Dear HJMS Band Parents/Guardians,

Congratulations! Your student has been selected to be a part of this year’s Herschel Jones Middle School Symphonic Band. The Symphonic Band is comprised of the top performing band students here at Herschel Jones and is a high honor to be a part of. With the excellence that the Symphonic band has achieved in past years, the Symphonic Band comes with challenging and high expectations for the students whilst enjoying making music together!

Last year, the HJMS Symphonic Band received a Superior Rating at the Georgia Music Educators Association Large Group Performance Evaluation. This is the highest rating a band can receive at the state level performance evaluations. The Large Group Performance Evaluation (or LGPE) is the Band equivalent to the Georgia Milestones Assessment and is a great opportunity for students to receive meaningful feedback for their performance in band.

This year the Symphonic Band will be participating in a number of events and rehearsals to continue the tradition of excellence here at HJMS. Our Symphonic Band will be performing in the Pre-GMEA Large Group Performance Evaluations, GMEA Large Group Performance Evaluations, and the Six Flags Southern Star Music Festival.

Please review the following information with your family. If you are able to meet all of the obligations below, please return the Symphonic Band Commitment Form and Field Trip Forms.

* Follow all HJMS and PCSD rules
* Attend all rehearsals and events on the Symphonic Band calendar. Absences and late pickups may result in dismissal from the group — every part of the ensemble is essential to its success!
* Continue membership in band class at HJMS
* Practice all music for a minimum of 20 minutes per day 5 times a week at home.
* Have a positive working attitude during all rehearsals! I am very excited for this opportunity

that we have together as an ensemble to represent Herschel Jones Middle School!

* Pay the Symphonic Band Fee ($90). This includes the student’s field trips to both the Southern Star Music Festival at Six Flags and the Large Group Performance Evaluations.

**Forms and Fees:**

* January 10, 2022 – Due date for symphonic band commitment form and field trip permission form
* February 16, 2022 – Due date for all Payments (Payment information is available later in the packet and may be done in installments, please note that everyone that would like to take advantage of the opportunity is allowed to do so. If there are any concerns with the payments, please let me know)

**Symphonic Band Schedule:**

*All of the symphonic band rehearsals and performances are required to remain in good standing as a member of the group. We will use the following attendance policy:*

*Anything that would be considered excused from school (sickness, family emergencies, etc.) are considered excused from rehearsals. Documentation is required for any excused absence.*

*Sports are excused in this way:*

*Sports Game + Band Rehearsal = Go to the game*

*Sport Practice + Band Rehearsal = Attend Band Rehearsal (We have less rehearsals than most sports have practices, if there is an issue please communicate in advance)*

*Band Practice + Band Concert = Go to the band concert*

January 10, 2022 – Rehearsal from 3:45-5:00pm

January 24, 2022 – Rehearsal from 3:45-5:00pm

January 31, 2022 – Rehearsal from 3:45-5:00pm

February 7, 2022 – Rehearsal from 3:45-5:00pm

February 28, 2022 – Rehearsal from 3:45-5:00pm

*\*Please note: Mr. D has commitments at 6:00pm on these days. Students must be picked up on time.*

March 8, 2022 – Pre-LGPE Concert at PCHS (Time TBA)

March 15, 16, 17, or 18, 2022 – LGPE Performance at Carroll County Performing Arts Center (Date and Time TBA – We will release the specific date and time once the District Organizers finalize the LGPE schedule)

March 28, 2022 – Rehearsal from 3:45-5:00pm

April 25, 2022 – Rehearsal from 3:45-5:00pm

April 29, 2022 – Six Flags Day One (Performance Day) – Schedule will be sent out after the holiday break

April 30, 2022 – Six Flags Day Two (Park Day) – Schedule will be sent out after the holiday break

(The full HJMS Band Calendar can be found at www.hjmsband.weebly.com/calendar.html)

**Symphonic Band Fee Payments:**

All Symphonic Band payments will be done through RevTrak, our school district’s online payment system. **We are not able to take physical payments such as cash, checks, or money orders.**

Our optional Symphonic Band payment schedule is as follows. Please know that this is flexible other than the final due date, this is simply a suggested payment plan. The fee may also be paid in full at any time if you would prefer that option, the total cost is $90. Contrary to what may have been said in the past, at this time there is not a discounted ticket price for Six Flags season pass holders through the Southern Star Music Festival.

January 1, 2022 – Payment 1 $22.50

January 18, 2022 – Payment 2 $22.50

February 4, 2022 – Payment 3 $22.50

***February 16, 2022 – Payment 4 of $22.50 and/or Final Due Date for all Symphonic Band Fees ($90)***

RevTrak Instructions:

To properly pay for trip installments or the trip total, please follow the steps below.

Step 1: Visit RevTrak at either https://bit.ly/34PhXKL or [www.hjmsband.weebly.com/revtrak](http://www.hjmsband.weebly.com/revtrak)

Step 2: Click on “HJMS Band Field Trip”

Step 3: Enter the student’s name, homeroom teacher, and the name of the field trip (Band - Six Flags) into RevTrak

Step 4: Enter the desired payment amount, please note that the full payment of $90 is due before February 16, 2022.

Step 5: The receipt is emailed directly to us here at the school. Different from the past, there is no need to forward the receipt or print it to send with students.

Step 6: Please let me know if you have any questions at cdickerson@paulding.k12.ga.us

**Chaperone Information:**

Chaperones for Six Flags and LGPE will be contacted separately to register for their spot on the trips. Please note that 8th grade band parents/guardians get the first chaperone spots and 7th grade band parents/guardians get subsequent chaperone spots. These are chosen randomly by using a randomizer application and are based on availability. Everyone is welcome to attend both events!

The Chaperone Cost for LGPE is free and Six Flags is $80. Information will be sent to chaperones after the holiday break.

**Webpage:**

I have created a separate webpage that has all things related to Symphonic Band on it. This will be the best place to find information, make payments, and submit questions. This is available at <http://hjmsband.weebly.com/symphonic-band.html>

**Checklist**

**\_\_\_\_ Turn in the Symphonic Band Commitment Form and Field Trip Form by January 10, 2022**

**\_\_\_\_ \_ Pay the $90 Symphonic Band Payment by February 16, 2022**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_ Practice Regularly**

**\_\_\_\_ \_ Attend all rehearsals, concerts, and field trips**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_ Have fun!**

**HJMS Symphonic Band Commitment Form 2022**

My student(s) will be participating in the 2022 HJMS Symphonic Band. I understand the obligations that are outlined in the 2022 Symphonic Band Packet including the following:

* Attend all rehearsals and performances
* Turn in all forms
* Practice Regularly
* Follow all HJMS and PCSD rules/procedures and come with a great attitude!
* Pay the $90 Symphonic Band Fee by February 16, 2022

Student Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_