

Dear Parent,

As part of the music curriculum, your child will be learning to play the recorder. The recorder presents a wonderful opportunity to introduce musical concepts, such as note reading, music appreciation, musical style/form, and the beginning fingerings of many band instruments. I hope introducing your child to the recorder will provide a positive, enjoyable musical experience that he/she will carry throughout life.

All third and fourth grade students are REQUIRED to have a soprano recorder to use in class every week. In order to give each student a positive learning experience, each student must have a real recorder. Toy recorders are much more difficult to play and will end up frustrating most students while they are trying to learn the instrument. Attached to this letter, you will find an order form for a Peripole "Angel" Soprano Recorder. This recorder will come with the instrument, a case, a cleaning rod, and a "Halo Hanger" that acts as a neck strap.

Many 4th grade students already own a recorder. You do not have to buy a new one if this is the case. Please take a moment to check over the recorder to see that the instrument is still in good condition. (Your child should be able to play the instrument without squeaking. There should not be any visible cracks in the body of the instrument. You should be able to easily remove the mouthpiece from the body of the recorder.) If you have any question about the condition of the instrument, have him or her bring the instrument to me to check it over.) If the recorder is not working properly, he/she will need to purchase a new instrument.

All students are also REQUIRED to have a ½ inch three ring binder. The binder will provide a place that students can carry any music or worksheets that I provide. Each binder should have the student's name and classroom teacher's name labeled clearly on the binder.

I recommend that students keep their recorder and notebook in their backpack so they will always have it at home and at school. Recommended practice time at home is 5-10 minutes of focused practice 5-6 days per week. If remembering to bring the recorder and notebook to school is a problem, your child will be asked to leave the recorder and notebook in the music room.

Please have your child return the attached order form to me by Thursday September 22, 2011, along with a check made payable to JOHN LYMAN ACTIVITY FUND if you need to order the materials. EVERY CHILD, whether or not you are making a purchase, must turn in the form so I can make sure that everyone has all of his or her materials. Please call or email me if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank-you.

Michael Meurs
General/Vocal Music teacher
mmeurs@rsd13.org

RECORDER ORDER FORM

<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
_____	Peripole Soprano Recorder	\$4.83	_____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____
(Checks should be made to John Lyman Activity Fund.)

Please check if applicable.

_____ I already own a recorder that is in good working condition.

Student's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Classroom Teacher's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

- Return to Mr. Meurs by Thursday September 22. Recorders are expected to arrive in mid October.
- Return in an envelope with the child's name and the classroom teacher's name.