

7th and 8th Grade **Band Newsletter**









Did you know that March is National Music in our Schools Month?

Why Music?

Music is a Science... It is exact, specific, and it demands exact acoustics. A conductor's full score is a chart, a graph which indicates frequencies, intensities, volume changes, melody, and harmony all at once and with the most exact control of time.

Music is Mathematical... It is rhythmically based on the subdivisions of time into fractions, which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.

Music is a Foreign Language... Most of the terms are in Italian, German, or French; and the notation is certainly not English - but a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music are the most complete and universal language.

Music is History... Music usually reflects the environment and times of its creation, often even the country and or cultural feeling.

Music is Physical Education... It requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lips, cheeks, and facial muscles in addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragmatic, back, stomach, and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.

Music develops insight and demands research...

Music is all these things, but most of all,

Music is Art... It allows a human being to take all these dry, technically boring, (but difficult) techniques and use them to create emotion. That is one thing science cannot duplicate

7th and 8th Grade Band News

- ★ Thank you to the students who have been taking their instruments home to practice! Even just a few minutes of practice at home each week helps students to gain confidence on their part. We also have a DHS Practice Club that meets during 9th Period on Wednesdays. This is an opportunity for students to stay in the Band Room and practice their instrument with a friend and/or get extra help from Mrs. Irwin. Students earn a reward for attending 5 Practice Clubs!
- ★ NYSSMA Solo Festival at Webster CSD: Several students expressed interest in performing a solo at the NYSSMA (New York State School Music Association) Solo Festival at Webster CSD on April 26 or April 27. This date will be finalized once student registration is complete. If your student signed up, they received a permission slip that needs to be returned to Mrs. Irwin by Friday, March 8th, 2024. No late permission slips will be accepted. This is an excellent opportunity for your student to prepare and perform a solo in front of a judge and receive feedback! If you have any questions, please feel free to email me!

Upcoming Events

- ★ Spring Concert: Wednesday, April 24, 2024, 6:00pm
- ★ NYSSMA Solo Festival at Webster CSD: Friday, April 26, 2024 OR Saturday, April 27, 2024 (TBD upon student registration; select band members only)
- ★ Dogwood Parade: Saturday, May 18, 2024, 5:00pm
- * Memorial Day Parade: Monday, May 27, 2024, 10:00am
- ★ Darien Lake Music Competition: Friday, May 31, 2024, All Day

9th Period Activities

- ★ Mondays: Make-Up Lessons (Students have <u>2 weeks</u> from the missed lesson to make up a lesson)
- **★ Tuesdays**: Jazz Band
- ★ Wednesdays: DHS Practice Club
- **★ Thursdays**: Extra Performances Practice (NYSSMA Solo Festival preparation, etc.)



7 7th and 8th Grade Band Calendar of Events 7 2023-2024

7th and 8th Grade Band Spring Concert: Wednesday, April 24, 2024, 6:00pm, High School Auditorium

NYSSMA Solo Festival at Webster CSD: Friday, April 26, 2024 or Saturday, April 27, 2024 (TBD upon student registration; select band members only)

Dogwood Parade: Saturday, May 18, 2024, 5:00pm

Memorial Day Parade: Monday, May 27, 2024, 10:00am

Darien Lake Music Competition: Friday, May 31, 2024, All Day

DCSD Music Festival: Monday, June 3, 2024, 6:00pm