



# R.D. PARKER COLLEGIATE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



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Friday, May 22, 2020

Dear Grade 5 Students and Families of SDML,

My name is Mrs. Lewis, and I teach Grade 6 Band. Now is the time of year when I would normally be visiting you in your Grade 5 classroom to give a presentation on the instruments and how to sign up. You would also be coming to the band room at RD Parker Collegiate to try our instruments and decide what you want to play. I think we are all disappointed we can't meet in person yet, but I know there are a lot of Grade 5 students out there that are very excited about what's to come!

Because we are out of school right now, I have created a couple of videos in place of a classroom presentation. Please take time to check them both out:

[Video #1: Introduction to the Grade 6 Band instruments](#)

[Video #2: See all of the instruments playing together!](#)

(These videos are posted at [www.rdparkermusic.com](http://www.rdparkermusic.com), and any new updates will be posted here as well.)

An **instrument selection process will occur in the fall**, but because of the current pandemic guidelines we don't know exactly how yet. There is a good chance the students won't be able to try the instruments before choosing them, and we will be looking at other ways of determining which instruments you would be most successful at. **Please stay tuned and check the website for more information as we receive it!**

Students in SDML are required to purchase or rent their own instruments, and we hope to be visited by two music stores in the fall, so you can rent or buy here in Thompson. So again, stay tuned for more information, and **you won't be required to order your instrument until after the instrument selection happens in the fall**. The average cost of renting a band instrument is usually between \$25 and \$35 per month. Euphonium is the exception, and can be quite a bit more than the other instruments. Percussionists will need to rent or buy a kit that includes a practice pad and a small xylophone.

If you are interested in joining band but aren't sure you can spend the money, please contact me and we'll see if we can find another option for you.

**Uniform:** We have a concert uniform for Grade 6-8 Band that is listed below. You may wish to wait to order these until we find out when our first concert will go ahead (given current restrictions on large gatherings):

- White collared dress shirt
- Black dress pants
- Black dress shoes
- Black socks

**Concerts:** Concerts normally take place at RDPC in the Letkemann Theatre. Because of restrictions on gatherings, we aren't sure if and when our concerts will go ahead, but we usually plan two concerts per year for the Grade 6 band – one in December, and one in June.

**\*\*\*In the meantime, please email [slewis@mysterynet.mb.ca](mailto:slewis@mysterynet.mb.ca) with your child's name and school to get their name on the list.\*\*\***

I am really excited to meet everyone just as soon as we are able. Please stay tuned for more information!

Mrs. Lewis  
(204)677-6222  
[slewis@mysterynet.mb.ca](mailto:slewis@mysterynet.mb.ca)

## #1: Lesson Schedule (runs all year – start date TBA)

**Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone & Euphonium lessons** – occur at your school between 9-3:30:

<b>Burntwood</b>	Every Day 1
<b>Riverside</b>	Every Day 2
<b>Westwood</b>	Every Day 3
<b>Deerwood</b>	Every Day 4
<b>Juniper</b>	Every Day 5
<b>Wapanohk</b>	Every Day 6

### **Percussion Lessons – occur at RDPC:**

Because the equipment you will be using is at RDPC, your lessons will be in the RDPC Band Room on Mondays, 3:45 – 4:30. (Once Full Band rehearsals begin in November, percussion will stay until 5:00 so we can have a lesson after rehearsal)

## #2: Full Band Rehearsal Schedule (normally starts in November, date TBA)

Riverside & Deerwood:	Mondays	RDPC Band Room	3:45 – 4:30PM
Burntwood, Juniper, Westwood & WCS:	Wednesdays	RDPC Band Room	8:00 – 8:40AM