

Teaching Music
through
Music
Performance

Dr. Andrew F. Poor
Director of Bands

SOUTH FORSYTH MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND

2014-2015
6th Grade Band Meeting
August 20, 2014

WELCOME!

- ◉ Introduction
- ◉ Exciting Times for the SFMS Band
- ◉ 2014-2015 will be my 2nd year at SFMS
- ◉ Very successful year in 2013-2014
- ◉ Band has grown from 130 in May of 2013 to 270 in 2014
- ◉ In 2014, we will have:
 - 120 6th grade
 - 85 7th grade (63 in 2013)
 - 54 8th grade (there were 38 8th grade in 2013)

INSTRUMENTS AND BOOKS

- ◉ By now, you should have obtained an instrument.
- ◉ We use two books
 - Essential Elements 2000 (Specific for each instrument)
 - Winning Rhythms
- ◉ Band Binder
 - Will be provided
 - Students will keep their music and supplemental materials in their binder.
 - They need a pencil each day in band

SUPPLIES

◉ Reeds

- Please follow the recommended brands and strengths.
 - Rico #3
 - Vandoren #2.5
 - Medium Soft for Double Reeds
 - Cork crease
 - Swab

◉ Brass

- Trumpets, euphoniums tubas, Need valve oil
- Trombones need slide cream
- Horns need Rotary oil

PERCUSSION

- ◉ Bell/Drum kit for home
- ◉ Only bring back and forth their mallets/sticks and books
- ◉ In addition,
 - Need a mallet bag with:
 - ◉ 1 pair medium yarn mallets
 - ◉ 1 pair medium rubber mallets
 - ◉ General timpani sticks (leave at home for now)
 - ◉ Pitch pipe (leave at home for now)
 - ◉ Name on mallet bag

SCHOOL-OWNED INSTRUMENTS

- ◉ Are being checked out this week
- ◉ Please pay the \$40 instrument fee online at mypaymentsplus.com
 - Covers maintenance of the instruments
- ◉ Some instruments will be shared for large instruments that cannot go home everyday.
 - Euphoniums, horns, some tubas
 - Shared instruments must remain at school unless cleared with Dr. Poor
 - Non-shared instruments can go home
 - One name on the case=not shared

EARNING YOUR STRIPES

- ◎ Students in band by completing the following
 - Completing their mastery-based assignments by the deadlines.
 - Attending the one concert in December and one in May
 - Participating in class
- ◎ Earning your stripes is a series of short assignments from the books.
- ◎ Typically there are three assignments per level.

EARNING YOUR STRIPES

- ◉ 1 promotion for the first 9-weeks
- ◉ 2 promotions per nine-weeks each subsequent 9-weeks.
- ◉ How do you complete the assignments?
 - Three ways
 - ◉ SmartMusic (subscription-based and offers feedback)
 - ◉ CHARMS (free but no assistance)
 - ◉ Perform for Dr. Poor in person (slowest in some cases)
 - ◉ Refer to handout
 - ◉ Incentive to complete all by February 15.
 - 6th grade honor band
 - Solo and Ensemble Festival
 - Time to prepare for Symphonic Band Auditions for 7th grade (Accelerated Class)

UNIFORMS

◎ Two shirts

- 1 t-shirt
- 1 polo style (See example)
- Both included in band fee \$50. Please pay online at mypaymentsplus.com
- We will do sizing in class. Do not fill out form.
- Formal Concerts
 - Black dress pants. Black belt, if pants have belt loops (some girls pants do not have belt loops)
 - 100% Black dress shoes
 - 100% Black calf-length socks
 - Band Polo Shirt

6TH GRADE BAND

- ◉ No experience needed.
- ◉ We use a mastery-based system.
- ◉ Earning your stripes.
- ◉ Self-paced.
- ◉ Students who complete all stripes early are eligible for other activities
- ◉ We give two concerts.
- ◉ No after school rehearsals.
- ◉ Opportunity for help in the morning.
- ◉ Private lessons help but not required.
- ◉ A lot of optional extra-curricular activities for the motivated student.

Overview

Time Commitment

6TH GRADE INSTRUMENTS

- ◉ If you missed instrument fitting, no worries, we will have another one in August when we return.
- ◉ You will need to obtain an instrument by the second week of the school year.
- ◉ Some free help sessions two weeks before school starts.
- ◉ Please do not try to teach yourself!!!
- ◉ Please follow the recommended brands and accessories.
- ◉ If using a family-owned instrument, please have it checked by a repair person.
- ◉ There are very few, if any, good quality instruments that are inexpensive.

FUNDRAISING

- ◉ Our one fundraiser is Rock-a-thon
- ◉ Will be in September.
- ◉ We collect pledges to rock in rocking chairs for 6 hours, play games, have fun and enjoy each other's company.
- ◉ We need to raise a lot of money.
- ◉ We need about \$18,000 in new instruments b/c we are growing so fast.
- ◉ I will need to form a parent committee for this. Let me know if you can help.
- ◉ We may have to do more fundraising if we do not meet our goal. WE NEED A LOT OF EQUIPMENT and INSTRUMENTS!

PARENT HELP

- ◎ I am looking to form some parent committees to help with numerous things next year.
 - Chaperone Chair
 - Equipment Chair
 - Fundraising Chair
 - Trip Coordinator
 - Volunteer helper(s) during school hours
- ◎ Yes, a trip coordinator!
- ◎ Where to???

SCHOOL-OWNED INSTRUMENTS

- ◉ Most are being sent to the repair shop to be repaired.
- ◉ Most bassoons are not being sent in and can be rechecked out on Thursday.
- ◉ For all other school-owned instruments, I will send out an email once I receive the instruments back from the shop.
- ◉ I will set-up a couple of different days for students to come and check-out an instrument.

CLOSING

- ◉ Thank you for an outstanding year this year.
- ◉ It is going to be an even better year next year!
- ◉ Questions?
- ◉ Email: Apoor@forsyth.k12.ga.us