

May 18, 2015

To Parents/Guardians of Fifth Grade Students:

In order to prepare for their sixth grade year, all sixth graders must choose a music elective: Band or Choir. For truly dedicated students, Olmsted Falls also offers a shared Band and Choir experience. In order to ensure a successful Band experience, your child should have played in the fifth grade band or plan to take six to eight weeks of private lessons prior to the upcoming school year. Please refer to the additional information below as it relates to Band and Choir.

To simplify course elective selection for your child, the music elective choices are included on the link below. After discussing the elective choices with your child, please indicate the selection by completing the online form by Friday, May 22, 2015.

Please discuss these choices carefully with your child. As our community and enrollment continue to grow, staffing may be determined by your selections. Therefore, scheduling accuracy is a must. Scheduling changes beyond the first five days of the new school year will negatively affect a student's grade.

Please call Mrs. Suvak, our sixth grade guidance counselor for next year, at 427-6221 or me at 427-6201, if you have any questions or need additional information.

<http://goo.gl/forms/IUqPijiW9l>

Sincerely,

Mark E. Kurz
Principal



Dear Fifth Graders and Parents of Fifth Graders,

When you come to the Middle School next year, you will be required to take band, choir, or band and choir. We thought it would be helpful to know a little more about the classes. These are commonly asked questions by fifth graders:

- 1. Do I have to come in early, stay late, or give up recess time to be in choir or band at the middle school?
No. You will be scheduled into band and choir the same way you will be scheduled into math, science, language arts, gym, etc. Band and choir meet during the regular school day.**
- 2. How many concerts do we have? 2 - 3 per year**
- 3. Does our grade in choir and band count in our grade point average?
Yes. Most students earn A's and B's in choir and band.**
- 4. Do I have to sing by myself in choir?
Only if you would like to. In sixth grade, you'll sometimes sing privately for the teacher to test your highest and lowest notes. Solo opportunities are available to those who are interested.**
- 5. I was not in fifth grade band. May I still join sixth grade band?
Yes. However, 6-8 instrument lessons over the summer are recommended to help you catch up and to avoid frustration.**
- 6. I was not in fifth grade choir or have never been in choir before. May I still join sixth grade choir?
Yes! Middle School choir is designed to fit your changing and untrained voice. You'll quickly catch up.**
- 7. I would like to be in choir and band in sixth grade. May I do this?
Yes! We offer this option to our most dedicated students.**

Olmsted Falls has a strong tradition of musical excellence. We invite you to become a part of this program and look forward to working with you next year.

Sincerely,

**Mr. Feller
Mr. Faulkner
Middle School Band Directors**

**Mrs. Kiedrowski
Mr. Patterson
Middle School Choir Directors**