

North Vancouver School District Band & Strings Program 2015/2016

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I find out more information about the band and strings program?

Information is available on the North Vancouver School District website at <http://www.sd44.ca/ProgramsServices/BandStrings/Pages/default.aspx> Further information can be obtained from band and/or strings teacher at your child's school.

How do I register my child in the band and/or strings program?

North Vancouver School District is pleased to offer parents the ability to pay for 2015/16 band and strings registration fees directly online. More information is available at <http://www.sd44.ca/ProgramsServices/BandStrings/Documents/BandAndStringsSchoolCashOnline.pdf>

It's easy and convenient; simply create an account and make your payment. Installment payments are available for your convenience. Once completed, your child will automatically be registered in the program of choice. Step-by-step instructions to assist you with creating an account are available at <http://www.sd44.ca/District/SchoolCashOnline/Documents/SchoolCashOnlineStepByStepRegistration.pdf>

If you are not able to pay online, you can drop off cash or cheque for the full payment to the Education Services Centre, 2121 Lonsdale Avenue, second floor reception. A receipt will then be mailed to you.

When will I find out the schedule of the band and/or strings program at my child's school?

Preliminary information regarding scheduling is unavailable until June and is determined at the school. Teachers will provide registered students with a final schedule early in September. The program consists of approximately 40 hours of instruction and performance. If your child is registered in the program at a school other than their home school, please check with that school for the schedule.

Is there a registration form?

No. As you purchase the band and/or strings program online your child will automatically be registered.

How do I register my child in the band/strings program at another school?

If your child is transferring schools for the next school year, you can register online at the current school and the band/strings program transfer will be done internally. Please email bandandstrings@sd44.ca with your child's transfer details.

If you would like to register your child for a strings program that is not offered at their current school, the online registration program offers an option for a strings program at a nearby school. Please note: parents are responsible to transport their child to and from the program at the alternate school.

How much does the band and/or strings program cost?

The band and strings program is not part of the regular school curriculum and the costs to provide the program are funded by the registration fees. The registration fee for the program is \$460.00. Online payment can be made in a single payment or paid in installments on the first of May, June, July, August and September. Online installment payments will be pro-rated based on the month you register. In-person registration must be paid in full. Early bird registrations processed by May 15th will be eligible for a \$35.00 rebate in October.

Students are required to provide their own instrument, or alternatively, to rent one. Rentals are available from the North Vancouver School District instrument room or from local music stores. In addition, students must purchase their method and practice book.

Once online payment of registration fees is completed, you can print a receipt for your records. Please retain these receipts for your tax purposes.

What instruments are available for my son/daughter to play?

- Band Program: flute, oboe, (soprano) clarinet, bass clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba and percussion
- Strings Program: bowed instruments such as bass, violin, viola, cello

If a child wants to play an instrument other than those listed above, parents must consult with the band and/or strings teacher.

When is the selection process for instruments?

In order to have a variety of instruments in the school band, teachers generally oversee/suggest instruments for students to play. Teachers will distribute information during the recruiting period, however, selection occurs in September when classes begin.

What if my child doesn't have an instrument?

Students are required to provide their own instrument, or alternatively, to rent one. Rentals are available from North Vancouver School District's instrument room at the beginning of September at Mountainside Secondary, 3365 Mahon Avenue, North Vancouver. A deposit of \$100.00 is required to rent an instrument and will be refunded upon return (in good condition) at the end of the school year.

During the school year, the instrument room is open by appointment only. Please phone Mountainside School, 604-903-3333. A voice message will provide prompts (press 4) to leave a message with your name and contact phone number. You will receive a return phone call and an appointment will be arranged. Instruments can also be rented at local music stores.

How do I return an instrument?

Instrument rentals from North Vancouver School District's instrument room should be returned during the last two weeks of June to Mountainside Secondary, 3365 Mahon Avenue, North Vancouver. If your child withdraws from the program during the school year, the return will have to be done by appointment only. Please phone Mountainside School, 604-903-3333. A voice message will provide prompts (press 4) to leave a message with your name and contact phone number. You will receive a return phone call and an appointment will be arranged.

How do I withdraw my child from the band/strings program?

Withdrawal forms are available on the North Vancouver School District website at <http://www.sd44.ca/ProgramsServices/BandStrings/Pages/default.aspx>. All requests must be done in writing by completing a withdrawal form and submitting it to your child's school office.

Full refunds will be issued for withdrawal forms received by June 15, 2015. After June 15th, there is a \$75.00 non-refundable processing fee. **NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE AFTER OCTOBER 31, 2015.** For registration fees paid online, refunds will be reimbursed to the account on file. A refund cheque will be mailed for registration fees paid by cash or cheque.

For more information, please email bandandstrings@sd44.ca

