

ELLICOTT MILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

4445 Montgomery Road • Ellicott City, MD 21043 • 410-313-2839 • (F) 410-313-2845 •
emms.hcpss.org



Dear Parents/Guardians of 5th Grade Students:

Welcome to Ellicott Mills Middle School! This letter will help guide you and your child through the selection process for 6th Grade **Music Performance**. After reading this letter, we encourage you and your child to discuss his/her strengths and interests to ensure a successful transition to middle school. Complete the attached form and return it to your child's current 5th grade teacher by **January 21, 2020**.

Music Performance: Music Performance options are Band, Chorus, or Orchestra. Students who are enrolled in Band, Chorus, or Orchestra at EMMS will participate in music sectionals. This means that in addition to the ensemble class, students will be pulled out for sectionals from their other classes on a rotating schedule.

To register for **Music Performance**, all parents must complete the attached form. You may also opt out on the attached form. When considering **Music Performance**, students and parents should carefully weigh the workload of the additional class. It is important to note that students who are scheduled for a **Reading and/or Mathematics Seminar** may have fewer options regarding participation.

A more detailed description of the Middle School Program of Study is on the reverse side of this letter.

If you have questions about any of the courses, please do not hesitate to contact:

- Office of Fine Arts – Visual Arts 410.313.6634 / direct e-mails to Gino_Molfino@hcpss.org
- Office of Fine Arts – Music 410.313.6885 / direct e-mails to Terry_Eberhardt@hcpss.org

EMMS would like to highlight that prior participation in Band, Chorus, or Orchestra is not a requirement for participation in our **Music Performance** programs. For more information about EMMS **Music Performance** programs, please visit: www.emmsmusic.org.

For questions regarding scheduling, please contact our school counseling office at 410.313.2844.

Sincerely,

Peter Gaylord

Peter M. Gaylord
Principal

Attachments:

Middle School Schedule Detail (reverse side)
6th Grade Registration Form

PMG/jlj

Middle School Schedule Detail

- All students receive daily instruction aligned to Maryland's College and Career-Ready Standards in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.
- Maryland regulations require:
 - All students to take Health Education (a quarter long course scheduled every other day for half of the year), Physical Education (scheduled every other day for the entire year), and a Fine Arts (Art and/or Music) course each year.
 - All students to take Family and Consumer Science in either 7th or 8th grade to complete the financial literacy requirement.
 - All students to complete at least one Innovation and Inquiry Reading Module related to career readiness or receive this information through another course.
- Students who are reading on or below grade level will take at least one quarter of reading in 6th grade.

<p>The Middle School schedule consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Language Arts • Mathematics • Science • Social Studies • Related Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fine Arts (Music Performance, General Music, and/or Art)* ○ Health Education ○ Physical Education (every other day, all year) 	<p>*The Fine Arts requirement can be fulfilled through the following classes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Music provides students with a deeper understanding of the language of music and how it relates to and impacts our lives and cultures through the study of four main strands: keyboard, guitar, world music drumming, and music technology (One quarter in the Related Arts rotation). • Music Performance (<i>Band, Chorus, or Orchestra</i>) provides students the opportunity to develop technical skills and personal interpretations and to perform expressively and collaboratively through experiences with varied musical works (Full year elective with pull-outs). • Visual Arts educates, informs, and involves students and the school community in meaningful child-centered experiences that develop artistic behaviors, critical and creative thinking, and the exploration of personal artistic meaning. Disciplines covered include: drawing from observation, imagination and memory, painting, sculpture, printmaking, and crafts. (One quarter in the Related Arts rotation).
<p>Students may also choose to take:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Language to develop globally relevant literacy skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Daily in 7th and 8th grade • Performing Arts (year-long Band, Chorus, and/or Orchestra) 	
<p>Some students may also take:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Related Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Art, General Music, Family and Consumer Science, Technology Education • GT Research or Seminars/Interventions in Reading and/or Mathematics • Innovation and Inquiry Reading Modules 	

6th Grade Registration Form

Complete and return to your child's current 5th Grade homeroom teacher by January 21, 2020

Student Name: _____
Please print clearly

Classroom Teacher: _____
Please print clearly

Parent/Guardian Name: _____
Please print clearly

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Contact Phone for Parent/Guardian: _____
Please print clearly

Music Performance:			
<i>Students may decide to continue their participation in their chosen field of interest, which includes sectionals and required after school performances. <u>(SELECT ONLY ONE)</u></i>			
_____	Band	Instrument:	Years Experience**:
_____	Orchestra	Instrument:	Years Experience**:
_____	Chorus		Experience**:
_____	Opt Out		

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