

BUCKEYE

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

"A Community Passionate About Student Success"

25555 W Durango Street • Buckeye AZ 85326 • Phone 623-925-3400 • Fax 623-386-6063 • <http://besd.k12.az.us>



Bales Elementary
25400 W Maricopa Road
P: 623-847-8503
F: 623-327-0744



Buckeye Elementary
211 South 7th Street
P: 623-386-4487
F: 623-386-7901



Inca Elementary
23601 W Durango Street
P: 623-925-3500
F: 623-386-4690



Jasinski Elementary
4280 S 246th Avenue
P: 623-925-3100
F: 623-327-2708



Sundance Elementary
23800 W Hadley Street
P: 623-847-8531



WestPark Elementary
2700 S 257th Drive
P: 623-435-3282
F: 623-386-3398



BESD Preschool
604 Centre Avenue
P: 623-925-3333
F: 623-386-6219

Dear Parents,

My name is Amber Shupe, and I am the Buckeye Elementary School District Band Director. I am happy to announce **January 19, 2012** as the date marking the start of the new District Band. This opportunity is an excellent chance for students to learn an instrument and play in band as well as provide more playing opportunities for students who are currently in band at one of our six schools.

In order to help beginning band students choose an instrument that would be more suitable for them, I will be available to meet with students in the music room at Inca Elementary School on Monday, January 9th through Friday, January 13th from 4:00-5:30 pm. At this time, students will have a chance to explore the different band instrument options. Together, we will decide what instrument would be the best for attending students to start on. If a student has already been playing or already owns an instrument, that student does not need to attend on January 9th through January 13th.

An instrument rental night will occur on **Wednesday January 18th** at Inca Elementary School from 6:00-7:30 pm. A band instrument rental company will be there with instruments, the appropriate supplies, and books. Interested students will be able to pick up additional information and prices of instruments from the music teachers at their school prior to the instrument rental night. Students who already own an instrument will be able to purchase their music books there.

The District Band will rehearse together for the first time on January 19th and will continue to meet thereafter on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school at 4:00pm until 5:30pm at Inca Elementary School.

If students would like to be a part of this exciting opportunity to be in our District Band, they can gather additional informational materials from their music teachers. Whether students have never participated before or would like to continue participating, students must fill out an informational form to officially sign up for band.

On the back of this letter there is additional information regarding the District Band. Please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or by email with any questions. My email address is ashupe@besd.k12.az.us and my phone number is **623-925-3500 ext 3516**.

Best Wishes!

Amber Shupe
Inca Elementary Music Teacher and Band Director
Buckeye Elementary School District Band Director

BESD District Band

Amanda Shupe, Band Director

ashupe@besd.k12.az.us

623-925-3500 ext 3516

Important Dates and Frequently Asked Questions...



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Important Dates:

January 9th - 13th 4:00-5:30 pm Instrument Selection Assessment (10 minute sessions)

January 18th 6:00-7:30 pm Instrument Rental Night (ALL students must attend)

January 19th 4:00-5:30 pm First Day of District Band Rehearsal

What is the District Band?

The District Band is a band made up of students from all six of the schools in the Buckeye Elementary District. We will begin with learning how to properly care for and play instruments while learning how to read music. The first few rehearsals will serve as great review for students who have already been participating in a band but will set new students up with the best start. We will then continue learning how to play and read music at a steady pace. Students who exemplify great playing ability and leadership will be offered a chance for leadership within their instrument's section. Throughout the semester, students will be able to perform in concert and will be introduced to marching for an opportunity to march in The Pioneer Days Parade. More information on the details of this will come at a later date.

How do I sign my child up for the District Band?

Students who are interested in band can gather additional forms from their school music teacher. One of the forms will need to be filled out and brought to either their music teacher or to the Band Director. **ALL STUDENTS who are signing up for the band will need to come to the Instrument Rental Night on Wednesday, January 18th.** The rental night will be open from 6:00-7:30 pm at Inca Elementary School. Items available for purchase will be basic instrument maintenance supplies and books as well as instruments for rent. Information on instrument rentals can be obtained from the District Band Director or your school's music teacher.

When and where does the District Band rehearse?

Meetings and rehearsals will be at **Inca Elementary School - 23601 W Durango Street**. The first rehearsal is on January 19th. Rehearsals are at 4:00pm until 5:30pm. They will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students arriving later because their school lets out later will be asked to come in and set up quietly. **Parents will need to arrange transportation for their child.**

What if my child doesn't know how to play an instrument?

District Band students will begin learning how to play their instruments from the very beginning. Students will learn the basics from how to properly put the instrument together to getting more in depth with reading music and performing on their instruments. On January 9th through January 13th, the Band Director will be available at Inca Elementary School from 4:00 to 5:30 pm to meet with students and assess what instrument would be the best for them to start on. Assessments should take about 10 minutes and will be made on a first come, first serve basis. If students want to participate in band but are unable to attend those particular times, please contact the Band Director to make arrangements.