
ELEMENTARY BAND MEMO

J: EVERGREEN FOREST & SEVEN OAKS BAND PARENTS
FROM: JOHN THEINE, BAND DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: MARCH BAND CONCERT
DATE: 3-5-2024

Hi folks. Well, it's HERE! Our biggest concert of the year is coming up! For this concert, we will be combining the bands from Seven Oaks, Lydia Hawk, Evergreen Forest, and Woodland Elementary Schools into one huge 5th grade band as well as having the 6th grade band and jazz band from Nisqually Middle School the jazz band from River Ridge High School perform. We are so big that we cannot fit on the stage at the River Ridge High School, so our concert will be in the gym at RRHS. Because we have so many schools, with three different directors, we will be having a rehearsal with all the 5th grade students before the concert starts.

Here are the main details of this event:

Event: Nisqually Zone-Young Band Festival
Date: March 21, 2024 (Thursday)
Place: RRHS **GYM**
Rehearsal Starts at: 5:30 PM (please be here between 5:00 and 5:15...go to the gym)
Rehearsal Locations: RRHS Gym
Concert Times: 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM

We will have plenty of high school students helping organize this event and making sure that this experience is a positive one for your students. However, we won't turn anyone away who is willing to help reset the gym after the concert.

It is very important for your student to attend...the whole point of getting together and rehearsing music is to perform it!!! We really need your student to be there. As parents, it is important to encourage your student in their musical endeavors. Attending your student's concert and expressing your pride in the wonderful job that they will do goes a long ways towards that encouragement goal...especially for 5th graders. *Also, because they will be "on stage" during the entire concert, it will be less distracting if we do not have anyone leave early...please plan on staying for the entire concert.*

While our main goal is to have fun and perform well, we do need to impress on our students that this is a formal concert, not a sporting event or some other social activity. We will be talking with the students about behavior on stage and off, but we need your help to make sure that they are dressed appropriately. "Sunday Best" is the key phrase...please no words or large pictures on their clothes (small floral-type print patterns are OK). We would prefer no jeans at all but will be OK with that if jeans are the best they have. Mainly, we want the students to present themselves at their best when we perform and clothing is a big part of that. The less distracting their clothing is, the better. Also, no food or drink please as that creates more of a mess than a concert is worth (water is OK). And lastly:

YOUR STUDENT WILL NEED TO BRING THEIR OWN MUSIC STAND!!!

(There are just too many kids involved in this concert to do this any other way...please make sure that their stand is marked with their name on it. Masking tape on all separate parts works best!)

5th grade (Please circle→) EF **SO**

My band student, _____ ☐ Will attend the concert.

Signed (parent/guardian): _____ ☐ Won't attend the concert. The reason for the absence is:

There will be band students from RRHS wear bright yellow vests to help you and your students find your way around in our construction mess. Look for them and don't be afraid to ask for help...that's what they are there for!

Construction & Parking Info For RRHS:

- To DROP OFF your student, you can enter RRHS from Martin Way via River Ridge Dr. This will bring you into the "front" of the school. Stay in the left hand lane on River Ridge Dr. and go straight towards the Aux Gym/Main Gym complex on campus. We will have signs out for a drop-off point and your student can go into the "tunnel" and then turn right to go into the gym.
- Parking can either be...
 - ...in the lot in the front of the school where the drop-off is located and you can walk in through the same entry point that students being dropped off enter through.
 - ...in the back of the school in the big gravel student parking lot.
 - To get there,
 - turn south onto Hoh St. off of Martin Way (the stoplight at the OBee Credit union, one stoplight West of River Ridge Dr. on Martin Way).
 - Follow Hoh St. until you reach the new entrance to the school on the left.
 - Drive in past the sports field and the parking lot will be on your right.
 - There will be signs out for the band concert showing you where to go as well as a couple of high school kids to help guide you in.
 - The path to the Gym goes in-between the large building on the East side of the campus and the school building in the center. Look for the signs and students there.

Students can be dropped off in the front of the school or can walk in with you from either parking area (front or back). The front parking is closer to the Main Gym where the concert will be located.