

## **Oct. 7 band parent meeting minutes**

Thank you to everyone who was able to come, very nice to meet everyone and start to put names to faces.

Due to the late start to the school year we are hitting the ground running even more than usual, I do not have all of the information for the whole year yet so please stay posted to the website and emails to keep informed about band events.

**Website** – romsmusic.weebly.com - has now been updated, please check it out and let me know if there is any missing information that you would like to see included. All handouts that have been given to students so far can be found on the website.

### **Course overviews**

- please review course outlines posted on the website (will be handed out to students in coming weeks if they haven't already)
- Students are committed to band and to sticking with their chosen instrument for the full year
- A large part of student mark is based on performance on their instrument, at-home practice is key to their success
- Goal-oriented learning log (found on the website) takes the place of a practice record. There is a practice record portion although no parent signature is required. Parents are asked to encourage students to practice regularly and ensure instruments are coming to and from school between each band rehearsal. \*forgot to mention at the meeting, I will try to send a quick email home if a student is not prepared with their instrument for class.
- It is student's responsibility to know their band schedule. Find this information on the website, post on the fridge, locker, calendar etc.

### **Jazz Band and Choir**

- These are extra-curricular music clubs. Tentative plan is to have choir (open to all students) 1.5 times/week until winter break. First meeting next week. Jazz band (invitational, mainly grade 8s) would start after Christmas break, 1.5 times/week. Rehearsals take place during lunch break.

### **Concerts**

- Remembrance Day, Nov. 6 – Gr. 8s
- Winter band concert, Dec. 8 – all band students
- Whistler trip, Apr. 23-26 – gr. 8s
- Year end band concert, May 21 – all band students
- Gr. 7 festival performance, TBD (Port Alberni? Other local festival?)
- Gr. 6 district band mini-festival, late Spring TBD
- Elementary school tour – gr. 8s, Spring TBD
- Possibly other opportunities, TBD

**Uniform** – thank you for reminding me! \*please note change from what was said in the meeting based on student feedback this morning\*

- All band students need black pants, black shoes, black socks and black shirts! All black for everybody!
- Collared shirts for boys, collar optional for girls but something nice, let's look sharp!
- Vests/ties will be provided

### **Fundraisers**

- Would be great to get one or two parents and one or two students to lead each fundraiser.
- Would like to limit the amount of class time spent dealing with fundraisers
- Majority of fundraising to be put towards gr. 8 band trip, gr. 8s expected take the lead with fundraisers, gr. 6/7 students pay it forward and fundraise for the program and grade 8 trip, future gr. 6/7s will help fundraise for them when they are in gr. 8.
- Some fundraising ideas:
  - o Magazines – let's get these boxes out of my office!
  - o Coupon books – already done by other groups so probably not
  - o Level ground coffee
  - o Poinsettias
  - o Scrap Metal
  - o Calzones
  - o PAC request
  - o Donations
  - o Concession/silent auction/bbq at band concerts
- Please contact me if you would like to take the lead in organizing one of these fundraisers or if you had done so in the past and have information to pass on.

### **Parent volunteer opportunities**

- Any contribution you are able to make to the band program, large or small, is greatly appreciated. Please let me know if you would be able to take on any of the following duties at some point this year.
  - o Organizing/maintaining uniforms
  - o Fundraising
  - o Chaperoning for band trips
  - o Supervision before/after band concerts
  - o Set/up take down at band concerts
  - o Photographer/videographer

### **Grade 8 band trip** – a few grade 8 parents stayed after to discuss the grade 8 band trip

- As long as there is enough student interest (which I think there will be) I would like to take the grade 8s to the Whistler Con Brio band festival, Apr. 23-26.
- I will send out a notice soon with more details about the festival, we will need a minimum of 25 students to demonstrate their interest by submitting an initial deposit of \$150-200.

- Total cost if all students participate is approx. \$590 per student. If the minimum of 25 students participate the cost would be approx. \$660 per student. Final payment will be due in February.
- Fundraising will help to offset the per student cost.
- More info to come on this.