

# 2022 INFORMATION PACKET

**Band Director, Ms. Isabelle Zapata**  
**Coaches, Mr. Connor Bagheri, Ms. Lily Spock**



Welcome Parents and Students!

The Ada Harris Wildcat band provides music instruction on the flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone, and percussion instruments. This packet contains vital information about our program that I hope you will find useful.

I would like to encourage you all to frequently visit our Ada Harris Band Program page on the Cardiff School District Website (found in the drop box under Cardiff Sea). Here you can find the enrollment form, band calendar, weekly rehearsal schedule, band photos, and much more!

## **Goals of the Wildcat Band Music Program**

- Enrich student's lives through the understanding and study of music
- Provide students with the tools they need to become lifelong music learners
- Develop a characteristic tone and good technical habits on an instrument of study
- Learn and demonstrate all of the fingerings/rudiments within a basic range
- Read and write musical notation
- Recognize and produce basic rhythmic values
- Learn to listen, think, and speak critically about music
- Help students develop self-control, discipline, and independence, as well as a sense of pride in their musical accomplishments
- Expose students to different musical styles, genres, and cultures
- Learn to work as a team to accomplish our goals
- Prepare students for music classes at the middle school level

I look forward to a wonderful year of music making!

Musically yours,

Ms. Isabelle Zapata

## **Ada Harris School Band Program 2022-2023**

### **Instrumental Music Student Standards**

Instrumental music students are required to attend both band rehearsals and instrumental sectionals. Parents will be notified if a student has missed more than two consecutive practices.

Band students are required to practice (with a metronome and/or practice track) a minimum of three to four days per week outside of their school site rehearsals and sectionals. The recommended amount of practice time is 20-30 minutes per session. Students that follow these guidelines as a minimum standard will be more likely to succeed on their instrument.

The Wildcat Band performs at two formal concerts a year, the Encinitas holiday parade, and at several informal events like the Ice Cream Social. Success for the ensemble and for each individual requires that students make every effort to attend these performances. A list of performance dates can be found at the end of this packet. Please mark these dates in your calendar and let Ms.Zapata know right away if a conflict arises.

To maintain an enjoyable and productive learning environment, instrumental students are expected to demonstrate excellent behavior at all times. This includes the following:

1. Be prepared and in your seat with your assembled instrument, music, pencil, water and needed supplies by the scheduled start time of the rehearsal.
2. No talking with other students or playing out of turn. Do disruptive or “silly” behavior.
3. Be respectful and courteous at all times toward your teachers and fellow students.
4. Bring a positive attitude to all rehearsals and be prepared to work hard and have fun!
5. Treat your instrument and supplies with care, and do not touch or play any instrument but your own. Clean your instrument often! Clean your mouth before you play every time! (Do NOT eat anything or drink anything besides water before you play).
6. A water bottle is recommended, especially for wind players, to minimize interruptions for water breaks.

*\*The sectional coach or the band director may remove a student from rehearsal due to inappropriate or disruptive behavior.*

## Keys to Success in Instrumental Music

**Make sure the equipment works!** Having broken/poor quality equipment really slows down the learning process. Even if you are doing everything correctly, the wrong sound (or no sound at all) may come out. If you think your instrument is not working well, please show it to Ms. Zapata or your coach right away. We can either try to fix it or help pinpoint the problem to tell a repair professional. Do NOT try to fix it yourself!

**Have a set practice schedule.** Practicing is a very important part of this class. Establish a quiet place and time each day or every other day to practice where you have a music stand, a metronome, your music and a pencil handy. Learning an instrument is like playing a sport - you have to train to keep in good condition!

**Attend all rehearsals and sectionals.** Sectionals and rehearsals are vital to your child's success on their instrument. This is where musical concepts and technique are learned, reinforced, and mastered. Sectionals are also a great time to ask your coach questions and get extra help.

