

FAIRFIELD WOODS MIDDLE SCHOOL
FAIRFIELD, CT

December, 2016

Dear **Eighth Grade** Parents,

The **8th grade Orchestra, Chorus, Band and Chamber Choir** will perform in the **Fairfield Woods auditorium on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 7:00PM**. The FWMS auditorium seats 600, and we expect nearly 300 students to perform in this concert. To ensure that everyone gets a seat, please arrange to use two seats or fewer for your family. We understand it may be disappointing for some relatives to miss this performance. Online video streaming will be available and more information will be issued to students by Concert Week.

The 6th Grade Concert will take place on Thursday January 12th, 2017.

The 7th Grade Concert will take place on Tuesday January 10, 2017.

Students are required to attend their rehearsals and concerts in order to fulfill the requirements of the performing group. Rehearsals are mandatory and graded.

Chorus	Ms. Frawley	periods 1 & 2
Chamber Choir	Ms. Frawley	period 3
Orchestra	Mrs. Labrecque	periods 4 & 5
Band	Mr. Brookes	periods 6 & 7

Please do not schedule outside-school appointments on the concert day.

Band and Chorus Boys: dress pants, dress shoes, button down shirt and tie. Any color.

dress,

Band and Chorus Girls: dress pants, or knee length skirt AND tights. Dressy shirt or blouse, any color.

Orchestra Boys: Black pants and shoes, white shirt and a tie of any color.

Orchestra Girls: Black dress pants, or knee length skirt AND tights. White shirt or blouse.

On the concert night, students should report to the following areas:

Band	Band room	6:40 pm
Orchestra	Orchestra room	6:15 pm
Chorus once/week	Chorus room	6:15 pm
Chorus 3/week	Chorus room	6:45 pm

Students performing in more than one group will receive further instructions in class. In order to develop mutual respect among our performing groups, all students are expected to remain until the end of the entire concert. If you have any questions regarding the Winter Concert Series, feel free to email your child's music teacher.

Thank you for your help. See you at the Concerts!

Sincerely,

Geoffrey Brookes, Band Director
Carole Jean Frawley, Chorus Director/Chamber Choir Director
Cheryl Labrecque, Orchestra Director

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CONCERT ETIQUETTE

The following is a list of helpful information regarding appropriate concert behavior:

- **ARRIVE ON TIME:** Allow sufficient time to arrive and be seated before the performance begins.
 - **IF YOU ARE DELAYED,** wait for the end of a selection and the start of applause to enter and be seated. This shows consideration for the performers and fellow concert goers.
- **ATTEND THE COMPLETE CONCERT:** All of the performers have worked hard to prepare the program. Plan on seeing them all perform. If you must leave during the performance, please wait for an intermission to avoid disrupting fellow concert goers.
- **DO NOT TALK DURING THE PERFORMANCE:** Instruct the members of your group that a concert is not the place to hold a conversation. The background noise generated distracts those around you. Conversations are appropriate during periods of applause and intermissions.
- **APPLAUD ONLY AT THE END OF A PIECE:** Wait for the conductor to lower his/her hands completely at the end of a selection. If the conductor's hands remain raised after the ensemble has stopped playing, it means that the piece has additional movements, which the conductor will begin shortly. Watch for this signal that all movements of a piece have been completed by the lowering of the conductor's hands to express your enjoyment through applause only.

Yelling out, shouting, and whistling are not appropriate forms of applause.

- **DO NOT BRING FOOD:** Be sure that all members of your group have eaten prior to arriving at the concert. The noise generated by candy and food wrappers is distracting and inconsiderate of the performers and fellow concert goers.
- **TAKE PICTURES AND VIDEOTAPE FROM THE SIDE AISLES OR THE REAR OF THE AUDITORIUM:** Picture taking and video recording at other locations obstruct and distract those around you. Please do not walk to the front of the performing area in order to photograph your child.
- **ESCORT YOUNG CHILDREN AT ALL TIMES:** The behavior of young children should be supervised at all times, including the entry and exit of all young children in your group from the auditorium. Children should remain in their seats throughout the performance. If the child must leave, please escort him/her during periods of applause or intermission.
- **TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES:** If absolutely necessary, please make sure that they are on a silent mode.
- **STAY SEATED AND REMAIN QUIET:** The performers have all worked very hard in order to prepare for this performance.