

Spofford Pond Instrumental Music Program

Dear 5th & 6th Grade Band Parents,

Band is back! As you and your child get ready for the new school year, remember that it's also time to register for the Spofford Pond Band. Your child will have more playing opportunities and challenges, gain higher levels of achievement and be performing exciting music for audiences near and far.

This year will be filled with many performances. Below are some highlights for the upcoming year.

- 30 minute weekly small group lesson
- Two morning band rehearsals each week
- Several performances—including two evening concerts at Masconomet High School, Bandarama, the Memorial Day Assembly, the Memorial Day Parade and a NH Fisher Cats Game.

This year is sure to be an exciting year for our returning instrumentalists. Please make sure the students have everything they need listed below.

- A working instrument. Instruments can be rented from David French Music at Rental Night.
- Tradition of Excellence, Book 1 (5th Grade) and Book 2 (6th Grade)
- A 3-ring binder for music
- Fill out registration form online and Memorandum of Understanding online. (www.spoffordpondbands.com)
- Payments will be made through MySchoolBucks this year. The fee is \$450 for the year. The payment system is not quite up and running, but I will send out an email once it is ready. Any questions about special payment arrangements should be directed to Mrs. Amanda Sullivan, Principal of the Spofford Pond School, asullivan@boxfordschools.org

Important Dates

Sept. 9	Registration forms and fees due, including the Memorandum of Understanding Advanced Band rehearsals begin—all 5th and 6th Grade Band students are together (Mondays and Thursdays @ 7:30am) - this is new this year!
Sept. 16	Instrumental Lessons Begin this week for 5th and 6th Grade students
Sept. 18	Jazz Band begins @ 7:30am (signup online by Sept. 16th)
Oct. 1	Tri-Town Band begins at Masconomet High School, 6:00-7:30pm

Additional Musical Opportunities

TRI-TOWN HONORS BAND

The Tri-Town Honors Band is a collaboration among the Tri-Town School Union Instrumental Programs. This ensemble is comprised of students in grades 5 and 6 from Topsfield, Boxford and Middleton schools that have played for at least one year. This is an exceptional opportunity for the students from all three towns to work together musically. This activity creates a “dynamic learning environment for the students” and aligns with the vision statement of the Tri-Town School Union.

The group meets at Masconomet High School on Tuesday evenings from 6:00-7:30pm, from October-April. There are at least two performances each year and we have several Masconomet High School students who serve as mentors for the group. Carolyn Colby -Middleton, Kevin Zajas -Topsfield and myself direct and conduct the group together. There are no auditions or fees to join this group, just fun!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

SPOFFORD POND JAZZ BAND

The Spofford Pond Jazz Band is for students in the 5th and 6th grade who play any of the instruments below. No Jazz experience is required.

- All band instruments, Piano, Bass, Electric Guitar and Drums
- Meets on Wednesday mornings from 7:30-8:30am
- Performs in several concerts and assemblies each year, including at the Cole school at the end of the year.

Students who are interested in Jazz Band should complete the information below. Before Sept. 16th.

- Fill out the questionnaire online at the band website
- Send in a signed Memorandum form and Band Fee (if not in Advanced Band)

[REGISTER HERE](#)

I look forward to working with your child this year and hope you will send in your registration forms and Band fee as soon as possible. As always, should you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact me at sphipp@boxfordschools.org. Please continue to check the Band web pages at [Spofford Band Website](#) for important dates and information.

Sincerely,

Ms. Sharon Phipps

Director, Spofford Pond Instrumental Music Program

www.spoffordpondbands.com