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Welcome to “The Swinging Hawks” Middle School Jazz Band! I’m thrilled that you will be participating with us this year! For the best Jazz Band experience, please read the following guidelines for the ensemble:

**Rehearsals:**

* Every **Thursday from 2:45pm – 4:30 pm**.

(Please see the rehearsal schedule on the back)

* Rehearsals will be held in the **Middle School Band Room.**
* **ALL** rehearsals and performances are mandatory, unless a prior arrangement is made with Miss Saul. If it is necessary to miss a rehearsal (medical, family emergency, etc.), provide a written excuse at least one week prior to the absence. If it is a medical emergency, a Doctor’s note will be required, no later than one week following the absence.
* **Two unexcused rehearsals will result in the removal from the group.**
* Students who CAN’T get a ride home no later than 4:45pm need to go home on the LATE BUS.
* Please provide a written note if your student needs to ride the Late Bus, walks home or if someone other than a parent is picking them up at the end of rehearsal.
* If the student participates in a Sport, Club or after school activity and it conflicts with Jazz Band Rehearsal please see Miss Saul to make arrangements.

**Performances:**

* **Super Jazz Middle/High School Jazz Festival @ Oley Valley Middle School:** Saturday Feb. 25th 1:00pm-5:30pm
* **Community Performance:** April/May TBD (School Day Performance)
* **HAMS Spring Concert:** Monday, May 15th 2017 at 7:00PM HS Auditorium
	+ **Spring Concert Dress Rehearsal:** During the Day on Monday, May 15th 2017
* *other events may be added with adequate notice given to participants.*

\*The HAMS Music Program adheres to the following statement regarding public performances:
*Members of performing musical organizations are to be present at all performances*, *except in the case of personal sickness, death in the family, an act of God,* *or extenuating circumstances pre-approved by the Director and/or Principal.*

**Music and Folders:**

* You will be provided with all parts and a folder
* It is your responsibility to bring all music AND A PENCIL to all rehearsals
* **You will be held financially accountable for any lost copies of music**

**What is expected of you?**

* Instrument, accessories, all music, and a pencil. **All items** listed should accompany you to **all rehearsals**.
* Know your notes and rhythms. Rehearsal time is for the **group**; *please practice your part at home*!
* Listen. One of the best and most effective ways to learn the jazz style is to listen to recordings of well-known artists. A list of jazz artists will be distributed for your reference.
* Bring a positive and supportive attitude. As this is a new experience for some students, we need to present our best efforts and create a comfortable space for everyone to experiment!

If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the email address or phone number provided below. I’m looking forward to the 2016-17 year with the “The Swinging Hawks” Middle School Jazz Band!

Sincerely,
Miss Carey Saul
4th-6th Grade Band
610-562-2241 Ext. 3814
carsau@hasdhawks.org

 **2016- 2017 Swinging Hawks Rehearsal Schedule:

Thursday, October 20th: 2:45pm-4:30pm First Rehearsal
Thursday, October 27th: NO REHEARSAL
Thursday, November 3rd: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, November 10th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, November 17th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, November 24th: NO SCHOOL/NO REHEARSAL
Thursday, December 1st: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, December 8th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, December 15th: NO REHEARSAL – Tilden Winter Concert
Thursday, December 22nd: NO REHEARSAL – HS Winter Concert
Thursday, January 5th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, January 12th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, January 19th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, January 26th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, February 2nd: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, February 9th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, February 16th: 2:45-4:30pm
Thursday, February 23rd: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Saturday, February 25th: SUPER JAZZ FESTIVAL Meet at MS 1:00PM-5:30PM
Thursday, March 2nd: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, March 9th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, March 16th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, March 23rd: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, March 30th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, April 6th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, April 13th: 2:45pm-4:30pm TBD - SNOW MAKE-UP DAY-Spring Break
Thursday, April 20th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, April 27th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, May 4th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
Thursday, May 11th: 2:45pm-4:30pm
MONDAY, May 15th: Dress Rehearsal During School Day
MONDAY, May 15th: Hamburg Area Middle School Spring Concert 7:00pm – HS Auditorium
Thursday, May 18th: Tentative Community Performance – During School Day
Thursday, May 25th: Brief last meeting of the year during Flex Period AM**

**\*\*\* Rehearsal schedule is subject to change.
Events may be added with adequate notice given to participants.**