

Agenda – BOPs Middle School Meeting  
Thursday, October 29, 2015, 7:30–8:30 pm

- **Introductions (Joe Brennan, Alex Gittleman, Dana LaRosa, Alison Hicks, Helene Bouilland Rachko)**
- So why is the study of music important? There have been numerous research studies that show a direct correlation between musical study and verbal competency, motor and auditory skills, reasoning abilities and problem solving.
  - Findings in a 2009 study featured in the Journal of Neuroscience showed that musical experience for as little as 15 months can lead to structural brain changes and result in improvements in motor and auditory skills.
  - A Stanford University study showed that mastering a musical instrument improves brain processing in areas associated with language development, and may have implications for improving language/reading skills.
  - In addition to cognitive skills, study in the arts develops character traits such as discipline, perseverance, teamwork, patience, self-control, problem solving, and empathy.
- **Uniforms**
  - Take your child's home if you haven't already
  - Boys – bow tie in inside pocket of jacket
  - For size changes, let Mr. Gittleman or Mr. Brennan know ASAP
- This year is not a **“Trip Year” for 7/8 band and orchestra** -- trip years alternate MS–HS.
- Hand out **concert calendars**

- Volunteer Opportunities
  - MS BOPS Liaison
  - Concert chaperones
  - PMEA parent chaperone (clearances needed)
  - Uniform Fittings -next year
- **Joe:** orchestra, concert dress, Spring Trip, PMEA – 5/6 String Fest Feb 10, 7/8 String Fest March 5 – Delaware County Youth Orchestra/Delco Young Musicians Orchestra.
- **Alex:** Band, Jazz Band, Jazz Fords, Spring Trip, PMEA, etc. Dress code
- **BOPS:** (Dana LaRosa): Uniforms, instruments, scholarships, Doghouse, help with HS scheduling.
- **Communications** (Alison): website HHSmusic.com, middle school page, emails [HaverfordBOPS@yahoo.com](mailto:HaverfordBOPS@yahoo.com).
- **Upcoming Meetings: 2015 BOPs general meetings are Wednesday, January 20, and Tuesday, May 3.**
- **BOPS fundraising**
  - TRIP ACCOUNTS**
  - GIFT CARDS** (Ruth Anne Yakscoe)
  - KID STUFF** coupon books (Helene Bouilland Rachko)
- Support your child's musical activities
  - GO TO CONCERTS
  - Private lessons
  - Support practice