



Higgins Band
2018 - 2019 Handbook
Online at www.higginsband.org #bandpride



Higgins Middle School Band

Mike Giannopolo, Director

85 Perkins Street

Peabody, MA, 01960

giannopolom@peabody.k12.ma.us

www.higginsband.org

Dear families and friends,

It's a pleasure to welcome you to the 2018 - 2019 school year. I hope that you've had a restful and enjoyable summer, and are as excited as I am to kick off another year of music-making at Higgins Middle School!

Thanks for encouraging your child to be a part of our band program. Playing a musical instrument and being part of an ensemble is truly a life changing experience. Our band program has a long and proud tradition. It's an honor to work with your children as they continue their musical journeys. I humbly request that you please be an active participant in your child's music education. Ask them how rehearsals are going. Remind them to practice. See that they have the materials that they need to be successful. Most importantly, ask them to play for you. They are eager to please, and your encouragement is vital to their success as individual musicians, and to a greater extent, to the success of our ensembles.

Please visit our web site at **www.higginsband.org**. There you will find nearly everything you need to know about our band program. Performance dates for the entire school year are listed on the Calendar page, so please plan accordingly. Please click "handbook" for an electronic copy of the 2018 - 2019 Higgins Band Handbook. After viewing the handbook, parents/guardians are kindly asked to take a moment to complete and submit the Band Contract, which you will also find on the handbook page. A paper version can be found on the opposite side of this letter. *Electronic completion of the contract is preferred*, but if internet access is not available, you may send the completed form to school with your child.

Thank you again for being a part of the Higgins Band program. Please feel free to contact me throughout the year with any questions or concerns.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. J. Giannopolo', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Mr. Giannopolo

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2018 – 2019 HIGGINS BAND CALENDAR

WWW.HIGGINSBAND.ORG/CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5: FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13: JAZZ ENSEMBLE OPEN REHEARSAL, 2:30 -3:15

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14: HANDBOOK CONTRACTS, SECTION LEADER APPLICATIONS DUE

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18: JAZZ AUDITIONS, 2:30 – 4:30

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20: JAZZ AUDITIONS, 2:30 – 4:30

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2: FIRST JAZZ ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL **JE**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16: FIRST GREAT EAST PAYMENT DUE **7B/ 8B**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1: FIRST SEMESTER PLAYING TESTS DUE **8B**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4: PVMHS/HIGGINS BANDS COLLABORATIVE REHEARSAL/PERFORMANCE , PVMHS AUDITORIUM, 7:00 PM **8B**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21: FIRST SEMESTER PLAYING TESTS DUE **7B**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21: “DECK THE HALLS...WITH JAZZ,” 7:30 AM **JE**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22: 6TH GRADE WINTER CONCERT, 7:00 PM **6B/JE**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23: 7TH GRADE WINTER CONCERT, 7:00 PM **7B/JE**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24: 8TH GRADE WINTER CONCERT, 7:00 PM **8B/JE**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31: MOCK JUNIOR FESTIVAL AUDITIONS, 2:30 - 3:20 PM **RS**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2: NORTHEAST JUNIOR DISTRICTS AUDITIONS, TENNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL, METHUEN **RS**

-CALENDAR, CONTINUED-

FRIDAY, MARCH 22: FINAL GREAT EAST PAYMENT DUE **7B/8B**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27: JUNIOR DISTRICTS REHEARSAL, 3:30 – 7:30 PM **RS**

FRIDAY, MARCH 29: JUNIOR DISTRICTS REHEARSAL, 3:30 – 7:30 PM **RS**

SATURDAY, MARCH 30: JUNIOR DISTRICTS REHEARSAL/CONCERT, ALL DAY **RS**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3: “AN EVENING OF JAZZ CONCERT,” 6:00 PM **JE**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1: SECOND SEMESTER PLAYING TESTS DUE **8B**

TUESDAY, MAY 7: MAJE NORTHEAST JUNIOR JAZZ FESTIVAL **JE**

FRIDAY, MAY 10: GREAT EAST FESTIVAL, SIX FLAGS NEW ENGLAND **8B**

THURSDAY, MAY 30: SELECT ENSEMBLES SPRING CONCERT, 7:30 PM **JE**

SATURDAY, JUNE 1: SECOND SEMESTER PLAYING TESTS DUE **7B**

MONDAY, JUNE 3: 6TH GRADE SPRING CONCERT 7:00 PM **6B**

TUESDAY, JUNE 4: 7TH GRADE SPRING CONCERT, 7:00 PM **7B**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5: 8TH GRADE SPRING CONCERT 7:00 PM **8B**

7B: 7th Grade Band

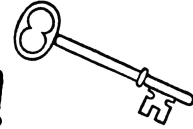
8B: 8th Grade Band

JE: Jazz Ensemble

RS: Recommended Students

All events take place in the auditorium at Higgins Middle School unless otherwise indicated.



