



# SUSD BEGINNING BAND LEGACY CAMPAIGN

June, 2019

Dear Friends of Saratoga Music Programs,

*"Music for All"*

This phrase is something many of you have seen around the music room at Redwood. More than just a slogan, it is a philosophy to which our program aspires. Providing musical experiences and opportunities for any student in our district is a never-ending goal toward which we continue to strive.

We are thrilled that, after many years of discussion and with the ultimate support of our school colleagues, district administration and school board, we have the green light to bring our 5th grade beginning band program into the school day! While any change comes with questions, ultimately this is a wonderful opportunity to move our instrumental program a giant leap closer to our long-held dream of sustainability and "Music for All." On a personal note, I am thrilled for this opportunity to collaborate with our district and SMB to implement the program, and also co-teach it at all three of our elementary schools.

## ***WHAT WE HAVE & WHERE WE'RE HEADED***

This in-school beginning band program will replace the current before-school morning band at Argonaut (the same one in which I learned my own first band instrument in the 1990s). The introduction of an in-school program offers some notable benefits and provides solutions to many of the challenges the before-school program faced. Some of the most significant ones are listed on page four.

## ***HOW YOU CAN HELP***

Along with excitement and possibility comes a great challenge: the cost of jumpstarting the program. We must be able to provide all instructional materials to every student who is interested in participating. Consequently, we are asking for your help to fund the program's start-up including a full set of our "Big Four" beginning band instruments, mouthpieces, accessories, method books, and more.

All donations are tax-deductible and donors will receive recognition on a special banner or plaque that will reside at each elementary school, and in music event programs based on the level of contribution.

<b>Platinum</b>	\$5000+	Top billing on plaque/banner and in event programs.
<b>Gold</b>	\$1000-4999	Second billing on plaque/banner and in event programs.
<b>Silver</b>	\$500-999	Prominent placement on plaque/banner and in event programs.
<b>Bronze</b>	\$250-499	Included on banner/plaque and in event programs.
<b>Music Program Fan</b>	Any	Placement in event programs.

### ***WHAT WE NEED***

<b>Items</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Flutes</b>	\$6,000	A set of flutes for 5th grade band students. (c. \$400 each)
<b>Clarinets</b>	\$14,000	A set of clarinets for 5th grade band students. (c. \$400 each)
<b>Trumpets</b>	\$12,500	A set of trumpets for 5th grade band students. (c. \$500 each)
<b>Baritones</b>	\$50,000	A set of baritones for 5th grade band students. (c. \$2000 each)
<b>Mouthpieces &amp; Accessories</b>	\$10,000	Clarinet, trumpet and baritone mouthpieces, ligatures, reeds, swabs, cork grease, valve oil, slide grease, etc.
<b>Method Books</b>	\$1,000	One band method book for each student. (AKA our band textbook!)
<b>Additional Specialized Instruction, Clinicians, etc.</b>	\$20,000	Instruction for one additional after-school session per week, for reinforcement of skills and work with specialized coaches and clinicians.

Sponsoring any of the items above helps us ensure the successful start to this program next school year, and supports the growth and quality of our music program for many years to come.

We would be deeply grateful to receive assistance from anyone! Please forward to and share this information with your company, colleagues, friends and relatives who might be willing to help us.

Some items must be ordered soon, so we're hoping to receive your donations by July 15, 2019, if possible, though we will gladly take any donations through the summer and into the fall semester.

Thank you so much for your support as we begin this new adventure in music education for our district's 5th grade students starting in 2019 and extending into future years!

Sincerely,



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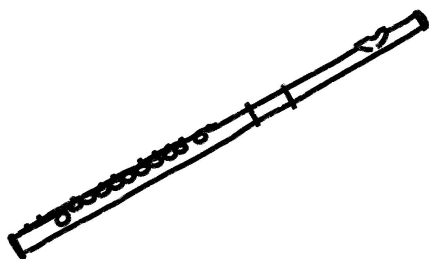


[saratogamusicboosters.org](http://saratogamusicboosters.org)

