

May 26, 2010

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Welcome to the exciting world of music! Today your child saw a demonstration of musical instruments available for beginning study in the fourth grade. In September, your child will have an opportunity to participate in weekly group lessons as well as perform in our elementary school bands or orchestras. Please take a moment to discuss today's experience with your son/daughter to determine their level of interest in our music program. Instruments offered include: violin, viola, cello, string bass, flute, clarinet, bass clarinet, french horn, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone horn and percussion. Pictures of all these instruments are included on the back of this letter for reference and discussion, and videos of the instruments can be found on our website at islipfpa.net.

Please complete the form below and return it to your child's classroom teacher as soon as possible. Your child will meet with our instrumental music teachers and an appropriate instrument will be recommended for him/her. This evaluation is based on basic skills, ability, size and physical characteristics as well as the number of instruments available in each section.

Research points to three important factors for student success in instrumental music: 1) rhythmic aptitude; 2) perceived parental interest; and 3) instrument choice (that is, the student likes the **sound** of the instrument they select). While student preference is an important factor in selecting an instrument, please be aware that as part of a public school music program, proper instrumental balance is crucial in organizing performing groups. Therefore, we ask you and your child to **select both a first and second choice** of instrument to study.

Further information will follow shortly. Your prompt response will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Vincent M. Green
Coordinator of Fine & Performing Arts

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO YOUR CLASSROOM TEACHER BY:
FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 2010**

Child's Name: _____ Home Phone: _____
(please print)

Classroom Teacher: _____ School: (circle) CRES SES

I would like to play: (choose two instruments) 1) _____ 2) _____

My child already plays an instrument(s) (include piano): Yes _____ No _____

Name of instrument(s): _____ # of years _____

My child owns an instrument _____ Yes _____ No Name of instrument _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____