Communication Is Key!



VISIT OUR WEB SITE, WWW.HIGGINSBAND.ORG

- A "THIS WEEK IN BAND" FEATURE THAT IS UPDATED EACH FRIDAY AND INCLUDES A LISTING OF REHEARSALS, AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES, QUIZZES AND OTHER EVENTS FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEK
- A SEPARATE PAGE FOR EACH ENSEMBLE THAT INCLUDES SOUND CLIPS OF CURRENT MUSIC FOR STUDENTS TO LISTEN AND PRACTICE ALONG WITH; IMPORTANT DATES; PHOTOS; AND SECTION LEADER INFORMATION
- A COMPREHENSIVE YEAR-LONG CALENDAR THAT INCLUDES ALL PERTINENT DATES
- A "CONTACT THE DIRECTOR" FEATURE THAT ALLOWS STUDENTS AND PARENTS TO QUICKLY AND CONVENIENTLY COMMUNICATE WITH MR. G

SOCIAL MEDIA

- FOLLOW @HIGGINSBAND ON TWITTER 
- FOLLOW @HIGGINSBANDSTAGRAM ON INSTAGRAM 

SIGN UP FOR TEXT MESSAGE REMINDERS

HIGGINS BAND USES REMIND, A SAFE, CONVENIENT WAY FOR TEACHERS TO TEXT MESSAGE STUDENTS AND KEEP IN TOUCH WITH PARENTS. STUDENTS AND PARENTS CAN SIGN UP ANONYMOUSLY BY TEXTING ONE OF THE CODES BELOW TO **81010**:

- **6th Grade Band: @hig6gb**
- **7th Grade Band: @hig7gb**
- **8th Grade Band: @hig8gb**

NO PHONE NUMBERS ARE EXCHANGED AND STUDENTS CANNOT REPLY TO TEXT MESSAGE REMINDERS FROM THE TEACHER. A GREAT WAY TO BE REMINDED ABOUT TESTS, SCHEDULE CHANGES, PERFORMANCES AND OTHER EVENTS!

Expectations

BE RESPECTFUL

- Do not talk or play while the conductor is talking.
- Raise your hand when you have a question or comment.
- Gum, candy, and food are strictly prohibited.
- Electronic devices should be silenced and put away unless otherwise instructed.
- ONLY percussionists may handle percussion equipment. Each member of the band is responsible for his/her OWN instrument.
- Remember the routine: find your seat, take your instrument out, check the agenda, and be ready to play when the conductor stands on the podium.

BE COMMITTED

Participation in the Higgins Middle School Band program is for the entire academic year. Because band is a scheduled, graded class, students may not withdraw from the program during the school year.

BE PREPARED

- Come to every rehearsal and class with your instrument, band folder, and pencil.
- If you happen to forget your instrument, pay attention and stay engaged. Answer questions and participate. In short, find a way to contribute to rehearsal.
- Come to every rehearsal knowing your music. We come to rehearsal not to learn our parts, but to learn other sections' parts.


BE PROUD

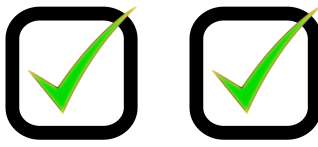
- Have a positive attitude and try your hardest.
- Remember that the opportunity to play a musical instrument is a privilege that not everyone has, so BE PROUD to be a band member! You are doing something very special.


Discipline Procedures

The Higgins Middle School behavior plan will be enforced.

Students are expected to make good choices regarding their behavior. When expectations are not met, or rules of the band room are broken (see previous page), students should be aware that the steps below will be taken until better choices are made. When an expectation is not met, students will be issued a check mark:

 = Verbal Warning

 = Parent/Guardian Communication

 = Detention

Students who make exceptionally GOOD choices (being ready on time, demonstrating leadership, helping out another student, positive attitude) may be able to erase a previously earned checkmark.

**Students who receive a conduct comment of “Needs improvement” or “Unsatisfactory” are not eligible for the honor roll.*

***Failure to report for detention will result in a referral to the student’s housemaster.*

Grading Procedures

Students will receive a grade each semester (every other quarter) based on the system that Higgins Middle School has adopted for exploratory subjects:

- Honors (H)**
- Satisfactory (S)**
- Needs improvement (N)**
- Unsatisfactory (U)**

Students who maintain a grade of "N" or "U," both of which prohibit a student from earning Principal's List, will be notified mid-term.

