

Dear View Ridge Families,

I am excited to announce a very special opportunity for this year's third grade students.

All students at View Ridge Elementary have the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument when they start next fall as fourth graders. We have been busy learning about different instruments such as the woodwinds, brass, string and percussion instruments in music class these past few weeks. This unit will culminate with a visit to **the Instrument Petting Zoo right here at View Ridge Elementary School.**



On **Thursday, June 1st** all third grade students will get to visit our Instrument Petting Zoo during their weekly music class. With the assistance of professional musicians, students will get to play a variety of musical instruments as they consider with their families what instrument they would like to learn to play next year. We will also have an evening event at View Ridge at 5:30 PM in the cafeteria for parents who would like to see their child make their first sound and get additional information.

Here is a timeline for learning to play a musical instrument:

June 1st: Instrument Petting Zoo (During afternoon of school day and in the evening at 5:30 PM)

June 1- 16: Mr. Goetz will collect instrumental enrollment forms from families and will accommodate instrument requests based on 1st and 2nd choices and class size.

September 2017: Time to rent instruments! When we start school in the fall, Mr. Goetz will send information home about instrument rentals, weekly lessons and supplies. Parents, please do not rent or purchase an instrument until we start in the fall. We also have school owned instruments used by students in need of a low cost option.

This program is available to next year's fourth and fifth graders.

If you would like your child to participate, please fill out the enrollment form at the Petting Zoo or in front of the Main Office and return it by **June 16**. Your child will be given additional information about lesson dates and times, choice of instrument, and materials needed **after we confirm his/her instrument choice.**

Thank you for encouraging your child to participate! You will quickly sense the caring and sharing attitude that has become the trademark of our musical ensembles. I urge you to attend our events and to join the ranks of a wonderful group of parents who ensure our students are at the front of life's parade.

Musically Yours,

Brian Goetz

General Music, Instrumental Music

View Ridge Elementary School

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About the Music Program

- Classes meet once a week during the regular school day.
- Elementary Instrumental Music (EIM) is a graded course.
- Please wait for approval from your instrumental music teacher before obtaining an instrument.
- It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to provide the music book and required supplies. Please wait for instructions before making these purchases.

- Basic instruments taught:

Violin	Flute	Trumpet
Cello	Clarinet	Trombone

- Optional instruments taught when space is available (with teacher permission only):

Percussion (snare drum and bells)	Alto Saxophone	Baritone
	Guitar	

- Instruments not taught in this program:

Accordion		Keyboard
Piano	Organ	Recorder

Why should you choose instrumental music? Playing an instrument...

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| ♪ ...develops reading and math skills | ♪ ...promotes communication across cultures |
| ♪ ...supports academic achievement | ♪ ...adds enjoyment to learning |
| ♪ ...teaches problem-solving and teamwork | ♪ ...promotes community and a sense of belonging |

♪ And above all: Music improves the quality of life!

Upcoming dates and performances...

June 1st: View Ridge Instrument Petting Zoo. During school for students and at 5:30 PM for students and parents.

June 9th at 11:10 AM: Music Celebration Assembly at View Ridge featuring, VR Choir, 5th Grade Band and the Eckstein Choir.

June 13th at 6:00 PM: Instrument Petting Zoo at Eckstein Middle School. Serves area elementary schools.

June 14th at 7:00 PM: Spring Concert at View Ridge Elementary School. Come hear the 4th and 5th Grade Band, Orchestra, Guitar Ensemble and Choir!