**JOURNEY MIDDLE SCHOOL CONCERT BAND**

**2021-2022**

Dear Parents and Guardians;

We are looking forward to welcoming your child to Journey in September. We have visited with most grade five students in our zone about the opportunity to join our award-winning band program. This year the current situation has prevented us from bringing instruments to the school; however, we did talk about what it’s like to be in band and how to sign up if interested.

Students in grade six can join beginner band and learn to play an instrument! They can be part of a supportive team, participate in concerts and trips, and learn important skills such as: focus, concentration, and hand-eye coordination. Research proves that new pathways are opened in the brain through the study of a musical instrument. As a result, some studies report that literacy and mathematical skills improve by approximately 20%, as do skills such as perseverance and teamwork.

This year we are also sending some links for students to help them get an idea of what instrument they would like to play. Also available to view is Benjamin Britten’s *A Children’s Guide to the Orchestra* which features the instruments as well. Strings will only be offered through the Harmony Project so please pick one of the woodwind or brass instruments. Percussionists will be chosen at a later time.

*Students will choose to learn one of the following instruments:*

**Flute Alto Saxophone Baritone/Euphonium Clarinet Trumpet Trombone Tuba**

In September, Long & McQuade will hold an instrument rental night at Journey and you will be able to rent your instrument. Both the family and music teacher will pick the instrument together with emphasis on the student picking their own instrument. L&M provides great care for the rented instruments. They have an insurance policy of $1/month which covers all needed repairs, damage to the instrument as well as loss of instrument. They often come to Sooke to pick up instruments and then deliver repaired instruments back to the school. We have successfully worked with this company for many years and they help support our program. Other suggested companies with options available include Tapestry Music (encouraged for strings) and Tom Lee.

**It is important to note that should your child choose Band they be placed in a cohorted Band class and miss two blocks of class time each week. The classroom teacher often choses to do Fine Arts with the other students during this time. They will participate in the F.A.S.T. rotation (Design Thinking, Voices, Wood, Art, Tech Ed). The program is available for students in English and French Immersion.**

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**NAME OF STUDENT\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**NAME OF SCHOOL IN GRADE 5: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**1ST CHOICE OF INSTRUMENT (if known) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**2ND CHOICE OF INSTRUMENT (if known) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**NAME OF PARENT/GUARDIAN\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**EMAIL\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**TELEPHONE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Please return this completed application form to your child’s current teacher at EMAIL application form to** [**bcrocker@sd62.bc.ca**](mailto:bcrocker@sd62.bc.ca) **no later than Monday, May 10, 2021**

**You will receive confirmation of your application form by the end of May. Students may not be added to the class after the due date.**

***Please contact the Band teacher, Ms. Lorna Bjorklund/*** [***lbjorklund@sd62.bc.ca***](mailto:lbjorklund@sd62.bc.ca) ***with any questions regarding the program.***