

An Overview for Eckstein Beginning Band “A”

Here’s a look at an average year-in-the-life for a **Beginning Band** student at Eckstein Middle School.

Beginning Band students previously have had very little or no music experience before this first year. They acquire skills and musical knowledge by playing concert music selections daily in class. Emphasis is spent on learning their scales and rhythms, and playing with the other band members in a full-sized concert band. As the year progresses, the choice of musical pieces become increasingly more challenging and interesting, preparing them for the next level of performance in the 7th grade.

Beginning Band musicians are expected to practice their scales and music at home on a regular basis. At the end of each semester, students play a finals scales test during class for their grade.

Beginning Band students play in two evening concerts during the year – the Winter Concert and the Spring Concert. Both are held at Eckstein Middle School in the evening on a Thursday. Other than the required band attire for all musicians and the annual Enrichment Fee, there are no costs associated with this band.

Families are encouraged to become involved in the Eckstein band program by supporting their student’s activities through positive reinforcement, volunteering for band activities, and helping with fundraising activities as their schedules allow.

For more information on being involved, appropriate band attire, the band event schedule, volunteering opportunities and fundraising activities, please visit:
<http://eckstein-band.ecksteinms.seattleschools.org/>

Sample Calendar of Events and Estimated Costs

Annual Beginning Band Events:

- ❑ **Eckstein Winter All Bands Concert:** Mid-December No Cost
- ❑ **Eckstein Spring All Bands Concert:** May No Cost

Total Annual Estimated Costs for Beginning Band Families:

- ❑ ***Enrichment Fee to Eckstein Band:** **\$50**
- ❑ **Concert attire:** **Varies**

Optional Events and Fundraising

- ❑ ****Donations to Supplement Instruments:** **TBD**
- ❑ **Solo & Ensemble:** per slot + payment to accompanist (if needed) **\$20**
- ❑ **Raffle basket, baked goods and other donations:** **TBD**
- ❑ **Teacher gift donation:** **TBD**

* Annual Enrichment Fees may be paid by check to the Eckstein Band account. ** Donations above the \$50 fee should be made payable to “AFE – Account #13415 Eckstein Middle School Band. - Scholarships are available by speaking with Mr. E.