Hello Class of 2021 Students and Parents!

My name is Mrs. Kaneda, the Exploratory Music and Instrumental Educator in your school. I am here today to invite you to be part of a special and elite group in your school—the Band and Orchestra.

As part of this amazing group, you will have the privilege to take free instrumental lessons for 30 minutes each week! By taking lessons and practicing what you learn in your lessons, you will have fun learning all kinds of songs, playing your music with others, and performing for your family and community.

Currently I will be giving your family information on renting an instrument for you for as little as $6.66 /month!!! That is less than a meal at McDonalds!! The money they paid can be applied to the purchase of your own instrument. Imagine having your own (for example) trumpet, flute, drums or violin!

When you go to Middle School you will meet lots of new friends playing in the band and/or orchestra. High School gives you the opportunity to perform in the Marching Band and parades! Along the way, there are middle and high school honors groups and competitions. Playing an instrument is a great thing to put on your college application. I know of students that have gotten scholarships due to playing an instrument!

When you have time, I would like you to watch a fun video where you can hear and see members of an armed forces band demonstrating all of the band instruments and playing a piece together. I think this video will help you decide which instrument is best for you.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bV9qXRZ36qfCUvu33PqwkDnMxxV-n7Gp/view?usp=sharing

I am giving your teacher a form for you to complete where you can select the instrument(s) that interests you. Mrs. Jenkins will be sending a form for your parents to look over and submit to rent an instrument. If a shiny new instrument is not in your budget, the school has some instruments for you to try.

Since we are virtual, we may be having virtual performances where your friends and family can hear and see you play from anywhere in the world!!

Please click below to find 10 reasons one should play an instrument.

<https://www.classicfm.com/discover-music/reasons-to-play-a-musical-instrument/#:~:text=It%20helps%20improve%20your%20memory,brain%2C%20which%20strengthens%20memory%20power>.

Thanks for letting me share an opportunity with you. I hope you will take me up on my invitation. I promise you lots of fun and creativity, to say the least. You and your parents will be so proud of **YOU!** I look forward to receiving the form telling me which instrument interests you. Any questions, contact me please at kkaneda@bcps.org.

Mrs. Kaneda

Instrumental Educator

DPES, CES