SmartMusic Handout – 6th Grade

Dear Parents, August 26, 2014

We are excited to announce that the Heineman Band program will be using SmartMusic again this year! **SmartMusic is an interactive practice software that gives your child instant feedback while they practice at home.** And they have fun while doing it!! SmartMusic not only makes your child sound better, it gives them a sense of accomplishment and confidence that can change their view of themselves and their potential.

**What does SmartMusic do?**

* Practice along with the full band and method book
* Speed up or slow down the music for practicing
* Finds mistakes while you play
* Shows you correct fingerings
* Records a student playing for playback
* Submits assignments
* Tuner and Metronome
* Now available on the iPad!

**How will this be used in class?**

SmartMusic will be up on the projector during every band rehearsal and will be used to highlight excerpts from the music, demonstrate fingerings, and we will use it to practice as a group. We can also use the program to play professional recordings of our band music, record ourselves, and evaluate our performance.

At home the students will use SmartMusic to practice their music and submit quarterly playing assignments. All students will be required to submit assignments through SmartMusic that will be included in their final grade. However students can try as many times as they like before they submit their final assignment! This will allow us to identify those students who are struggling and help us create a suitable intervention.

**Is this required?**

Yes this program is required just like the method book. We started using this program at Heineman last year, and it was a great success. The students who purchased the subscription had a better grasp on their instruments and were more proficient than those who did not purchase the subscription. Marlowe and the High School have successfully used this program for the past four years and it has elevated their musical skill by at least a grade level. Not only does it improve skill, but it will be used to make up missed lessons, submit required playing assignments, and to give opportunities for extra credit. If you cannot purchase the subscription, please contact me. Jcharles@district158.org

**Purchasing Information**

When purchasing SmartMusic you are purchasing a subscription service, similar to a magazine subscription, but the software is free. Therefore students can use their SmartMusic subscription on any computer that has the software. The cost per year of your SmartMusic subscription is $40. You can purchase and download at: <http://www.smartmusic.com/> See the back side for further instruction.

Looking forward to a great year!

Jenny Charles jcharles@district158.org

**SmartMusic should be purchased by Tuesday, September 2nd**

***Keep this page out for your records!***

**Step by Step Guide on How to Purchase and Download SmartMusic**

**Purchasing the SmartMusic Subscription:**

1. Go to: <http://www.smartmusic.com/products/students/>
2. Click the orange button that says “Buy Now”
3. Add a student subscription to your cart
	* If your computer does not have a microphone you can also purchase one on this page.
4. Click “Check Out”
5. If you don’t have an account click “Create A New Account”
	* Enter the Students Information
		+ You must change your students birthdate so they appear to be 13 years old. Enter the year 2000.

Fill out below what you entered:

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Username:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Password: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* + **6th graders only:** If your child does not have a student email yet, you may use the student’s personal email. It should be the same one they used in 5th grade. If not, we will update it when they are issued an email.
	+ **7th and 8th graders: This should be the student’s information not the parent’s information!** Please have your student use their school email.
		- The student’s school email is firstname.middleinitial.lastname@student158.org. For instance the email of, John Q. Adams, would be john.q.adams@student158.org
1. Fill out the billing information and continue to purchase.

**Downloading the SmartMusic Software:**

1. Go to: <http://www.smartmusic.com/>
2. Click on the orange button that says “Download SmartMusic”
3. Follow the steps to download the software.

**SmartMusic should be purchased by Tuesday, September 2nd**