**Symphonic Band 2014-2015**

Welcome to Symphonic Band! My name is Emily Desautels, director of Band, Jazz Band, the school musical, General Music, and Performing Arts classes at CMS. If you ever need to get in contact with me, please email me at **desautelse@csdvt.org**. Please take a look at the CMS music website **http://www.cmsmusicdepartment.weebly.com**.

**The add/drop period for Chorus and Band ends Friday, September, 12th.** Please see me for an add/drop form. All students enrolled in ensembles after September 12th are committed through the end of the school year. Extreme circumstances will require a parent meeting with an administrator.

**Concert Dates** (Choir dates included) **– *add these to your calendars today!***

* 6th, 7/8th, and Jazz Band Concerts- **December 16th** and **May 21st**, both at 7pm CMS Gymnasium
* CSD Band Concert- **TBD Mid-March on a Saturday**, 11am CHS Gymnasium (most likely on the 14th)
* CMS School Musical- **April 9th and 10th**, 7pm CHS Theater

**Grading** – **The 3 P’s:*****P****articipation: 50%,* ***P****reparation: 40%,* ***P****ractice Logs: 10%*

Student’s grades will be comprised of, but not limited to the following:

-Musical and Material Preparation

-Practice Sheets

-Performance Assessment

-Positive Behavior and Attitude/Active Learning

-Small Lesson and Full Rehearsal participation

Concert attendance will also be included in trimesters coinciding with band concerts

**Rehearsals**

* We will meet in full ensembles **Fridays**: 7/8th grade band during Activity 1 time (7:37-8:21am), and 6th grade band during Activity 2 time (8:23-9:07am). PLEASE BE PROMPT TO YOUR FULL ENSEMBLE TIME, AS REHEARSAL TIME IS LIMITED. *These lesson times will switch each trimester.*
* Small group lessons will occur on A and B days by band during periods 8, 9, and 11. These lessons are scheduled into your student’s personal schedule, and are not optional. Please make sure your student knows which day (A or B) they have small group lessons.

**Practicing (Band Homework)**

Since our rehearsal time is limited together as an ensemble each week, it is imperative students create a practice routine at home. Please know practice sheets must completed weekly, and also need to be signed by a parent/guardian. I understand students are busy during after school times, so I ask students to **practice at least 60 minutes per week**, **minimum 3 days/week**. Please connect with your student frequently regarding practicing at home, as these practice sheets are the ‘homework’ of band, and count towards 10% of the overall band grade.

Practicing can consist of (but is not limited to): practicing music for a concert, preparing for the District Music Festival audition, scales, new notes/percussion rudiments, and/or new music from a method book. Even if a student is under the weather or is without their instrument, they should still practice fingerings of notes/ rudiments with an ‘impromptu’ instrument (like a pencil or two spoons).

**Method Books**

I will be placing an order through Ellis Music Company for all method books. Please send in a check with your student made out to Colchester Middle School to cover the cost of the book. If you are unable to pay for the cost of the book, please let me know (desautelse@csdvt.org) as there are sufficient funds to cover these circumstances. If you plan to, or have already purchased the book elsewhere, please let me know and I will return extra copies to the company.

Grade 6: Essential Elements 2000 Book 2 (red) - $7.99 / *Percussion- $14.99*

Grade 7: Essential Techniques 2000 Book 3 (green) - *$7.99* / *Percussion- $14.99*

Grade 8: Rubank Advanced Method Book 1- $6.95 / *Percussionists will receive supplemental materials at school*

**Concert Dress**

December: School-appropriate black on bottom, white on top, with black (or close to black) shoes, socks or stockings.

March and May: Blue CSD Music shirts. Order forms will go out in February.

>>Parents and students: please read and sign this form<<

**Expectations**

**1.** I will come to each rehearsal quickly, quietly and ready to create music with my peers.

**2.** I am responsible for my own materials at the beginning and end of rehearsals.

**3.** I will bring a pencil, my folder with my music, and my instrument to class to ***every*** rehearsal.

**4.** I am responsible for the safety and care of my own instrument only.

**5.** I will ask pertinent questions, and will listen actively during rehearsals, even if Mrs. Desautels is working with another section of the band.

**6.** I will be honest with my practice sheets and turn them in on a regular basis. I will get these signed by a parent/guardian before turning them in, and understand it is my responsibility to get blank practice sheets when I need them.

**7.** I understand it is my responsibility to speak with Mrs. Desautels after class or at another time if I have additional questions or concerns.

**----------------please sign, detach and return only the *bottom half* of this form by Friday, September 12th ---------------------**

**I have read the expectations and agree to follow them for the entire school year.**

Student Name (print and sign) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian (print and sign) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Information-** *please fill out at least name, phone, and email*

**Name**(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone**(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Email**(s):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­\_

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* I would like to receive the Friends of Colchester Music Newsletter via email.
* I would like to become a member of the Friends of Colchester Music organization.

-for more information please contact **Marie Bouffard at** [**friendsofcolchestermusic@gmail.com**](mailto:friendsofcolchestermusic@gmail.com)

- take a look at FCM’s website/blog!! **http://friendsofcolchestermusic.com**

I am willing to help with:

* + concert set up and cleanup
  + fundraising organization
  + fundraising distribution

Additional Notes: