Dear Amterdam Parents,

Our 4th grade class has had a very successful year in music! They have learned to play and read notation, and the next step for them is 5th grade band in the fall. I have shown and demonstrated the instruments we use in band and have encouraged them to think about their choice of instrument to play. It is not necessary to get an instrument right away, but here are some options to use now or later.

Students can choose from- Woodwinds: flute, clarinet, oboe, saxophone

Brass: trumpet, trombone, baritone, french horn

Percussion: snare drum or bells

String: electric bass

There are several options and places to get instruments.

The Woodwind Brasswind online music store has quality instruments and reasonable prices. The website is wwbw.com. The brands they carry are pretty dependable and they have financing and special deals for the school year.

Another option is Eckroth Music store in Bozeman. Their website is eckroth.com They usually come during our open house or the first week of school to offer instrument rentals. They have a rental program and have instrument repair service. Music Villa in Bozeman also carries percussion instruments and electric basses.

Bozeman Friends of music usually has a used instrument sale in September . You can find high quality, inspected instruments for a bargain price. Check out their site http://bozemanfriendsofmusic.com/ : There is no date set yet, but I expect to see the instrument sale in September.

Other options: Bozeman craigslist or Ebay. It is hard to judge the quality of used instruments sold online. The following brands are pretty dependable.

Flute and Clarinet Brands: Accent, Armstrong, Buffet, Bundy ,Conn, Gemeinhardt, LeBlanc-Vito, King, Selmer, Yamaha

Trumpet and Trombone (Brass) Brands: Accent, Bach, Besson, Bundy, Conn, Getzen ,Holton, King Selmer, Yamaha

Drums: Ludwig, Pearl, Premier

There are also a few instruments available at school for student use if you are unable to get one. I hope you find this information helpful. Enjoy your summer!

Ms. Larios