



September 5, 2017

Dear Semiahmoo Grade 8 Band Parents (and parents new to the Semi Band Program),

Welcome to the Semiahmoo Music Family! We are so excited to have your son/daughter join the music program. This school has had a long tradition of producing exceptional ensembles and musicians, and we are sure that your son/daughter's band will soon continue this tradition.

In effort to conserve paper, the bulk of our start-up information and materials are posted on the music program's website www.semiahmoomusic.ca. Please refer to this site throughout the school year for current information on upcoming music department events such as concerts and tours, fundraising and general meeting dates.

What we promptly need from you:

- Read the information about the Semiahmoo Music Society on the back of this sheet.
- Go to the music program website: www.semiahmoomusic.ca
- Click the **Student Registration** link and fill out and submit the online **Student Registration Form** by **September 18, 2017**. Once registered you will be on our mailing list to receive email communications pertaining to the music program.
- If you have any questions about the registration process, please contact registrar@semiahmoomusic.ca
- Click the **Music Department Documents** link
- Read through the **Music Department Handbook**:
 - *The music department handbook is where you will learn about our program's philosophy, our many ensembles, our expectations of students and how they will be evaluated, as well as our year at a glance.*
- Fill out and print the **Medical Form** which is to be submitted directly to the music directors. If you prefer you can email it directly to lowe_d@surreyschools.ca. The form must be signed. (This form is on the Music Department Documents page of our website: semiahmoomusic.ca)
- Provide your student with black dress shoes (soft soled, non-skid, no spike heels), black dress pants and black socks for the Fall Concert on October 25, 2017 at 7:30 pm. Black jeans and running shoes are not appropriate for our concerts. The rest of their uniform (shirt, tie, vest or jacket if applicable) will be distributed in class by our uniform team.
- Stay informed! Join our Facebook page, Instagram, and Twitter accounts and keep your eye on our website! www.facebook.com/semiahmoomusic; www.instagram.com/semiahmoomusic; www.twitter.com/semimusic;

Important Meeting for Parents/Guardians to Attend: September 14, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

- Meet the band teachers and the Semiahmoo Music Society executive
- At this meeting we will be going over aspects of the music program and introducing the **Smart Music Program** that all grade 8 band students will be subscribing to.

Note: There will be translators available at this meeting to assist with information regarding the music program & SMS.

We look forward to meeting with you soon,

Dagan Lowe (Music Department Head)
Kevin Lee (Music Director)
Sarah Kennedy (Music Director)

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lee_k@surreyschools.ca
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INTRODUCING THE SEMIAHMOO MUSIC SOCIETY

WHO WE ARE

The Semiahmoo Music Society (SMS) is operated by committed parents at Semiahmoo Secondary School and raises funds throughout the year to ensure that the music program can continue its tradition of excellence in music education and performance. SMS works together with parents, teachers, administrators, and the local community to nurture and develop over 375 student musicians in three concert bands and five jazz bands.

2017/2018 Executive

President	Jazz Mattu	president@semiahmoomusic.ca
Vice-President	Robert Drew	vicepresident@semiahmoomusic.ca
Treasurer	Greg Verret	treasurer@semiahmoomusic.ca
Secretary	Heidi Schmid	secretary@semiahmoomusic.ca
Fundraising	Janet Loewen	fundraising@semiahmoomusic.ca
Uniforms	Nicole & Charmaine Kauser	uniforms@semiahmoomusic.ca
Communications	Linda Stanley Wilson	media@semiahmoomusic.ca
Sponsorships	Andrew Hudson	sponsors@semiahmoomusic.ca
Volunteers	Charmaine Skepasts	volunteers@semiahmoomusic.ca
Bottle Drive	Harry Bohan	bottledrive@semiahmoomusic.ca
Director at Large	Ursula Lee	director1@semiahmoomusic.ca
Director at Large	Shelley Jankola	director2@semiahmoomusic.ca
Student Representative	Sophie Hao	studentrep@semiahmoomusic.ca

GOALS OF THE SEMIAHMOO MUSIC SOCIETY (SMS)

At the beginning of each year, every family in the Semiahmoo Music Program is expected to join the Semiahmoo Music Society and contribute either \$50 (Grade 8 and 9) or \$75 (Grade 10-12). This contribution is used to:

- support the educational goals and philosophies of the music department's directors.
- ensure that every music student is able to participate in program-related activities regardless of individual financial means.
- award scholarships and bursaries which support our students' music education and professional careers.
- help defray the cost of registration fees for local, national, and international festivals, tours, and competitions.
- purchase and maintain uniforms in all grade levels for both concert and jazz band students.
- purchase sound & lighting equipment, music scores, instruments and learning resources to provide the most current music education experience for our students.

BECOME A MEMBER OF SMS AND...

- Play an active role in your student's development in music
- Be part of planning the opportunities our students have to travel and perform
- Provide opportunities for your student to earn money with Society sponsored fund-raising which can help offset music tour and performance costs
- Encourage students to participate in individual fund-raising for their travel accounts administered by the Society
- Seize the opportunities for your student to meet renowned musicians who collaborate with our directors for on-site clinics
- Volunteer for chaperone team for Department Tours
- Participate on SMS Executive
- Exercise your voting privileges at Society meetings