**Use a music stand and metronome at home.** Using a music stand at home promotes good posture and makes it easier to get a better sound on your instrument. If you practice hunched over looking at your music on a flat desk or table top, you cut off the air going through your instrument, and you will not get the best tone possible. You can get a collapsible music stand from a music supply store. Metronomes keep your rhythm in check. When practicing with a metronome you are training your muscle memory to play "in-time" and your mind to connect the music to a steady pulse.

**Consider taking private lessons.** Getting extra tutoring on your instrument can accelerate the learning process by quite a bit. It gives you the extra one-on-one time with someone who is a professional performer on your instrument!

**Come in and ask for help!** Ms. Zapata and your child's sectional coach want every child to succeed. We are here to provide resources if you need them.

**Parents can help.** Many parents think that if they know little or nothing about music, they cannot help their child who is learning a new instrument. Your involvement in your child's education is key to his/her success. Here are a few things you CAN do, even if your greatest musical talent is turning on the radio: **Listen** to make sure your child is practicing, and remind them to practice all of their music, not just what they've already mastered. **Watch** for good posture. **Encourage** them to keep practicing after the excitement of their new instrument wears off.

## Registration

Registration is now open and will be available through September 28, 2022. After that time, please contact Ms. Zapata to join the band. Students who join late might not be prepared for upcoming performances.

Registration and donation information can be found here:

<https://www.cardiffschools.com/Page/131>

## Percussion Auditions

Wednesday September 28th, 12:30 - 1:30pm  
Ada Harris Music Room

***Any students interested in joining the percussion section MUST attend the audition. Not all students will be selected as there are limited spots available. Piano experience is preferred but not required.***

In the first half hour, Ms. Zapata will teach the kids proper technique for holding sticks and mallets and teach two basic exercises: one on snare drum and one on xylophone/bells. In the second half hour, each student will perform the exercise on their own with a metronome. Ms. Zapata will email the results to each student's family by the end of the day. *Selected students will need to rent a percussion kit (drum pad and practice xylophone) from San Diego Music Studio. We do not own enough percussion equipment to loan these out to students.* If the student is NOT selected for the percussion section, we encourage them to join the band on their second or third choice instrument.

## **Instrument and Maintenance**

**All Players:** Wash your hands and your mouth before you play your instrument! Do NOT eat or drink anything (except water) before or while you play your instrument! All players should regularly wash their mouthpieces with warm water and a mild dish soap.

**Never leave your instrument in the car.** This is the most common place instruments are stolen from. In addition, severe temperatures (both hot and cold) can seriously damage your instrument.

**Clarinet and Saxophone players** should routinely apply a **small** amount of cork grease to the tenon corks. Woodwind players should swab out their instrument after every use to remove all of the moisture. Carefully wipe off the outside of the instrument with a soft cloth to remove oils or perspiration caused by your hands.

**Trumpet and Baritone players** should routinely oil their valves. If your mouthpiece gets stuck, do NOT try to remove it at home; you can damage the instrument! Ms. Zapata has a special device to remove it.

**Trombone players.** Great care is needed when handling the trombone. The smallest bump or dent in the slide can cause problems with its proper movement. The slide needs to be lubricated on a regular basis.

**All players:** If something is wrong with your instrument, **do not try to fix it yourself.** Bring the instrument to your coach or a music store as soon as possible! Leave your instrument in the closed/zipped/latched case when it's not in use to help prevent damage. Do not keep anything in your case (or on top of it) that can press against the instrument or bend the keys .

If borrowing a school instrument, do not let anyone else touch or play your instrument.

## **Music Boosters**

The Cardiff SEA Music Boosters (Ada Harris Music Boosters) is a sub-committee of the Cardiff SEA. We are volunteers working to support music education in the Cardiff School District by providing organizational support and fundraising efforts for the Ada Harris Wildcat Band. We need to rebuild our board! The commitment is minimal and meetings are currently the first Wednesday of the month at 8:20am in the Ada Harris Auditorium. Please contact us or stop by if you can help out!

