson book anywhere, but we strongly recommend Music and Arts Center, based on their outstanding reputation, quality instruments, fair prices and excellent repair department. Included with this letter is a contract for their rental plan. Please take the time to read it carefully. If you have any questions about the contract, please call Music and Arts Center at (800)347-1116. ***Mail RENTAL contract using the self-addressed envelope or order on-line*** at: [**www.musicarts.com**](http://www.musicarts.com)

(Continued on the next page)

Mr. Stoneback will make a schedule and notify your child of his or her first weekly lesson. The instrument and lesson book will be distributed at the first lesson!

To obtain your child's instrument and Standard of Excellence *Enhance*d lesson book quickly and easily and enroll him or her in our lesson program you are asked to do two things:

1. **MAIL RENTAL CONTRACT *OR* ORDER ON-LINE AT** [**www.musicarts.com**](http://www.musicarts.com)**:** To order a rental instrument by mail from Music and Arts Centers, mail your check and completed contract directly to them ***as soon as possible*** in the pre-addressed envelope. **DO NOT RETURN RENTAL CONTRACTS TO SCHOOL. Doing so will cause a delay in delivery.**

***and***

1. **RETURN REGISTRATION FORM**: Complete the short registration form at the bottom of this letter. This should be detached and returned to your child's school so Mr. Stoneback will know to include him or her in the lesson schedule.

If you mail your check and completed contract to or order on-line from Music and Arts, the instrument and lesson book will be delivered directly to your child's band instrument classroom! You don’t need to go anywhere to get them.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Detach and return the form below \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Band Instruments, Mr. Stoneback, cstoneback@neshaminy.org**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**PLEASE COMPLETE, DETACH, AND RETURN TO YOUR CHILD’S CLASSROOM TEACHER.**

**(PLEASE PLACE IN MR. STONEBACK’S MAIL BOX)**

Please check one:

\_\_\_\_\_ I ordered an instrument from Music & Arts by mail on the following date:

\_\_\_\_\_ I ordered an instrument from Music & Arts on line on the following date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will obtain my child's band instrument and Standard of Excellence *Enhanced* lesson book from another source.

Child's Name (Please Print Clearly) -

Child's Classroom Teacher -

Check one – **□ FLUTE □CLARINET □ ALTO SAX □ TRUMPET □ F HORN □ TROMBONE □ BARITONE**

Parent(s) Name -

Address –

**PARENT EMAIL ADDRESS** (Please Print Clearly)

**1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Telephone Number -

Parent(s) Signature -

Date –

**Parent’s Questions (attach additional sheet if needed)**

**or e-mail Mr. Stoneback (cstoneback@neshaminy.org)**

*Reminders:*

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**□ TRUMPET □ F HORN □ TROMBONE □ BARITONE**

Parent(s) Name -

Address –

**PARENT EMAIL ADDRESS** (print clearly)

**1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Telephone Number -

Parent(s) Signature -

Date –

**Parent’s Questions (use other side if needed)**

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