

23 September 2010

Dear Band Parents,

This year, all EWG Band students will be required to submit assignments via Smartmusic, an online computer program that doubles as an assessment tool. With nearly 300 band students, I hope you can understand my interest in a program that collects all assignments for me in one place!

SmartMusic is designed to allow students to practice at home with interactive accompaniment. The program provides the students with immediate detailed feedback regarding their performance. All the student has to do is set up a microphone and begin practicing. Their performance is recorded into the computer for analysis by both Student and Teacher.

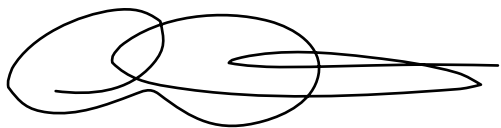
All EWG Band students WILL use this program in band class, so I am requiring them to have their own copy at home. The purchase price is very affordable – a one year home subscription is \$36.00. It is necessary to have an internet connection for Smartmusic to work because this is how students submit assignments.

Visit <http://www.Smartmusic.com>, or see the link on the band website to order the program. For convenience, you may either download the program, or Smartmusic will send you a CD copy of the software. Also, Smartmusic accepts all major credit cards. I am willing to arrange financial sponsorship for any student in need, so please contact me to make arrangements.

You can also choose to purchase a microphone and other accessories. A microphone is required for recording, Intelligent Accompaniment, tuning and assessment. Most computer microphones will work with SmartMusic, so it is NOT necessary to purchase a microphone from smartmusic – you can easily purchase a microphone at Walmart, Bestbuy, or other big box technology stores.

As always, if I may be of assistance in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me by email: Gregg_Charest@ewg.k12.ri.us, or by telephone (401) 397-6898 ext. 43. I look forward to seeing you at our first concert, November 21, 2010 at 3pm. See you then!

Highest Regards,



Mr. Gregg R. Charest
Director of Bands
Exeter-West Greenwich Jr/Sr High School

EWG Jr/Sr High School Music Department
930 Nooseneck Hill Road
West Greenwich, RI 02817
(401)397-6898 ext. 43