Playing Test.....	40%
Class Preparation.....	40%
Performance	20%

- All band members will take a bi-quarterly performance assessment (playing test).
 - Students will perform an excerpt from the performance repertoire.
 - Students will be notified well in advance when playing tests are to take place.
 - If a student is unprepared on the day of the playing test, s/he may make it up on his/her own time, but not for full credit.
- Ten points will be deducted from the preparation grade for each time a student is unprepared for rehearsal (missing an instrument). *Students must maintain a well-organized band binder. Binder checks will be unannounced and take place once per semester.*
- Performance is the primary function of the band and is therefore *required*.
 - Written excuses for absence from a performance may be considered when submitted *two weeks* prior to the concert if the excuse has validity.
 - Unexcused absences for performances will result in no points being issued for that performance.
 - Students must wear the appropriate concert dress for performances. (see page 13).
 - If a performance is missed due to an excused absence (sick on day of performance or approval by director), a makeup essay may be assigned.

Average Of:	Grade For Term
95 - 100%	Honors
75 - 94%	Satisfactory
60 - 74%	Needs Improvement
59% or Below	Unsatisfactory

Home Practice

The success of our band program, individually and collectively, depends upon students' dedication to individual practice time. Parents/families are asked to review the guidelines below and help students to maintain good home practice habits.

MAKE IT A ROUTINE

THINK OF PRACTICING AS A PART OF YOUR DAILY ROUTINE IN THE SAME WAY THAT HOMEWORK, SPORTS, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES MIGHT BE. SET ASIDE A SPECIFIC BLOCK OF TIME EACH DAY FOR PRACTICING.

FIND A GOOD PLACE

PARENTS AND FAMILY MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO HELP STUDENTS TO FIND A QUIET PLACE, FREE OF DISTRACTIONS, FOR HOME PRACTICE. CREATING A DESIGNATED PRACTICE SPACE WHERE A MUSIC STAND AND CHAIR CAN BE KEPT OUT AND READY ENCOURAGES THE STUDENT TO PRACTICE MORE FREQUENTLY.

PRACTICING THE RIGHT WAY

- DON'T JUST PLAY THINGS YOU ALREADY KNOW HOW TO PLAY – THIS IS NOT PRACTICING!
- PRACTICE A VARIETY OF MATERIALS: SCALES AND TECHNICAL EXERCISES AS WELL AS DIFFICULT PASSAGES FROM BAND MUSIC THAT NEED WORK.
- PRACTICE DIFFICULT PASSAGES SLOWLY, GRADUALLY INCREASING THE TEMPO ONLY WHEN YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE. A METRONOME IS AN EXCELLENT TOOL TO ASSIST WITH THIS.

DON'T OVERDO IT

IT IS FAR BETTER TO PRACTICE FOR **20 – 30 MINUTES FIVE DAYS PER WEEK** THAN IT IS TO PRACTICE ONCE PER WEEK FOR THREE HOURS!

REWARD YOURSELF

PRACTICING IS HARD WORK. REWARD YOURSELF AT THE END OF YOUR PRACTICE SESSION BY PLAYING SOMETHING FUN. IT CAN BE ANYTHING AT ALL THAT YOU SIMPLY ENJOY PLAYING.

PERFORM FOR PEOPLE

DON'T LET SCHOOL CONCERTS BE THE ONLY TIME PEOPLE HEAR YOU PLAY. FAMILIES SHOULD ASK STUDENTS TO PLAY FOR THEM FREQUENTLY. EVEN IF IT'S JUST ONE QUICK SONG ONCE PER WEEK, A LITTLE BIT OF ENCOURAGEMENT GOES A LONG WAY.

Required Materials

Find web links to many of these materials at www.higginsband.org/required-materials

Higgins Band members, students are expected to be prepared with a few supplies. In addition to their instruments, students should come to each rehearsal and class with:

- 1) An instrument identification tag
- 2) A pencil
- 3) A ½ inch three-ring binder with view front and at least ten sheet protectors
- 4) A method book (for the appropriate instrument):
 - 6th Grade Band: Essential Elements for Band, Book 1
 - 7th Grade Band: Essential Elements for Band, Book 1
 - 8th Grade Band: Essential Elements Band, Books 1 & 2
- 5) Miscellaneous supplies from the list below depending on instrument

Flute

A cleaning rod and cloth (an old, clean t-shirt about four inches by four inches works best.)

