

WEST RUNNING BROOK & GILBERT H. HOOD MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Sixth Grade Elective Classes



April 2010

Dear Prospective Sixth Grade Band or Chorus Member and Parents/Guardians:

It's time to start thinking about middle school! In this letter you will find information regarding the music programs at West Running Brook and Gilbert H. Hood. **All students and parents should review the information, sign the form, and return it to your elementary school classroom teacher no later than Friday, May 28, 2010.**

6th Grade Elective Classes Include Band or Chorus

We offer band, chorus and two select ensembles at WRBMS and GHHMS. The bands and choruses are divided by grade level. At West Running Brook ONLY, students can be in both band and chorus on an alternate day schedule. They may also audition for select chorus and jazz band at both schools.

Instruments: Both schools accept all standard band instruments. You must contact Mrs. Johnson or Mrs. Lalos immediately if you are interested in joining band for the first time or are unable to afford the rental fees of an instrument. We have very few school instruments available, but we may be able to accommodate you if given enough notice. Private lessons during the summer are *highly* recommended to help beginners catch up.

Note: 6-string guitar is not a band instrument. However, students who are taking guitar lessons are encouraged to audition for after school jazz band. We do have a limited number of spots available for bass guitar. Students who are currently playing bass guitar and would like to continue should have their parents contact Mrs. Johnson or Mrs. Lalos.

Performances: Band and chorus students will participate in the annual winter and spring concerts. Students will be eligible for the State, District and Honors music festivals. Band students will also march in the Derry Holiday Parade and Derry Memorial Day Parade.

Important! Elective classes are a **year long commitment**. There is an add/drop period during the first two weeks of school in which students may decide to drop the elective, yet this process is not encouraged. After the two-week period, requests to drop will likely be denied. Extreme circumstances may be reviewed at the teacher's or parents' request. Students who choose band or chorus will receive three other Unified Arts classes during the year.

We appreciate the serious thought you have put into this. Please e-mail or call one of the directors listed below if you have any questions. We are very excited to have you join the music program at our middle schools!

Sincerely,

West Running Brook

(603) 432-1250

Gilbert H. Hood

(603) 432-1224

Jodi Lalos

WRB Band Director
jlalos@derry.k12.nh.us

Blake Leister

WRB Chorus Director
bleister@derry.k12.nh.us

Emily Johnson

GHH Band Director
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Danielle Green

GHH Chorus Director
dgreen@derry.k12.nh.us

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I wish to have my child enroll in:
(Please check one option)

A. _____ CHORUS

B. _____ BAND His/Her instrument is _____



Please read information on "Instruments". Band students should have an instrument by the first day of the 2010/11 school year or should contact the band director.

C. _____ CHORUS AND BAND (Students going to WRB only)

D. _____ NEITHER - I do not wish to have my child enrolled in either band or chorus.

Student Name (please print)

Current Elementary School

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Phone number

Parent E-mail (optional)