



HOLLY Elementary School

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to Holly Elementary School Band Program! We are very happy to have your children in band. This letter is to provide you with information about **1) choosing a band instrument, 2) learning materials, 3) rental evening, and 4) the teacher’s profile.**

1. Choosing a band instrument

Your child needs to select one of the following instruments: **Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone, and Bass.** There are, of course, more band instruments like Piccolo, French horn, Saxophones, Bass clarinet, Tuba, Baritone, etc.; however, these instruments are not recommended in the beginning stage because of their size, weight, and difficulty of learning. Once your child gains the fundamental skills of playing one of the 5 suggested band instruments, she or he can switch to others later in the year. Please see the following chart:

Suggested Instrument	If Your Child is Interested in
Flute	Piccolo
Clarinet	Saxophones, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, Oboe
Trumpet	French horn, Baritone
Trombone	Baritone, Tuba, Euphonium
Bass	String instruments

The students and I have already discussed what instruments they will be playing in band. However, if your child has not yet decided on his/her instrument, I personally recommend the clarinet the most because it is portable, easy to learn, and provides a variety of options to change to other instruments later in the future.

***Please note that there will be a drum audition in late February or early March. If your child is interested in playing the drums, he/she is welcome to sign up for the tryout in January. The student is expected to demonstrate strong music-reading skills & rhythms, to practice his/her band instrument regularly, and to have good classroom behavior & participation throughout term 1 and 2. Only two students will be selected, and they will be playing the drums alternately with their band instruments. More detailed audition information will be provided after Winter Break.

2. Method Book & Learning Materials

The students will be using a method book **Best In Class**. You may purchase it online (www.amazon.ca) or buy at our rental night on **Tuesday, September 11th (7 pm)** at Holly Elementary School. It costs around \$5-7 before tax. Other learning materials will be provided in class throughout the year; they do not need to be purchased.

3. Rental Evening

Tapestry Music will be hosting a rental evening on **Tuesday, September 11th (7 pm)** at **Holly Elementary School**. Tapestry Music offers competitive rental rates and fine service. If you wish to use their service, they will have your child’s instrument ready to be picked up at the rental evening. If you are unable to attend the rental night, you may order online (<https://www.tapestrymusic.com/school-band-rentals>), and the ordered instruments will be free-delivered to school. For more detailed information or questions regarding rentals, please contact Bob Mullet (Tapestry Music) at bmullett@telus.net or 604-999-0573.

4. Teacher Profile

I am a guitarist, composer & arranger, and music educator. I studied jazz guitar & composition at *Berklee College of Music* in Boston, MA, and *Capilano University* in North Vancouver, BC. After earning a bachelor’s degree in music, I went to the *University of British Columbia* to study more about teaching music and earned another bachelor’s degree in music education. I also received a master’s degree in music education from *New York University*. My master’s thesis was on informal music learning from diverse perspectives of educational psychology.

As a musician, I have composed, arranged, and performed music at a variety of venues in, Canada, the US, Argentina, and Korea. I have also shared the stage with a number of internationally renowned players like Bob Mintzer, Jimmy Greene, and Hugh Fraser. I have released 2 personal albums, and they can be listened at www.soundcloud.com/jonleemusique.

As a music educator, I have taught music at both elementary and secondary schools in Delta School District since 2007 and have given private lessons to many students in the past 20 years. I was also a music director at *Blessed Pope John XXIII Academy* in New Jersey, USA from September 2010 to June 2012. I am a member of professional music organizations: MENC, IAJE, NYCMEA, NJMEA, CMEA, and BCMEA. Please visit www.jonleemusique.com for more detailed information.

I hope this letter is helpful. If you have any questions about choosing a band instrument, method book & learning materials, and etc., please contact me at jslee@deltasd.bc.ca. Always thank you so much for your support and care for music.

Musically Yours,

Jon Lee, M.A., B.Ed., B. Mus.
Guitarist, Composer & Arranger, Educator
“Future Belongs to Those Who Believe in the Beauty of Their Dreams.” –Eleanor Roosevelt-