

BE PART OF THE MUSIC

March 3, 2021

Dear Parents:

As a 6th grader, your child finally has the opportunity to do what so many successful students have done before them, Be Part of the Music!

We know that for some of you, this will be your first exposure to music education and I wanted to take a brief minute to share some information with you.

Attached to this letter is information regarding our program and the different opportunities it provides for your child. This is a time where the both of you can explore the different options and get help choosing the experiences and classes that will help them be successful in high school and beyond. If after reading these materials you still have questions, please feel free to contact me at any time using the info listed below.

Music education is more than just playing an instrument. It is immersing your child in a culture of successful students and teachers who care about education. It challenges each child to use the creative side of his brain while, at the same time, learning a foreign language...MUSIC.

All of the current data clearly states that students involved in music education academically out perform their non-musical counterparts. But, more importantly, studies are showing that music students are less likely to engage in risky behaviors such as drugs and alcohol.

Every destination starts with a decision to embark on a journey. Now is the time to start your child in junior high music and Southmont Junior High School is the place to do it. We can't promise that every child will be a musical prodigy, but we can promise they will learn, laugh, and grow along the way.

Sincerely,



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What does band look like at Southmont?

1. Band is a class. It will meet during the school day, every day
2. The only after school commitments are 4 concerts (MAX) a year-schedule around athletics as much as possible
3. Opportunities to perform outside of school-Solo and Ensemble, Honor Bands, community performances, State Fair Finalist Marching Band, etc.
4. The chance to make a LOT of noise at school
5. Consistency-they will have one teacher for band all 7 years-truly becomes like a second family
6. Minimal homework-the biggest thing is just spending a few minutes each week practicing skills learned in class, at home

Band Sign Up Process and Information

1. Students will be receiving invitations to join band throughout the month of March.
2. Visit <https://www.bepartofthemusic.org/bpotb/index.html> to view the instrument options and hear testimonials from parents and students alike.
3. Follow our band Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/SouthmontRoyalMountieBand> for FAQ's, music statistics and testimonials throughout March.
4. They will have a virtual visit with Mrs. Newnum during their music class in March.
5. Testing Appointments will take place at Southmont High School. Click below to register <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EACA72DA4F4CE9-instrument>

If your child would like to try a couple instruments before settling on one, please use the Sign Up Genius link above to schedule a time. Appointments will be 15 minutes long. I will have all of the instruments for your child to try out. Instruments will be properly cleaned and sanitized before and after. This will help your child make a decision. If they aren't sure they even want to join, come try out some instruments! They'll probably make up their mind quickly. The most important thing is that they choose an instrument they WANT to play. That makes practicing a lot more fun.

6. Right after Spring Break, they'll be able to officially sign up for band! A form will go out to all 5th grade students and parents.
7. Purchasing an instrument-I HIGHLY suggest and recommend that you go through Paige's Music. That information will be on the form that gets sent out for registration. However, if that is not feasible for you, please let me know. No child will be left out of band if they want to join.