

January 3, 2011

Dear Parents,

In a few weeks, we will begin a unit of study that will include recorders. Learning to play a recorder is an invaluable experience as it aids your student in music reading, learning the fundamentals of playing an instrument and playing as an ensemble. We also discuss the responsibilities that come in playing and taking care of an instrument.

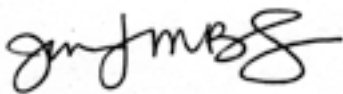
It is my preference that your child use or purchase an Aulos recorder for our study. It is important that your child have a quality instrument upon which to learn. Toy recorders typically do not produce an easy, quality tone for a beginner. If you have a recorder from an older sibling, most likely their recorder is an Aulos. The Farmington Music Department purchases these recorders in bulk each year and receives a substantial discount on quality recorders. You may purchase an Aulos recorder through the Farmington Music Department for \$5.00. If you do not wish to purchase a recorder, one will be provided for your child. Students who do not purchase a recorder will use a school recorder, which is shared with other students. Proper sanitizing will occur between uses.

Your child will be provided a recorder book at no cost. They are expected to bring their recorder and book to each music class. Forgetting their recorder or book will result in a note home .

We use a version of "Recorder Karate" as incentive for student learning. As students master songs within each level, they earn a belt for their level of expertise. Students are expected to practice the songs at home. It is recommended that they practice 10-15 minutes each day. It may be helpful during the beginning stages of learning to break the practice time up in smaller chunks of time.

Please fill out the attached form and return it with your child to Ms. Bailey. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me via e-mail or voice mail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Bailey". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Jennifer Bailey, Vocal Music Teacher
Longacre Elementary
248-426-2992
Jennifer.bailey@farmington.k12.mi.us

Recorder Form

Student name: _____

Classroom Teacher: McCoy Raftery Ritenour

Please check all that apply:

_____ My student already has a recorder to use in class.

_____ My student will purchase a recorder (please enclose \$5.00).

_____ My student will not purchase a recorder, please provide a school recorder for him/her.

_____ I would like to purchase a neck strap for my child's recorder
(please enclose \$2.25 – please note, the neck strap is not mandatory
but helpful for holding the recorder)

Please indicate color of neckstrap:

Black Navy Blue Green Pink Purple Red Teal Gold

**Please place form and money in an envelope and return to Ms.
Bailey
by Friday, January 21, 2011.**

Cash only please, no checks or money orders.