

# Beginning Band Updates & Concert Information

## Updates:

Dear Parents of Beginning Band Students:

Our beginning band students are doing very well! Our woodwind section is 33 clarinets and 11 flutes strong, and our brass has almost reached an impressive team of 25! So far this year, students have learned how to assemble their instruments, how to form a proper embouchure and how to play 5-6 notes. With that preparation, plus a little fine tuning on other things like tone production, proper breathing, counting, posture, listening, musicianship, and more, we will take our band “on the road” to play in our first concert! It always amazes us how quickly the students move from knowing nothing about their instrument to playing in a concert, usually in a span of just 2 ½ months!

## **\*\* Winter Concert for Band – December 14, 2011 \*\***

As a reminder of our school year performance calendar (included in your initial beginning band packet from orientation night), we will join the Redwood Middle School bands and Color Guard for our annual Winter Concert on **Wednesday evening, December 14, 2011**. *Please double-check your calendars for this important night. Performances are the primary importance of our practice, and it is absolutely necessary for our students’ motivation and musical growth to perform. As part of their music curriculum and education of appropriate audience etiquette, students are expected to remain for the remainder of the concert to develop their range of musical experiences and breadth of knowledge as listeners, which directly feeds back into their proficiency as performers.*

**Dress guidelines** for our upcoming concert on December 14, 2011 are as follows:

### **Gentlemen:**

- Dark pants (black is best)
- Dark socks, dark dress shoes
- A nice shirt with a collar and some buttons (i.e. dress shirt, button down shirt, even polo shirt)
- Tie is optional
- Please no jeans, (not even black jeans), no tennis shoes, no t-shirts, and no white socks.

**Ladies:** A nice dress and shoes (such as what you would wear to a nice restaurant)

If you have questions or if this poses a difficulty for you, please contact Mrs. Sutterfield or Mrs. Dugan.

***Students should be dropped off at the SHS McAfee Theater at 6:00 PM on concert night. Audience seating will open at 6:50 PM. Parents are encouraged to return a little before then to get seats. Please join us for a night of great fun and fun music!***

## **A Note on West Valley Music**

In other news, if you have rented an instrument from **West Valley Music**, please note that *West Valley Music* will visit *Argonaut Elementary* on the first Tuesday of each month at the beginning of band for student purchase of supplies, instrument trade-ins, or whatever other business you may have. Please send a check or exact change with your student. If you need something between those times, please contact Mrs. Sutterfield to make arrangements.

## **Happy Holidays!**

As always, if you have any questions or comments about your student, please contact us!

**Please sign and return the 2nd page so that we know our letter has reached home. 😊**

Sincerely,

Mrs. Dugan, Brass [becky@dogoodmusic.com](mailto:becky@dogoodmusic.com)

Mrs. Sutterfield, Woodwinds, [Lauri@Sutterfields.us](mailto:Lauri@Sutterfields.us) 408-621-0554

\*\*\*\*\*

**Please return this page only**

My student and I have read and understand the December concert newsletter. We will be at the SHS McAfee at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, December 14, 2011 in concert dress and with instrument and music in good working order!

Student Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_