

**To: 3rd grade families**  
**From: McMurray instrumental teachers**  
**Re: 4th Grade band and string instrument opportunities**

Between June 1st and 7th, Bower Hill and Pleasant Valley Elementary 3rd graders will have the opportunity to explore instruments they can play in the instrumental program at McMurray. While learning an instrument in 4th grade is an optional opportunity, the instrument selection process is a great chance for students to find out if this is something that interests them.

Students are able to try 3 instruments. They will be guided by the music faculty to hold each instrument properly and to produce a sound. Students are encouraged to try one orchestra instrument, one woodwind instrument, and one brass instrument. Please circle the 3 instruments that your child will be trying out.

<i><b>Orchestra</b></i>	<i><b>Band (woodwind)</b></i>	<i><b>Band (brass)</b></i>
Violin	Flute	Trumpet
Viola	Oboe *	French Horn *
Cello	Clarinet	Trombone
Double Bass	Saxophone	Percussion (drum pad/bell kit)

\* These instruments are more challenging for most students to control. It is possible to choose one of these if the student shows a strong desire to play, and ability to listen to and follow directions well

**After going through the instrument selection process**, children will bring home a summary sheet with feedback from the music faculty on each instrument they tried as well as an instrument rental brochure. Once a decision is made, parents should complete the 4th grade instrument selection decision form (online at: <http://www.ptsd.k12.pa.us/InstrumentSelection.aspx>) before the end of the school year, and make arrangements for an instrument. If renting an instrument, rental agreements should be submitted as soon as possible to insure that an instrument is ready for your child in the fall. Rental instruments will be delivered directly to the school and billing from the vendor will occur at the start of the next school year. Should you have further questions about this process, please contact:

Mr. McGough, strings: [mcgoughs@pt-sd.org](mailto:mcgoughs@pt-sd.org) - 724 941 5020 x3107  
 Mr. DiFilippo, band: [difilippod@pt-sd.org](mailto:difilippod@pt-sd.org) - 724 941 5020 x3108

If your child is interested in trying an instrument, please complete this application and have your child return it to his/her 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher.

**Name of student** \_\_\_\_\_ **Homerom** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_