

January 2023 Newsletter

East Side Band Winter Concert

The East Side Band students are busy preparing for their winter concert. On **Thursday, February 9th** (7:00pm at the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium), both grade 7 bands, the grade 8 band and the Brandon Gr. 8/9 Wind Ensemble will be performing.

All students will have a dress rehearsal on stage at the auditorium the day of the concert. Students should be regularly practicing their concert pieces in preparation. More information about the dress rehearsal, as well as call times for the evening concert will be sent home closer to the event.

Also, a reminder that it is very important that ALL students attend the concert and also stay for the full program to listen to others perform and respect their time and efforts as well.



Upcoming Dates

Thurs. Feb 9th, 7:00pm
East Side Band Concert @ WMCA
Fri-Sat Feb. 10th/ 11th
Westman Junior Honour Band @ Brandon University

East Side Band Uniforms

For all upcoming band concerts, students are expected to wear a “uniform”. This helps promote the team aspect of band and performing as a group. The uniform for any performance by East Side Band students is as follows:

Grade 8 Band Uniform

- ◆ East Side Band Sweater
- ◆ Black dress pants/ skirt (to be provided by the parent)
- ◆ Black shoes (to be provided by the parent - no runners if possible please)
- ◆ Black socks/nylons (to be provided by the parent)

Grade 7 Band Uniform

- ◆ Black Shirt (no logos or colours, provided by parent)
- ◆ Black pants/skirt (to be provided by the parent)
- ◆ Black shoes (to be provided by the parent - no runners if possible please)
- ◆ Black socks/nylons (to be provided by the parent)

Concert Information—Thursday, February 9th

Our first official concert for the entire East Side Band program is happening on **Thursday, February 9th at 7pm at the WMCA**. This will be the debut performance for all of our grade 7 band students, as well as the Brandon Grade 8/9 Wind Ensemble.

Tickets for this concert are:

Adults (18rs and over) : \$5

Children (17yrs and under) \$2

Tickets will be available for pre-purchase online at WMCA.ca very soon. They can also be purchased at the door. It is encouraged to buy your tickets in advance, so you can choose your seats. When purchasing at the door, that option might not be available.

We are looking for a few parent volunteers to help sit with the students throughout the concert and help with transitions on and off stage. Parent volunteers will not have to pay to attend the concert, as we will provide you a seat. [If you are able to help, please click here to contact Ms. Dodds.](#)

Information about the Upcoming Gr. 8 Band Trip to Moose Jaw

Our trip proposal is still awaiting divisional approval. Once we have approval, all details will become official and will be passed on to families.

Grade 8 students have the opportunity to perform at the Moose Jaw Band & Choral Festival from Tuesday, May 16th to Thursday, May 18th, 2023. This festival offers warm up time, performance time and a 45—50 minute clinic with professional adjudicators from all over Canada. This trip is a great opportunity for the students to perform at a music festival, receive feedback and clinics from top clinicians, see multiple concerts by fantastic ensembles, as well as experience many educational and fun activities outside of music.

We understand that a band trip is a big time and financial commitment, so we do our best to provide as much information and support as we can. **All band trips are optional**. Every student has the choice of whether they would like to attend or not.

We will be looking for both male and female chaperones to join us free of charge (except the odd meal) on our adventure. We are also looking for a parent that has First Aid/CPR training. If you are interested in volunteering for the band trip, please contact Ms. Dodds. Chaperones will need to be on their school’s approved volunteer list, which includes Criminal Record Checks and Child Abuse Registry Checks. If you are interested in volunteering, but are not signed up with the division, please begin this process immediately by contacting your child’s school.

The cost of the band trip will be between \$250—\$300 (approximately), split into multiple payments. The final cost of the trip will depend on the number of students attending. Our first payment of \$100 non-refundable deposit will be due on **in March**. The final payment will be due **early May**. Money from students’ band fundraising accounts can be used to pay for this trip. Please let Ms. Dodds know if you would like to use that money. Our Sobeys Card fundraiser is available all year to help raise money for this trip. Continue reading for more information about the Sobeys fundraiser.

If you have any concerns about the trip (cost included), please contact Ms. Dodds as soon as possible to see what arrangements can be made for possible financial assistance. Payment plans can easily be made to help make the cost easier.

Please contact Ms. Dodds at dodds.erin@bsd.ca with any questions you may have about the trip, your child’s fundraising account, or if you are interested in

Sobeys Gift Card Fundraiser

The East Side Band Parent Council will be running a **Sobeys gift card fundraiser** continuously throughout the year and in the past, it has been a great fundraising opportunity for individual student accounts year in and year out. The gift cards can be used at Sobeys’ or Safeway. Cards are available in \$50 denominations with 5% of each card going directly into students’ band accounts. Students in the past have been able to pay for their entire Grade 8 band trips on Sobeys vouchers alone!

If you are interested in purchasing Sobeys’ gift cards, or know of someone who might be, please contact our Fundraising Coordinator:

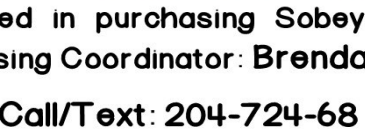
Brenda McDermid – call or text 204-724-6814

email brendamcdermid@gmail.com

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Call/Text: 204-724-6814

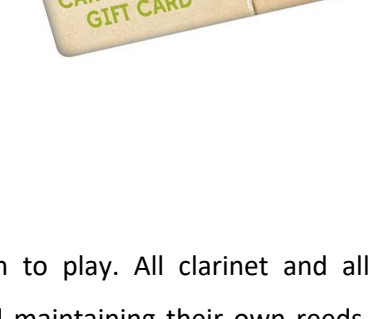
Email: brendamcdermid@gmail.com

Gift cards can be purchased by cash, cheque (made payable to East Side Band Parents) or e-transfer to



eastsidebandparents@gmail.com

Cards are available in \$50 denominations with 5% of each card going directly into students’ band accounts.



Reeds—Clarinets and Saxophones

Certain instruments require reeds in order for them to play. All clarinet and all saxophone players are responsible for purchasing and maintaining their own reeds. We recommend that students have at least 3 reeds in their case at all times. We recommend this so that students can be rotating the reed they use each class so they last longer. It also is important to have extras as reeds are very fragile and can break very easily.

While we do have emergency reeds in the band room, it is the students’ responsibility to have their own reeds.

In our band room, we have a specific space for each class to leave a spare reed with their name on it. This is a place for every student to leave a reed to use in case all of theirs are broken, or if they forget their instrument one day. They can use this reed whenever they need, without having to buy a new reed from us. We strongly encourage all students to leave a spare reed in the band room in case of emergency!

Summer Music Camps —Scholarship opportunities available!

During the summer, there are many different ways to continue making music. One way is to attend a summer camp! Here in Manitoba, we are very lucky to have so many different camps available for students to attend. Click below for more information about just a few of the summer camps available to students.

- [International Music Camp](#)
 - For Scholarship information, click here: <http://internationalmusiccamp.com/registration/scholarships/>

- [Manitoba Band Association Summer Band Camps](#)

- [The Prairie Percussion Workshop](#)

- Eckhardt-Gramatté Conservatory of Music—Beginner Saxophone Camp (details will be released in June)

If you have any questions about upcoming band events, or anything that is happening in the band room, you can contact Ms. Dodds (dodds.erin@bsd.ca) or Ms. Friesen (friesen.brooklyn@bsd.ca) by email, or call the band room at 204-729-3277.