



Music Department

COLD SPRING HARBOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brent Chiarello, K-12 Music Coordinator

(631) 367-6880 Music Office

January 26, 2017

Dear 6th Grade Parents,

Happy New Year! The time of year is fast approaching where your child will begin making decisions for his or her 7th grade course of study. Each student at the Jr. High School will be involved in the school music program. This opportunity is made available to all incoming 7th graders as they are recommended for one of the following placements: instrumental performance (Band or Orchestra), Chorus, Instrumental/Chorus split or General Music. The attached Course Assignment Sheet provides descriptions of the courses that comprise the Junior High School Music Program. In the coming weeks the Guidance Department and Administration of the Jr./Sr. High School will be visiting the 6th graders to discuss the opportunities they will have in the 7th grade. On February 28th at 7 PM in the Jr./Sr. HS PAC, the annual Incoming 7th Grade Parent Orientation meeting will be held. Parents and students are welcome to this meeting. Later on this school year, your child will have the opportunity to visit the Jr. High School and become acquainted with the building and the school's instructional program.

Please feel free to speak with your child's music teacher or me to answer any questions. Please return the form to your child's music teacher by Friday, February 3rd. I wish all students the best for a productive, successful experience in the Cold Spring Harbor Jr. High School music program!

Yours truly,

Brent Chiarello
K-12 Music Coordinator

CSH JR. HIGH MUSIC COURSE ASSIGNMENT SHEET

Student Name	Current school (WS/LH) and class	Instrument (if applicable)
Student's Choice	Band or Orchestra Teacher's Signature	General Music/Chorus Teacher's Signature

Cold Spring Harbor Jr. High Music Courses for 7th grade students, 2017-18

Wind Ensemble (Band) or Orchestra

The Wind Ensemble and Orchestra program is available to the Junior High student who demonstrates a desire to continue studying a band or string instrument and be a part of an exciting grade level wind ensemble or orchestra. Through classroom and public performances, the student acquires knowledge of progressively difficult written notation, as well as technical facility, and music literature. Orchestra and Wind Ensemble meet every other day and a small-group rotational lesson is offered every 6 day cycle. Participation in the Winter and Spring Concerts, rotational lessons and other performance opportunities are required. Practicing at home is also required.

Pre-requisite: A responsible and committed member of the elementary band or orchestra.

Chorus

Chorus is a performing ensemble for students who love to sing. Units of study include vocal technique, solfege and sight singing. Choral repertoire will include music from classical through popular style periods, including music from around the globe and in varying world languages. Chorus meets every other day and a small-group rotational lesson is offered every 6 day cycle. Participation in the Winter and Spring Concerts, rotational lessons and other performance opportunities are required.

Wind Ensemble or Orchestra two days per cycle

The two days per cycle option is available to students who wish to perform in both an instrumental and the vocal ensemble (band and chorus or orchestra and chorus). These students should be highly motivated to perform in both ensembles. These students will meet with their instrumental ensemble two days per cycle and their chorus once per cycle. They will be required to attend rotational lessons once per cycle alternating between their two groups.

Pre-requisite: A responsible and committed member of the elementary band or orchestra and chorus.

General Music

General Music introduces junior high students to the basic elements of music theory and music history through a combination of written and experiential lessons. Music theory focuses on topics such as clefs, notation, scales, rhythm, meter, instrumentation and beginning ear training. Music history fosters an appreciation of diverse styles and genres including classical, jazz, Broadway and modern. Students develop listening skills through guided analysis and interpretation. This class is designed for students who are not in a performing ensemble.