



ORCHESTRA

Evelyn Champion, Director

www.NorthwesternMSMusic.org/Orchestra

Orchestra Notes - August 2022


Hello Northwestern Orchestra parents and students! We have had an outstanding first few weeks of school and I'm so happy that your child is part of our award-winning Orchestra program. Your child's middle school years are the beginning of a lifetime of music, and I know we are going to have a great school year together!

Each month I will send out 🎵 **Orchestra Notes** 🎵 with news, announcements, and links to handouts by email. Please take a moment to look at everything. Not every item will apply to every musician, so please feel free to ask if you aren't sure. I will include the links to the individual [handouts and post them on the Orchestra website](#). Students will also receive the information in print during class.

CALENDAR DATES

[The 2022-2023 Orchestra calendar](#) is posted on the Handouts page of the website. Please don't be overwhelmed by the calendar- the only person who has to go to all of those dates is.....me! The lines that are highlighted blue are the most important- these are the three evening concert dates. Our first concert and picture night is for **Tuesday, October 25th, 2022**. You will receive a detailed concert letter a few weeks in advance. I have posted the Orchestra syllabus and weekly lesson plans in Teams.

REMIND

I use  **remind** to communicate important timely messages to students and parents. Please take a moment to sign up for the Remind for your class (parents AND students with a phone should sign up). You do not have to download the app. The letters stand for **N**orthwestern **M**iddle **S**chool **O**rchestra- so be sure to use the letter 'o' and not a zero. Text the class code below to recipient **81010**. If you have trouble, try texting the code to (916) 409-3906. You must use the @ before the code. (You don't have to download the app to receive text messages.)

Class code for Sixth Grade: @nms06 or <https://www.remind.com/join/nms06>

Class code for Seventh Grade: @nms07 or <https://www.remind.com/join/nms07>

Class code for Eighth Grade: @nms08 or <https://www.remind.com/join/nms08>



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USING ONLINE SCHOOL PAYMENTS

NMS is a cashless school- we use [Online School Payments](#) for everything. PLEASE be sure you always scroll to the very bottom to find **Orchestra** line items as the list is very long and alphabetical. I am unable to make refunds for payments accidentally made to to chorus or band, and I am unable to transfer money from the band or chorus school accounts. Keep in mind many of the band and chorus items look VERY similar to ours, like All State, MUSICON, T-Shirts, etc. Look for this photo of stringed instruments next to each Orchestra item (this doesn't always show up on cell phones) to make sure you are using the correct item link. Thank you!



MORNING PRACTICE

The Orchestra room is open daily at 8:05 for morning practice. As soon as the building opens, students are welcome to practice independently or with friends, ask for help, complete theory book recovery, etc. Any instrument adjustments or repairs must be done before school, as there is not enough class time.

HONOR ORCHESTRA

I encourage ALL eighth graders to audition and participate in the Georgia Music Educators Association District V Honor Orchestra- we are learning the audition material in class and will have clinicians come in to help on the audition material as well. The two dates are **October 15th** and **March 25th**. Any 7th graders who are taking private lessons and can play three octave scales are also welcome to audition for Honor Orchestra. [The information letter is posted on here on the Handouts page.](#)

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MUSICON

We are kicking off our MUSICON fundraiser today! Haven't received the letter? Please find another copy here: [Handouts/Notes](#) The deadline is **Friday, September 16th**. For extra incentives, any grade level that meets their goal will earn a popcorn and soda party the day after our Fall Concert (while we watch the concert video). Any class that has 100% participation will earn homemade Rice Krispies Treats! **Please sure to use the correct link in OSP, and doublers with chorus or band should SPLIT their donations between the two groups, using two different OSP links.**

Please bookmark the [Orchestra website](#) and if you need to contact me, please use champione@fultonschools.org. I am looking forward to a great year in Orchestra and I will see you at Open House on August 30! 🍌

Thank you,

Mrs. Champion