Clarinet/Saxophone

- A tube of cork grease (the most inexpensive brand will work well.)
- A “step-up” mouthpiece. Please do not play on the mouthpiece that comes with the instrument.
Suggested step-up mouthpieces:
 - *J & D Hite Premiere for Clarinet OR Vandoren M13 Lyre for Clarinet.*
 - *Yamaha 4C for Saxophone OR Selmer C* for Saxophone.*
- Three clean, unchipped reeds, strength 2 1/2 or 3.
 - *Hemke and Vandoren brands are recommended for Saxophone.*
 - *Mitchell Lurie and Vandoren brand reeds are recommended for Clarinet.*
 - *Reeds are significantly less expensive if purchased by the box, rather than individually.*
- A reed case for storage when reeds are not in use (*Rico Reed Gard* is a good, inexpensive case.)
- A clarinet or saxophone swab is ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL to keep the instrument in good working order. A *silk swab* is recommended.

Trumpet

- A bottle of valve oil (*Al Cass* and *Ultra Pure* brands are recommended.)
- A container of tuning slide grease (*Schilke* brand slide grease is recommended.)
- A cleaning snake, valve brush, and mouthpiece brush (may be purchased as part of a Trumpet Cleaning Kit)

Trombone

- *Superslick Slick-It Trombone Kit* (includes slide cream, liquid slide treatment, and spray bottle)
- A container of tuning slide grease (*Schilke* brand slide grease is recommended.)
- A cleaning snake and mouthpiece brush (may be purchased as part of a Trombone Cleaning Kit)

Percussion

- Bell/Practice Pad kit for home practice
- The *Vic Firth EP2 Intermediate Education Pack*, which includes drum sticks, bell/xylophone mallets, timpani mallets, and marimba mallets.

Many of the supplies on the previous page can be purchased conveniently through the Higgins Band Store. Supplies can also be purchased in store and online from most music retailers. We are fortunate to have many quality music retailers locally and we encourage you to support them.

K And C Music, Inc.
Norwood, MA (Delivers to Higgins)
(781) 769-6520
www.kandcmusicco.com

The Music Box
80 Main Street, Peabody
(978) 532-3394
www.peabodymusicbox.com

Bill's Music Center
136 Main Street, Peabody
(978) 977-9141
www.bills-music.webs.com

Music And Arts Center
300 Andover Street, Peabody
(978) 532-3380
www.musicarts.com

Camarda's Music Co.
14 Valley Street, Salem
(978) 744-7115

The Woodwind And Brasswind
(800) 348-5003
www.wwbw.com

National Music, Inc.
394 Main Street, Woburn
(781) 933-6300
www.nationalmusicinc.com

Higgins Band Store

A convenient, inexpensive way to purchase supplies at school.

Reeds

Clarinet...\$1.75
Bass Clarinet...\$3.00
Alto Sax...\$2.00
Tenor Sax...\$3.00
Bari Sax...\$4.00

Brass Care

Valve Oil...\$4.25
Slide Grease...\$4.00
Slide-O-Mix System for Trombone...\$6.00
Trumpet Snake...\$5.00
Trombone Snake...\$8.00
Brass Mouthpiece Brush...\$1.50

Reed Storage

ReedGuard for Alto Sax/Clarinet...\$4.00
ReedGuard for Bass Clarinet/Tenor, Bari Sax...\$4.25

Misc

Sax/Clarinet Mouthpiece Cushion...\$1.50
Metronome...\$17.00
Instrument Identification Tag...\$2.00
Sheet Protectors...5 for \$1.00

Woodwind Care

Silk Clarinet Swab...\$9.50
Silk Alto Sax Swab...\$10.50
Clarinet/Sax Mouthpiece Brush...\$2.00
Flute Cleaning Rod...\$5.00
Cork Grease...\$2.00

The Higgins Band Store is open every day from 8:00 until 8:20.

All sales are CASH ONLY. The store is made possible by the Higgins Performing Arts Parents Group as a NOT -FOR-PROFIT-way for students to obtain supplies AT COST.

Performance Dress Code

Students are required to *conform to the Higgins Middle School Band dress code standards for all performances. Unless otherwise indicated, band members should follow the specifications below.*

Performers should wear:

- **BLACK PANTS/SLACKS**
- **WHITE SHIRTS/TOPS**
- **THE NICEST FOOTWEAR THAT THEY OWN**
- **GENTLEMEN: A BLACK BOW TIE**
 - Ladies are welcome to wear a black bow tie if they'd like.
 - Bow ties can be purchased very inexpensively online for under \$5. Please contact Mr. Giannopolo should any difficulty in obtaining a bow tie arise.

