

Dear Fourth Grade Parents:

August 10, 2006

As a fourth grader your child will participate in Palo Alto's outstanding music program. In the fourth grade general music class, students will receive instruction in singing, playing rhythm instruments, the study of instrumental families, listening to music and performing on recorders. All 4<sup>th</sup> graders receive music instruction as part of the regular school. Students will not miss other academic instruction to attend music class.

If space is available, a few fourth grade students may be able to participate in the beginning string class (in place of the general music class). Fifth graders, however, will be given priority. Fourth grade students who would like to participate in the beginning string class will be selected by lottery during their second music class. Because of space constraints, most fourth grade students will be asked to postpone the start of their instrumental studies until fifth grade. **Fourth grade student's who have studied a string instrument for one year or more and read music, may participate in the orchestra class (pending music teacher approval).** Students who plan to take a woodwind or brass instrument in the fifth grade should take general music in the fourth grade. Music classes will start during the week of August 28.

Students should **not** rent or purchase a stringed instrument or music stand until they have received notification that they are accepted into the program. There are a few school-owned instruments (a \$50 donation to help defer the cost of repairs is requested) and stands available for students with financial need.

A presentation describing the music program will be given for the students at each school. If you would like to attend this demonstration, the schedule is listed below:

**WEDNESDAY (8/23)**

Nixon----- 8:15  
Escondido----- 9:15  
Walter Hays-- 10:30  
Ohlone----- 12:15

**THURSDAY (8/24)**

Barron Park-- 9:15  
Briones----- 10:30  
El Carmelo--- 12:50  
Fairmeadow- 1:50

**FRIDAY (8/25)**

Addison----- 9:00  
Duveneck---- 10:30  
Palo Verde--- 12:30  
Hoover----- 1:45

If you need further information please contact the District Music Office, 329-3944.

Nancy Coffey  
Music Coordinator