

Hopewell Middle School Bands
Parent Meeting
Tuesday, September 1, 2009
6:30pm

Welcome/Introductions:

Ms. Murphy introduced herself.

Mr. Truman-Student Teacher will be assisting for the next 10 weeks.

General Housekeeping:

1. *Band Handbook* is posted on the website, rather than printed out. This was done as a cost savings measure and in order to save paper. Please review.

2. *Information Sheets/E-Mail Alerts*.- Everyone should have received an email via the CHARMS office system. In the event that you did not receive an email about this meeting, please check your spam and make certain that we have your correct email address. **Make certain that you are accepting mail from charmsoffice.com**

3. *Band Materials*

4. *Instruments: Renting vs. Buying, "Know before you go"* - Please check with Ms. Murphy before proceeding with a purchase of an instrument, especially those "on-line" instruments/companies (Could be problematic with obtaining replacement parts). Do not hesitate to contact Ms. Murphy with any instrument questions.

5. *Labeling Everything!*- Make certain that everything belonging to your child is labeled with their name. Also consider contact info, if something gets misplaced.

6. *Practice Requirements*- Must practice no less than 20 min./day. Should practice as long as it takes to consistently get it right. Definitely need Parental Assistance with making certain that students are practicing. Students with large instruments that can't go home with them, can come in early or stay late to practice.

7. *Make Up Assignments/Tests*- It is the student's responsibility to make up an assignment. The grade will be marked as "zero" until it is actually made up.

8. *Performances and Rehearsals*- Calendar is posted on website. All information has been on Calendar since beginning of the school year, this facilitates each individual student's scheduling with other commitments/activities. Expectations are that students will be present for all rehearsals. Performances are graded, failure to be present for performance will result in "zero".

9. *Extra Credit*- Will be awarded at the end of each quarter. Very easy to achieve, attend any of the area's performances. Bring a program with student's name and parent's signature. Max. of five points added at end of every quarter.

10. *Private Lessons* - Check website for teacher suggestions. Send Ms. Murphy email for additional recommendations. Contact area music schools for teacher/lesson suggestions.

Uniforms - Missi Smith:

Missi Smith (Band Parent Volunteer) will be coordinating Uniforms. Dawn Johnson (Parent Volunteer) will be assisting with money collection. Students have been measured for their uniforms already.

1. *Polo Shirts*- All students must have polo shirts.
2. *6th Grade Band*- Red Polo Shirt with Khaki pants.
3. *Concert Band*- (7th & 8th graders) Black Tux Pants/Black long skirts, Tux Shirts with Red Bow Tie & Cumberbund.
4. *Symphonic Band*- (7th & 8th graders) Girls: Black full length gowns. Boys: Tux Shirt, Vest, Pants and Red bow tie.

Band Pictures - Friday, November 6th, 2009

7th & 8th graders will bring their uniforms to school.
6th graders will wear their polo shirts, they can wear them to school.

HMS Band Website - www.hopewellbands.com

Please visit the website: Note the handbook, calendar, area band performances are listed, what's the latest, resources, instruments and guest book. Please "subscribe" to the website and sign in to the "Guest book".

Charms - www.charmsoffice.com

There is also a link on our website.

Every student has been given a bar code and ID number (This can be found on the first page of your child's band book). See Charms instruction Sheet. You may change your password. Please explore and familiarize yourself with this very important website, you are able to change/update your contact info here, etc.

Fund raising-

It requires much money to run a band program. Ms. Murphy's goal is to charge the least amount of money as possible to students. The reality is there has been significant budget cuts throughout Fulton County. Previous Rockathon fundraisers have raised approximately \$8000, this goes very quickly. The band has not purchased any new instruments since the school has opened. Minimum requirement to run a basic band program is \$20,000, therefore need to consider perhaps a different fundraiser.

1. *Pullanthropy*- This is a card tab system, (each tab small \$ amounts 1, 3, 5, etc.). If every student is able to complete 1 whole card, this would raise \$42,000. The upfront cost is \$25.00 per card, \$175.00 profit from each card. This proposal was discussed with

all present, any questions contact Ms. Murphy. Proposed roll out, initially with Symphonic Band, then additional students. Proposal discussed perhaps defer costs if a child clears 2 cards, (details to be worked out for entire fundraiser) Ms. Murphy first wanted to present idea to parents for feedback, prior to decision being made. Mr. Thompson is in full support of this endeavor.

2. *Rockathon*- Previous years this was the only fundraiser. In order to participate in the Rockathon, each student had to receive a min. of \$50 in pledges. We would continue with the Rockathon as a social event, should we elect to pursue "Pullanthropy". This way all students could participate.

Georgia Music Educators Association Conference Performance:

Symphonic Band- HMS has been invited to perform for all the Music Educators in Georgia. Last year application, with bio and recording were submitted for consideration. We were selected #1, this means our performance will take place at the Savannah Civic Center on Thursday January 28th, 2010.

Large Group Performance Evaluation:

Concert & Symphonic Bands- Both Groups will perform and be rated by judges. Monday & Tuesday, March 22nd & March 23rd at Benjamin E. Mays HS. Please mark your calendars-Mandatory Symphonic Camp (Concert Band) Friday, February 26th, MHS. Guest Conductors will participate and will be hosted by MHS. Will begin at about 4pm until 9:30pm. Details to follow. Pre-LGPE Performance Tuesday, March 2nd at MHS.

Solo and Ensemble Performance Evaluation:

Saturday, November 14th, Renaissance Middle School. Registration due 9/1/09.

All-State Band Auditions:

Link to requirements posted on HMS Band website (Under Resources). Please review requirements prior to signing up. Registration is \$18 due on Tuesday, 9/15/09.

Music in the Parks Festival:

6th Grade Band- Saturday, April 24th- Six Flags

Concert Band- Saturday, May 8 - Six Flags

Eighth Grade Band Night:

MHS September 4th

AHS September 18th

Jazz Band:

Open to all students who would like to audition. Will meet Thursdays at 7:45am beginning 9/17/09. Rhythm section auditions will be held Tuesday, 9/15/09 after school. Club applications available in front office.

Volunteer Committees:

Availability posted on website. User name "mustang" password "parent"

Adjournment of 6th Grade & Concert Band Parents, Symphonic Band Parents asked to remain afterwards.

Symphonic Band Parent Meeting:

Interested candidates submitted commitment forms. Big time commitment, kids will be organized into a full ensemble. Target 1 after school practice per week as long as they are practicing their music. Each student must practice on their own, If a student is not able to play the music they will not be permitted to perform. Expectation is must attend all rehearsals.

Symphonic Band will have Mandatory Symphonic Camp on 11/20/09.

Savannah trip will cost approximately \$250. Depart January 27th at about 1:30pm and return Friday night. They will perform, sight see and then return home. Currently working on ideas to help defray the cost. Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Murphy.