**NORWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIFTH GRADE HONOR BAND GENERAL INFORMATION PACKET**

Welcome to the Norwood Public Schools Fifth Grade Honor Band. We are looking forward to another exciting year of working with Norwood’s best young instrumentalists. The following is a list of rehearsal and performance procedures and guidelines. Please read the following information thoroughly and sign and return the attached contract. Our group’s success is dependent on the commitment of all of our students.

1. Rehearsals are held at the Prescott School on Tuesdays from 3:15 -4:45 pm.
2. Please drop off your child at gym door number 4. In order to minimize confusion with the busses, please **pull into the parking lot and drive all the way around back following the arrows**.
3. Rehearsals end promptly at 4:45. Please pick up your child at the front entrance to the building ON TIME. For the safety of your child, I will not leave the school until all students have been picked up. However, please understand that I have obligations after rehearsal and must leave the building as soon as possible. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated in this matter. I ask that you not come into rehearsal as it can be disruptive to the students.
4. Prescott School students are to report directly to the cafetorium after school. They may have a snack and should do homework until rehearsal starts.
5. Attendance is MANDATORY. The student musicians will be learning a lot of very difficult music at a rapid pace and it will be difficult to catch up from a missed rehearsal. They have made a commitment to this group and their attendance is vital for the success of the group. Students with more than two unexcused absences may be asked to leave the group. Absence Procedures are listed below. Please review the procedures and then sign the rehearsal contract before you leave.
6. In case of an emergency or absence due to illness, please contact the Prescott School, 762-6497 BEFORE 2:30. Mrs. Croak, the secretary will give me the message. If it is more convenient, you may also reach me by email, at [elorance@norwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:elorance@norwood.k12.ma.us) before 2:30pm with the absence.
7. Please be aware that homework and/or school projects will not be considered excused absences. This is an honor ensemble and we expect the students to keep up with their school work.
8. Conflicts will be handled on an individual basis. Please speak to Mrs. Lorance at least **one week prior** to the conflict to discuss and make arrangements.
9. In the event that after school events are canceled due to inclement weather, there will be an announcement made at each school. Your child will be allowed to call you from school to let you know. Please have a back-up plan ready.
10. There will be no rehearsals on half days.
11. Please check with your child for notices after rehearsals. I tend to give out one notice a month until the concert season starts and then logistic packets for each concert will go out each week. Notices will also be posted on my school webpage: [www.norwood.k12.ma.us/subsite/pst/teacher/574](http://www.norwood.k12.ma.us/subsite/pst/teacher/574) and also on my google classroom.
12. Music must be kept in a folder. Musicians must bring a pencil (not pen) to rehearsal
13. Our concerts are currently scheduled. Exact times will be provided at a later date as schedules are finalized.

March 23, 2017– Instrumental Classic Concert

April 1, 2017 – M.I.C.C.A. Instrumental State Evaluation☺

April 8, 2017 – Fine Arts Festival (location TBD)

May 5, 2017– GREAT EAST Festival Date Tentative

May 12, 2017 – NHS Pops Concert

May 24, 2017 – All Town Elementary Instrumental Night

☺Groups receiving a gold medal at MICCA are invited to perform at Symphony Hall in Boston or Mechanics Hall in Worcester on April 9th or 15th. One of these dates is during the April Vacation window. Please help to prepare your children that it is very difficult to get a gold medal at MICCA and getting silver or bronze are just as impressive.

Great East is our field trip in early May. More details will be made available to you as soon as possible. Please note that there will be a fee associated with this additional performance to cover travel, cost of the festival and t-shirts. It will cost somewhere in the vicinity of $100 per student. There will be a payment plan and possible fundraiser. Please do not worry about this yet. Thank you for your patience in this matter. I will provide you with more details as soon as they are available.

1. CONCERT DRESS! (required for all performances)

FORMAL CONCERT DRESS ATTIRE:

GIRLS: Solid white BLOUSE (not off white, cream, polka dotted, or any other variation.) Short or long sleeve.

Black LONG skirt or dress pants. NO skirts above the shin, NO patterns.

Black socks, nylons, or tights,

Black appropriate dress shoes.

BOYS: Solid white BUTTON DOWN shirt (Oxford style) and tie of your choice.

Solid Black dress pants

Black socks

Black dress shoes

CASUAL CONCERT DRESS ATTIRE: (Only to be worn for Great East Festival and possible performance at the Fine Arts Festival.)

Blue Jeans, Gold Honor Band T-shirt, socks, and sneakers.

STUDENTS NOT IN CONCERT DRESS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PERFORM!

**Norwood Public Schools**

**Fifth Grade Honor Band**

**Rehearsal/Performance Contract**

By signing the contract below you and your child both affirm that you have read and understand the rehearsal and performance guidelines as stated in the General Information Packet.

I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ understand that my attendance at

(student’s name)

all rehearsals and performances is vital to the success of the Fifth Grade Honor Band. I have read the procedures for absences and I understand that failure to obey the procedures listed may result in my dismissal from the Honor Band.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_