

HUNTINGTON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of Fine and Performing Arts

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Dear Fourth Grade Parents,

Welcome to the Huntington Schools Music Performance Program. I hope you and your child are enjoying instrumental lessons at your elementary school. I am writing to you to clarify the schedule for the large group band and orchestra rehearsals which do not start for fourth graders until November 30th. The Woodhull 5th graders have already started their rehearsals at the High School, and some of our fourth grade parents thought they were starting now, as well.

Beginning on November 30th and every Tuesday following, the Flower Hill and Washington band and orchestra students will rehearse at the High School from 8:00 AM until 9:05 AM. Jefferson and Southdown band and orchestra students will rehearse every Thursday, from 8:00 AM until 9:05 AM, beginning on December 2nd.

Parents are asked to drive their children to the High School. The music teachers will give you a "music security pass" to place in your windshield so that you will not need to stop at the High School Security booth. If you cannot provide car transportation to the High School, you may have your child ride one of our music shuttle busses to rehearsals every week. Each bus stops at one of our elementary buildings, picks up the music students waiting outside and proceeds directly to the High School. There is a shuttle bus from Flower Hill, Jefferson, Southdown, Washington and Woodhull at 7:45 am, and a shuttle from Jack Abrams at 7:50 am.

Students are dropped off in front of the High School, by the sidewalk awning. A security guard will monitor traffic and teacher aides will greet the students at the door (to the right of the main entrance,) and guide them into the auditorium or rehearsal room. The rehearsal rooms in the music wing are right next to the auditorium and separate from the academic hallways. Elementary arrival and departure times take place while the HS classes are in session, so there is no high school "traffic" in the hallways at that time. Elementary students may use the faculty bathrooms. I welcome you to stop by the High School any Wednesday or Friday morning to observe the successful procedures currently in place for the 5th grade rehearsals. I am confident that you will be very comfortable with the exciting and safe atmosphere our

students are enjoying in our beautiful high school. They are thrilled to watch the High School students rehearsing while they unpack their instruments.

At 9:05, the students will board busses and be transported back to their elementary schools. Students will be assigned a specific bus, attendance will be taken, and head counts done before departure. Students who play large instruments will not have to bring their home instrument to rehearsal. We will have extra instruments at the High School for their use.

I hope this clarifies any questions that you may have about this year's program. Feel free to contact me at any time for further information. Please visit the current rehearsals on Wednesdays or Fridays if you would like to see the program "in action!"

Sincerely,

Joan R. Fretz