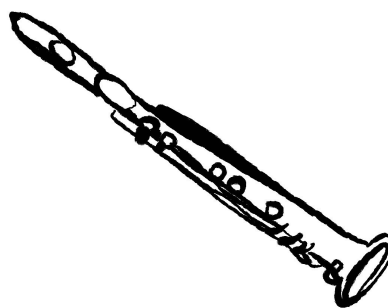
## **MORE INFORMATION**

<b>CURRENT PROGRAM</b>	<b>UPCOMING PROGRAM</b>
<b>Access</b>	
<b>Challenges</b>	<b>Opportunities</b>
<p><b>Attendance</b> of participants in a before-school class is inconsistent, with students missing class due to dark winter mornings, homework load, studying, fatigue, etc., leading to inconsistencies of overall progress and cumulative group proficiency.</p>	<p>An in-school program makes beginning band accessible and equitable to <b>all</b> interested students in the district regardless of commitments before/after school. It also provides students and families <b>choice</b> of their in-school music time (General Music vs. Instrumental/Band).</p>
	<p>While one additional after-school band session is being planned to offer <b>two dedicated meetings per week</b>, this option ultimately reduces a before/after-school extracurricular commitment thus, freeing up time in family schedules while allowing them <b>dedicated in-school time</b> for band instruction. Upon coming to Redwood, we anticipate that band students will be able to achieve and then retain current average proficiency levels as they move through the middle school program every school day.</p>
<b>Staffing</b>	
<b>Challenges</b>	<b>Opportunities</b>
<p>Most professional musicians and teachers who are able to teach the morning program are <b>private teachers and gig musicians</b> with changing schedules and commitments. Finding quality teachers for a before-school/three-hour-a-week program is challenging, as any great professional is looking for full-time work and compensation.</p>	<p>Band classes would be taught by <b>full-time, certificated SUSD music teachers</b> (Mr. Jow and Ms. Gelman), with the instructional time for band built into their contracted instructional day.</p>
<p>In the past 10 years, <b>we have had 10 different teachers in this program, 5 of which left the program in the middle of the year</b>, causing difficult transitions for students and administrative strain on the program.</p>	
<b>Transportation</b>	
<b>Challenges</b>	<b>Opportunities</b>
<p>Band meetings in the morning requires that students from two schools must be transported to their sites following band classes. The Saratoga Music Boosters pays for <b>transportation</b>, which has had an <b>increasing yearly cost</b> which could otherwise be invested toward purchasing new instruments, repairs and maintenance, classroom materials, instruction, etc.</p>	<p><b>Transportation costs are alleviated</b> from the Saratoga Music Boosters, and this money can now <b>go toward costs that directly benefit students</b> musically and pedagogically via instruments, equipment, clinicians, and other program-wide expenses.</p>
<p><b>Transportation costs alone have increased</b> 300%, from approximately \$10,000 per year 10 years ago, to over \$30,000 in the 2018-2019 school year.</p>	

**PLEASE HELP JUMPSTART OUR BEGINNING BAND BY SPONSORING:**



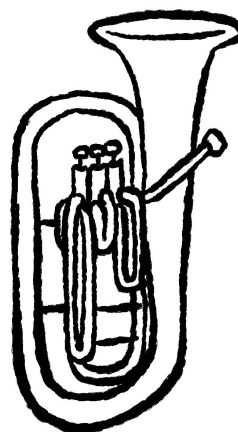
**Flutes**



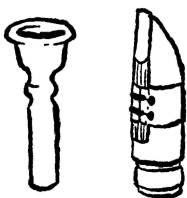
**Clarinets**



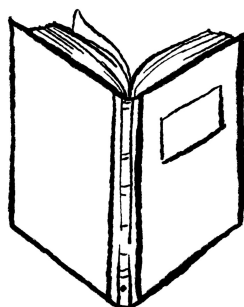
**Trumpets**



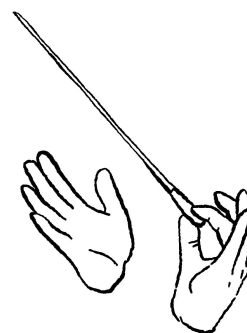
**Baritones**



**Mouthpieces  
& Accessories**



**Method Books**



**Additional  
Specialized Instruction,  
Clinicians, etc.**



# SUSD BEGINNING BAND LEGACY CAMPAIGN

Make checks payable to **Saratoga Music Boosters** (or **SMB**) and send (or drop off) checks and this form to:

SMB, % Redwood Middle School  
13925 Fruitvale Ave.  
Saratoga, CA 95070

Donor Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount:	\$
Employer Matching Amount: (if applicable)	\$
Total Contribution:	\$

If your employer is matching or supplementing your contribution, please answer the following:

If your company offers matching funds, do you want a receipt emailed to you to start the process?

Yes (check if applicable)

Print your email address for any required matching receipt: \_\_\_\_\_

Do **not** publish my name as an SUSD Beginning Band Legacy Campaign donor.

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**Checks are preferred but online donations are also accepted and appreciated!**

Head to [bit.ly/susdbandlegacy](http://bit.ly/susdbandlegacy) to donate online.

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***Thank you for your enthusiasm and support!***