2018-2019 The Swinging Hawks Middle School Jazz Band

Welcome to “The Swinging Hawks” Middle School Jazz Band! I’m thrilled that you will be participating with us this year! For the best Jazz Band experience, please read the following guidelines for the ensemble:

**Rehearsals:**

* Every **Thursday from 2:35pm – 4:00 pm**. **\*(Please note the time change from last year)\***

(Please see the rehearsal schedule on the back)

* Rehearsals will be held in the **Middle School Band Room.**
* **ALL** rehearsals and performances are mandatory, unless a prior arrangement is made with Mrs. Freeman. If it is necessary to miss a rehearsal (medical, family emergency, etc.), provide a written excuse at least one week prior to the absence. If it is a medical emergency, a Doctor’s note will be required, no later than one week following the absence.
* **Two unexcused rehearsals will result in the removal from the group.**
* Students who CAN’T get a ride home no later than 4:30pm need to go home on the LATE BUS.
* Please provide a written note if your student needs to ride the Late Bus, walks home or if someone other than a parent is picking them up at the end of rehearsal.
* If the student participates in a Sport, Club or after school activity and it conflicts with Jazz Band Rehearsal please see Mrs. Freeman to make arrangements.

**Performances:**

* **Super Jazz Middle/High School Jazz Festival @ Oley Valley Middle School:** Feb. 23rd, 2019 Tentative Date
* **Spring Concert Dress Rehearsal:** Monday, May 20th 2019 2:30-4:00 in HS Auditorium NOT MS Band room
* **HAMS Spring Concert:** Tuesday, May 21st 2019 at 7:00PM HS Auditorium
* **HAMS In School Concert:** Thursday, May 23rd 2019 HAMS Gym
* *other events may be added with adequate notice given to participants.*

\*The HAMS Music Program adheres to the following statement regarding public performances:
*Members of performing musical organizations are to be present at all performances*, *except in the case of personal sickness, death in the family, an act of God,* *or extenuating circumstances pre-approved by the Director and/or Principal.*

**Music and Folders:**

* You will be provided with all parts and a folder
* It is your responsibility to bring all music AND A PENCIL to all rehearsals
* **You will be held financially accountable for any lost copies of music**

**What is expected of you?**

* Instrument, accessories, all music, and a pencil. **All items** listed should accompany you to **all rehearsals**.
* Know your notes and rhythms. Rehearsal time is for the **group**; *please practice your part at home*!
* Listen. One of the best and most effective ways to learn the jazz style is to listen to recordings of well-known artists. A list of jazz artists will be distributed for your reference.
* Bring a positive and supportive attitude. As this is a new experience for some students, we need to present our best efforts and create a comfortable space for everyone to experiment!

If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the email address or phone number provided below. I’m looking forward to the 2018-19 year with the “The Swinging Hawks” Middle School Jazz Band!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Carey Freeman -
4th-6th Grade Band Director
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