

**WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC AT  
MT HARMONY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
2018-2019**



- Band classes meet twice a week on a rotational basis. A schedule is posted in the school and each student is given his/her own schedule in their book. Students are responsible for getting to band classes at the scheduled time. Students are also responsible for making up missed work in the regular classroom while they are attending band classes. **Classes start on Wednesday Sept. 12, 2018 for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students who have played for one year. Classes for Beginning Students start on Mon. Sept. 17, 2018. Band and Strings Days at Mt Harmony Elem. are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.**
- Each music student must purchase a Band or Strings books. All ***Band*** students need to purchase **Accent on Achievement, (Book 1)**, by O'Reilly/Williams, published by Alfred. All ***Strings*** students need to purchase **Essential Elements for Strings EE1**, (Book 1), by Michael Allen, published by Hal Leonard. These books can be purchased at school (*I will make them available*) or at the music store of your choice. The books (*with a folder*) will cost **\$10.00** if you buy them at school. If you make this purchase through school, please pay by cash or a check payable to ***Mt Harmony Elementary School.***
- All students must **Practice** to learn how to play a musical instrument. It is advised that students practice 10-30 minutes at least 4 times a week. A practice record will be checked by the teacher to reinforce good practice habits in the beginning stages of learning how to play an instrument. Students will receive a progress report 4 times a year.
- All students need to supply a wire music stand for home practice. Woodwind students need to supply reeds for their instrument, and brass students need to supply valve oil for their instruments. All Strings students must supply strings, shoulder rest, and rosin for their instruments. These items can be purchased at the music store of your choice. At MHES clarinet reeds are available at school for **\$2.00** & and alto sax reeds are available for **\$2.50**.
- If you have any concerns or questions about the band/strings program, please email or call and leave a message for the teacher to contact you.
- The first performance of the **Band and Strings** will be the **Winter Concert** scheduled on **Thurs. Dec. 13, 2018** at 6:30PM at **Huntingtown HS Auditorium**. A **Spring Concert** is scheduled for **Wed. May 29, 2019** at **Huntingtown High School Auditorium**. Other performing opportunities: **Community Concert** – “*Ringing in the Holidays*” at NHS Craft Fair – **Sat. Dec. 8, 2018 at 11:00am**, **All-County 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors Band & Strings** on **Thurs. Feb. 14, 2019** at Huntingtown HS Auditorium and **County-Wide Elementary Solo & Ensemble Festival** on **Sat. March 9, 2019** at Sunderland Elementary School.
- You can participate in Band and Strings from grades 4-12.
- **<http://mhes-ses-bandstrings.com>** – MHES/SES BAND-STRINGS WEBSITE
- **Email for Mrs. Gross:** grossj@calvertnet.k12.md.us

**Please** encourage your child, especially at the beginning when it doesn't sound pleasing to the ear. I promise it will get better with practice!!