

Our Lady of Good Counsel High School

Music Parent Meeting Information – Monday, September 14, 2009

I. Band, Chorus, String Agreement Forms

- please review course syllabi for music courses on individual teacher websites
- teacher websites can be found by logging into the parent and/or student portal at www.olgchs.org and clicking on the class that your child is in. Project descriptions, grading rubrics, and other useful information can also be found on these class websites.
- Students in the music program are expected to practice a minimum of 30 minutes 5 days per week for homework. Instrumentalists should bring their instruments to and from school each day they have class. Information is forthcoming about online practice logs that will be completed by students.
- There is a list of private instructors for most instruments, including voice, on the music boosters website, www.goodcounselmusic.org. Lessons are encouraged, and some teachers come to GC and teach after school.
- The agreement form will be posted on www.goodcounselmusic.org. Please print the form and send it in with your child by Monday, Sept. 21.

II. Concert Dress

- Please view the concert dress details for all performing groups at www.goodcounselmusic.org under **Calendar of Events**.
- Money will be collected for purchased uniform items over the next couple of weeks and will be due on Oct. 1. Please write the student name in the memo so it can be credited properly.
- We are trying to form a concert dress committee that will be responsible for maintaining concert dress. Please sign up if you're interested.

III. Trip

- Each year in the spring we travel to a music festival to perform, compete, and be evaluated by a panel of nationally recognized adjudicators. The trip this year is from Wednesday (evening), April 14 through Sunday, April 18.
- The site of our trip is based upon availability of destinations for our trip weekend, the quality of the performance venue, the adjudicators, and overall educational value of the activities offered.
- Our trip this year will to Toronto, Canada. The cost for each student as it stands right now will be about \$650.00. The cost for chaperones will be \$550.00. This cost is ALL-INCLUSIVE. It includes transportation, lodging, all meals, recreational activities, and festival participation fees. The payments will be collected in 4 installments, the first payment due on October 14.
- The Wind Ensemble, Advanced Percussion, and Honors Chorus are required to participate in the Spring Trip. The Symphonic Band, String Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, Women's Chorus, and Gospel Choir are invited to participate and perform as long as enough students attend to make a viable ensemble.

IV. Music Booster Association

- Music Booster meetings will be held twice per semester this year. We are looking for interested parents to come to the meetings and support the music program as well as serve as an executive committee. Meetings are TBD.
- There are several tasks we are looking for parents to help with such as decorations for concerts, uniform fittings and sewing, chaperoning GC football and basketball games with the marching band, and chaperoning the annual trip in April. If you are interested in helping with any of these, please come to the next booster meeting when announced and/or send Mr. Taylor an email after looking at the volunteer signups.

IV. FedEx Fundraiser

- The Music Booster Association runs one concession stand at FedEx field for all home Redskins games. Students and their families can work at games to earn money to support the costs of maintaining the music program as well as earn money towards their trip. We currently need at least 50 student and adult volunteers at each game to run the booths successfully.
- At this time, students under age 16 are not permitted to work, but we are confident that this rule will be changed soon. In the mean time, their parents may work to earn credits for their child's trip.
- The music program at GC is one of the most expensive programs in the school and this fundraiser can generate up to \$50,000 for the program in one year. Each year students and families that work at these games earn money toward the cost of their trip. The extra funds were used to make equipment purchases for the music program such as instruments, sheet music, new music stands, and music folders.
- For detailed information on how to volunteer, please go to www.goodcounselmusic.org and click on FedEx.
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Many thanks to all of you who support the music program in every way. We look forward to working with you to make this year a great success!