

You have been selected for the 2016-2017 VARSAITY BAND!

Welcome: I want to extend a warm welcome to all new and returning Edina Varsity Band members. The Edina Bands have an outstanding state, national and international reputation and you should feel **proud and honored** to be part of such a strong and vibrant program with an amazing history of excellence.

Band Placements: Please keep in mind that there are *many* factors that go into balancing bands and placing students in the bands. There is *fierce* competition on some instruments. Some students will be very happy with their band placement, while others may be surprised or even disappointed in their placement in bands, but the opportunities are truly outstanding in **all** of the bands! I encourage you to bloom where planted and work your hardest to be the best you can be in whatever band you are placed. Excellent opportunities are available in all of our ensembles from marching band to pep band and everything in between.

Commitments: For students with a good work ethic, positive attitude, and a desire to be part of the band program, there is **always** a place for you. With large band enrollments, the numbers of students desiring to advance continue to increase. For those of you who strongly desire to improve, we highly recommend that you continue studying privately; or if you have not been studying, **start!** Private lessons with an expert on your instrument will increase your overall enjoyment of music and advance your skills for future performance opportunities.

If you do **NOT** plan on being in band next year for any reason, please contact Mr. Kile at paul.kile@edinaschools.org ASAP so that we can be prepared for the 2016-17 season.

Supplies:

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|---------------------|---|----------|--------|
| Varsity Band | Exercises for Ensemble Drill by Ramond C. Fussell | (Belwin) | \$6.95 |
| | Scale Etudes by James 'Red' McLeod/Norm Staska | (Alfred) | \$6.95 |

Varsity Band Percussion Requirements

Stick Bag of your choice (there are many brands and prices to choose from)
Snare Drum Sticks - Vic Firth SD1 General
Xylophone/Bell Mallets - Grover Artist Choice M2 – Hard Grey PVC
Marimba/Vibraphone Mallets - Balter 23R – Med Blue Cord
Marimba Mallets - Set of 4 Vic Firth M115 *Robert Van Sice* Model
Timpani Sticks - Vic Firth T1 General, Vic Firth T4 Ultra Staccato

IN THIS MAILING

Parent Band Boosters Form: Please, please, please encourage your parents to become active in the band parent booster organization - the band program needs and *wants* their involvement and support!

Marching Band Letter and Calendar: Work now to enter these dates in your family calendar. I look forward to seeing you **Monday, August 15, 2015**, for marching band camp. Percussionists, your mini-camp will be held **August 10, 11, 12**.

CONSTRUCTION SEASON

Normally we do a mailing during the summer months, but due to construction at the High School this summer, we will not have access to the band office. With that in mind, we encourage you to check the band website (www.edinabands.com) occasionally throughout the summer to get information and updates on the 2016-17 Band Calendar, our Peach Fundraiser and other items.

We will also be sending out occasional email blasts regarding the marching band season and band program. If you are not currently receiving the weekly Edina Bands '*Band-O-Gram*', please email Martha Lundquist at Martha.lundquist@edinaschools.org to be added to this invaluable weekly source of band information!!

Sincerely,

Andy Richter

Andy Richter
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952-848-3034

For band updates and schedules, please check the Edina Band website at: www.edinabands.com