**WHMS Band Program: How It Works**

Our WHMS students are very lucky to have an exciting quality music program available to them. Please read over this form carefully, it has been put together to clear up some common misunderstandings about the program introduces our new for the 2013-2014 school year.

**Participation**

The exciting opportunity to create music in a band setting is an invaluable experience for anyone, and has a particular impact on the minds and social wellness of our youth. Music education contributes to the development of knowledge, skills, and attitudes that allow students to create, understand, and develop meaning in other subject areas and life. Music is a central component of school life at WHMS that participants continue to benefit from long after they leave.

**Students Who Take Music Are In Band!**

Our program provides all music students with the opportunity to learn a band instrument and experience playing in at least one band each year they are enrolled in music. Each grade level has it’s own band that performs at school concerts, festivals, and other events. Extra-curricular opportunities are also available to music students through the Concert Band, Jazz Band, and Westview Band. These groups meet outside of school time and benefit from additional enrichment and performance opportunities.

**Instruments in Band**

Students in a band program play: flute, piccolo, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, bass clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, french horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba, double bass, and percussion. Many students come with prior experience on guitar, piano, and drums. Students have the opportunity to play these instruments in Jazz Band and will have an additional instrument for other band settings.

**What Our Program Costs To Run**

Music students are provided with an instrument, instrument supplies, music, a band shirt (to keep), a year of professional music education, instrument clinics, and more! The school board provides Mr. Reid for instruction during class time; additional costs are managed by the AVWH Band Parents Association. This group of dedicated parents gets its funding through fundraising and registration fees.

The cost of running our program for the 2013-2014 school year is projected to be approximately $136 per student.

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| **Expense** | **Per Student** |
| Instrument Repair and Purchases: | $36 |
| Instrument supplies (reeds, slide grease, valve oil, pads, etc):  | $31 |
| Sheet Music and method books:  | $7 |
| Other Equipment | $2 |
| Band Uniforms | $7 |
| Clinics and Workshops | $9 |
| Scholarships | $9 |
| Travel and Event Registrations | $25 |
| Business/Banking/Licenses | $2 |
| Administrative | $8 |
| Total | $136 |

**Our New Fee Structure**

Fees are a necessary source of income to keep our program running, and partially cover our expenses.

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| **Fee** | **Who** | **How Much**  | **Due** |
| Registration | All Students | $50 | May 31st, 2013 |
| Rental & Supplies | Students Renting an Instrument | $75 | September 30th, 2013 |
| Supplies | Students Not Renting an Instrument | $20 | September 30th, 2013 |

Fundraising is the other essential source of funding. We generally raise $10,000 a year or approximately $50 for each student in the program.

**Volunteering**

We hope that you will become an active volunteering member of our community, our students need you! Parents and guardians will be provided a list of ways they can contribute (organizing, baking, chaperoning, etc.) When parents can’t contribute through volunteering we see a direct impact on fundraising and the costs of operating the program. To compensate for the associated loss in fundraising income, parents and guardians that aren’t able to volunteer are asked to pay $50, for which a tax receipt will be issued.

**The Band Parents Association**

When you register your child in the program you automatically become a member of the AVWH Band Parents Association, which supports both the WHMS and Avon View High School music programs. Meetings are normally on the second Monday of each month at 7:00pm. Specific dates and locations are printed in the school calendar. We hope you will come out to see how things operate, and contribute to decision making. The fantastic group of people on our executive team won’t be around forever, come on out and join the team!

**Financial Support**

We want to work with you to provide your child with the opportunity to benefit from our program. Alternative payment options can be arranged (ex. paying monthly), and we will be providing a fundraising opportunity to help you save money. A limited number of bursaries are available to help in situations where families are not able to contribute.

**Value!**

Keep in mind the amazing value you are getting for the minimal program fees. Instrument rental alone would cost between $140 and $1000 for the year (depending on instrument type) if you were renting from a music store. Music lessons would cost well over $1000! Your child will develop skills, relationships, and learn lessons that will benefit them for a lifetime. We hope you will seriously consider this opportunity for your child.

**Registering**

It is important that all students in band are registered with the Band Parents Association. Forms will be sent home with those children who sign up for music, and a registration date will be set in the spring.

**Contact**

Please get in touch if you have any questions!

**Mr. Steve Reid, WHMS Band Director**

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Phone: 757-4112

**Kerry Bowness, AVWH Band Parents Association Registrar**

Email: blossom663@msn.com

Phone: 866-0504

**Mr. Ted Woundy, Avon View Band Director**

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