**adamusicboosters@gmail.com**

## Suggested Instrument Supply List

The salesperson at a music store can help you find what you need for a successful year in band.  
~If you need assistance, please contact your sectional coach~

**All Instruments:** Black music binder with non-glare sheet protectors, pencils and highlighters, metronome, water bottle, folding music stand for practice at home, name tag for instrument case.

**Flute:** Cleaning rod, cleaning cloth, polishing cloth.

**Clarinet and Saxophone:** Cleaning swab, cork grease, mouthpiece brush, reed case, minimum of 5 working reeds (Mitchell Lurie or Vandoren brand) strength 2.5 for beginners, and 3 for intermediate and advanced players.

**Trumpet and Baritone:** Valve oil, mouthpiece brush, tuning slide grease, polishing cloth

**Trombone:** Slide grease, mouthpiece brush, polishing cloth

**Percussion:** Vic Firth SD1 Generals drum sticks, Vic Firth 134 xylophone mallets (set of 4), home practice pad, student xylo kit, metronome

## Renting or Borrowing an Instrument

The Ada Harris Band Program owns a small number of instruments that students can use for the school year. If we have more students than instruments, we will have a lottery. We encourage students who do not get their first choice instrument to try their second choice instrument. School instruments require a signed contract and \$100 cleaning fee for the school year.

Local music stores have instrument rental programs for students. Our recommendations are listed below:

### **Suggested Local Music Stores:**

San Diego Music Studio - San Marcos ([760\) 761-0055](tel:7607610055))

Bertrand's Music - Two locations: San Diego, off Carmel Mt. Road (858) 780-1812  
and San Marcos, ((760) 744-3699)

Nick Rail Music, (Sabre Springs/Poway) (858) 679-7333

San Diego Music Exchange (Vista) (760) 630-7451

# ADA HARRIS WILDCAT BAND SCHEDULE 2022/2023

\*Please note this schedule is tentative and subject to change based on student enrollment.

DAY	TIME	INSTRUMENT	LOCATION	TEACHER
MONDAY	7:00-7:45am	Beg. Percussion Beg. Flute	On Stage Music Room	Ms. Zapata Ms.Spock
TUESDAY	7:00-7:45am	Beg. Trumpet	Music Room	Mr. Bagheri
WEDNESDAY	7:00-7:45am	Beg. Clarinet Beg. Alto Saxophone	On Stage Music Room	Ms. Spock Ms. Zapata
WEDNESDAY	12:30-2pm	Beginning Band Full Ensemble Rehearsal	On Stage	Ms. Zapata
THURSDAY	7:00-7:45am	Beg. Low Brass	Music Room	Mr. Bagheri

## **Contacts:**

Band Director (Isabelle Zapata): [isabelle.zapata@cardiffschools.com](mailto:isabelle.zapata@cardiffschools.com)

Music Boosters: [adamusicboosters@gmail.com](mailto:adamusicboosters@gmail.com)

## **Website:**

<https://www.cardiffschools.com/Page/126>

## **WILDCAT BAND CONCERT AND EVENT DATES**

Parents, please mark the following dates in your calendar. Your child's attendance at our performances is paramount!

**Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**, Encinitas Holiday Parade 4-6pm.

\*Participation in this event is not mandatory, but highly encouraged!

**Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**, Wildcat Band Winter Concert,  
5:00pm in the Ada Harris Auditorium.

(tentative) **Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>**, Bandorama  
Time TBD, at La Costa Canyon High School

**Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**, Wildcat Band Spring Concert,  
5:00pm in the Ada Harris Auditorium

**Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**, Ice Cream Social Band Performance at Cardiff School,  
9:30-10:30am.

**Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>**, Wildcat Band Instrument Cleaning & Return Day

**Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>**, Wildcat Band Banquet