



# R.D. PARKER COLLEGIATE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

272 Thompson Drive  
Thompson, MB.  
R8N 0C4



Band: (204) 677-6222  
Choir: (204) 677-6316  
Fax: (204) 778-5050

KEVIN LEWIS - SENIOR CONCERT BAND, ADRENALINE JAZZ, INTERMEDIATE JAZZ, JAZZ SMALL GROUPS - KLEWIS@MYSTERYNET.MB.CA  
STEVIE MACPHERSON - GRADE 9 BAND, GRADE 8 BAND, WCS BAND - SMACPHERSON@MYSTERYNET.MB.CA  
SARAH LEWIS - GRADE 7 BAND, GRADE 6 BAND, JUNIOR JAZZ - SLEWIS@MYSTERYNET.MB.CA  
ALLISON TURTON - RDPC CHOIR, JUNIOR HIGH CHOIR, VOCAL JAZZ - ATURTON@MYSTERYNET.MB.CA



Week of September 15, 2020

Dear SDML Grade 6 Students & Families,

We are pleased to welcome students back to the band program for September 2020! We are very excited to see students back in school and hope everyone's looking forward to starting band. In this letter you will find details about band registration, schedule information, how you will choose your instrument, how to get an instrument, and what we are doing to support safe music-making!

There are two steps to signing up for band:

## #1: Register for Band - Choose Your Instrument Night (Sept 22-24):

We are holding Choose Your Instrument sessions at RDPC in groups of 10 students. They are being held September 22-24, and **you will need to sign up for a time on our website**. Please go to [www.rdparkermusic.com](http://www.rdparkermusic.com) and click on "Grade 6 Band Sign Up." We are asking that each student attend with one adult family member, and that everyone wear masks until seated (masks can be provided if needed).

*We are unable to accommodate drop-ins due to the extra precautions in place at this time, so everyone must sign up in advance. There is room for 10 students per slot. If you don't have internet access, please phone 204-677-6222 to book your time!*

Students will have the opportunity to try each of the different mouthpieces to help them decide. Unfortunately, students won't get to try the actual instruments, but they will receive a demonstration of each instrument that will show what the mouthpiece sounds translate to. **Each student will be assigned their own sanitized set of equipment to use for the session, and we will be spreading out well beyond 6 ft.**

## #2: Rent or Purchase your Instrument (Online, or Sept 30 - Oct 1):

We will be holding a music store night at RDPC, **but we are encouraging parents to order instruments online this year if possible**. We ask that you order it soon after you have chosen your instrument, so that you can come to the rental night instead if you have any issues.

**St. John's Music – rent online:**     [www.stjohnsmusic.com/rentals](http://www.stjohnsmusic.com/rentals)

Questions? Phone St. Johns @ (204)783-8899

**Long & McQuade – rent online:**     [rentals.long-mcquade.com](http://rentals.long-mcquade.com)

Questions? Phone L&M @ (204)294-8992

*\*\*If ordering online, we strongly recommend ordering from St. Johns or Long & McQuade. You will find a lot of "bargains" online, but these low-priced instruments are almost always made of weak materials, their moving parts are likely to bend or break, and they are not repairable. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.\*\**

If you prefer to order your instrument in person, do not have internet access or are having any trouble with the online process, **you may come in person to RDPC** (enter through front doors) during the following times:

- Rental Night #1:   Wednesday, September 30th from 5-8pm
- Rental Night #2:   Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> from 5-8 pm

*We are asking that where possible, only one family member attend the rental night so that we can maximize our space. Students are not required to attend the rental night. We will be asking everyone to social distance and wear masks. If we reach room capacity at any point, we will have order forms on hand and ask that some parents phone the stores from home to order their instrument.*

## What instruments can I choose from?

In Grade 6 Band, students can choose from the following wind instruments:

- Flute
- Clarinet
- Trumpet
- Trombone
- Euphonium

We also have percussion as an option. Piano experience and the ability to read music is highly recommended for success in this section, and parents are asked to email [slewis@mysterynet.mb.ca](mailto:slewis@mysterynet.mb.ca) if interested. Unfortunately, students won't be able to try percussion at our Choose Your Instrument night this year, but will get to see a demonstration. Students interested in percussion still need to come to Choose Your Instrument night!

## What we are doing to support safe music-making:

Following guidelines and recommendations for safe instrumental music making, we are implementing the following in all lessons and rehearsals:

- Scheduling lessons and rehearsals in a way that prevents cohort-crossing
- 6' separation between musicians
- The use of bell covers for trumpet and trombone players, which will be provided by the band department
- The use of face shields or music stands as a barrier in front of flute players, which will be provided by the band department
- Improving air circulation in the rehearsal space, by using a HEPA filtration systems for each rehearsal space

In order to follow provincial protocols, junior high band will take place solely at your elementary school for the time being, and full band rehearsals will not be held at RDPC as in previous years.

The schedule consists of two parts:

- 1 Small Group Lesson per 6-day cycle, during the school day
- 1 Full Band Rehearsal per 6-day cycle, 3:45-4:30

Small group lessons will start first. Full band doesn't start until much later, when students have had a few lessons. Please see below for the days you will have band, and take note of when your school's lessons and rehearsals start.

Burntwood .....	Small Group Lessons - Day 1 Full Band - Day 4, 3:45-4:30	<b>First Lesson:</b> <b>First Rehearsal:</b>	<b>October 2</b> <b>November 24</b>
Deerwood.....	Small Group Lessons - Day 4 Full Band - Day 1, 3:45-4:30	<b>First Lesson:</b> <b>First Rehearsal:</b>	<b>October 7</b> <b>November 19</b>
Juniper.....	Small Group Lessons - Day 5 Full Band - Day 2, 3:45-4:30	<b>First Lesson:</b> <b>First Rehearsal:</b>	<b>October 8</b> <b>November 20</b>
Riverside.....	Small Group Lessons - Day 6 Full Band - Day 5, 3:45-4:30	<b>First Lesson:</b> <b>First Rehearsal:</b>	<b>October 9</b> <b>November 25</b>
Westwood.....	Small Group Lessons - Day 3 Full Band - Day 6, 3:45-4:30	<b>First Lesson:</b> <b>First Rehearsal:</b>	<b>October 6</b> <b>November 26</b>
Wapanohk.....	has a different schedule, and is taught by Ms. MacPherson		

I am excited to meet everyone! If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact me.

**Sarah Lewis**

Grade 6 & 7 Band

[slewis@mysterynet.mb.ca](mailto:slewis@mysterynet.mb.ca)

(204) 677-6222

[www.rdparkermusic.com/grade-6-band.html](http://www.rdparkermusic.com/grade-6-band.html)