Please make best efforts to avoid sneakers, jeans, and any clothing with lettering.

Private Instruction

While all students can be successful with the musical instruction provided through the Higgins Band program, some choose to seek extra challenges that may not be accessible in a large group lesson or ensemble setting. Other students may take advantage of private lessons as a source of extra help with their band music, much like students seeking tutoring in other subject areas. Whatever the reason, private lessons are an excellent supplement to public school music instruction and afford students more playing time, and an intensive one-on-one musical experience.

Flute

Jennifer Joray
(978) 766-9570
jorayj@peabody.k12.ma.us

Laura Heinrichs
(978) 978-6614
laura.ann.heinrichs@gmail.com

Scott Kaplan
scottmkaplan@gmail.com
978.535.2492
781.690.1909

Clarinet

Nalani Fujiwara
(978) 729-3499
enigma15@verizon.net
Scott Kaplan (see above)

Saxophone

Barry Fleischer
(781) 325-3342
info@musicbarry.com
www.musicbarry.com
Scott Kaplan (see above)

Trumpet

Tim Deik
(978) 578-3652
trumpeterdeik@yahoo.com

Trumpet/French Horn

Michael Bellofatto
(607) 262-0581
bellofatto@gmail.com

Low Brass

Luke Deardorff
(603) 988-5294
daviddeardorff@salemk12.org

Percussion, Drum Set

Leo Ciaramitaro
(978) 764-2947
leodrums@mac.com
www.leodrums.com
John Iltis
(617) 967-5369
john@johniltis.com
www.johniltis.com

Lessons for all instruments (except percussion) are also offered at:

Peabody Music Box
80 Main Street, Peabody
(978) 532-3394
www.peabodymusicbox.com

Additional Opportunities

JAZZ ENSEMBLE

The award-winning Higgins Middle School Jazz Ensemble is open to band students, grades six through eight. Because the Jazz Ensemble's repertoire focuses on advanced jazz, swing, and rock literature, the band's membership is determined by auditions, which are held at the beginning of each school year. Membership is limited to specific numbers within each section.

Our jazz ensemble performs several times throughout the year, both at and outside of the school. The jazz band also competes against other middle school jazz ensembles at the Northeastern District Junior Jazz Festival, and performs at a joint concert with the high school's jazz band at the in the Holy Ghost Society in the spring.

Students who pass the audition are expected to be a part of the group for the entire year, and should understand the commitment involved. The Jazz Ensemble rehearses every **Tuesday from 2:30 until 3:45, and one Wednesday per month from 2:30 until 3:20**. Because rehearsals take place outside of the regular school day, **students must arrange for their own transportation, and are encouraged to find carpool opportunities.**

AFTER-SCHOOL SESSIONS

Extra help sessions will take place on Thursdays from 2:30 until 3:20. Students who need extra help or extra time to catch up on missed work will be invited to by Mr. Giannopolo to stay. Students who have not been invited but feel that they need help with something may arrange a time to meet with Mr. Giannopolo.

SECTION LEADERS

Section leaders are students who represent their groups of instruments within the band. They act as officers to assist the director. Section leaders meet after school two - three times throughout the school year. One section leader will be assigned for each section of each grade's band. Interested students who have proven themselves to be responsible and dedicated music students will be selected by the director based on their completion of an application at the beginning of the school year.

SECONDARY INSTRUMENTS

As students progress further into their musical studies, some may be recommended for secondary instruments. These instruments include piccolo, bass clarinet, tenor and baritone saxophone, baritone horn, and tuba. In most cases, these instruments sound higher or lower, but involve little adjustment from students' primary instruments, as they utilize the same fingerings. They do however add valuable complements to the band's depth and color, and as such are essential additions to the middle school band.

SECONDARY INSTRUMENTS, CONTINUED

All secondary instruments are owned by the school. It is the responsibility of the student to keep the instrument in good condition, and to return it to its case and shelf after each use. Students who might be a good fit for secondary instruments will be recommended by the director. The playing of a secondary instrument is contingent upon a parent/guardian's signing of an agreement stating that all repairs and upkeep are the financial responsibility of the student and his/her family. Failure to take proper care of the instrument will prohibit the student's further use of school-owned instruments.

Because of limited supplies, not every student will be able to play a secondary instrument. Playing of a secondary instrument one year **does not** guarantee its use in other school years.

PRACTICE ROOMS

Our band room is equipped with small practice rooms. These rooms are available to all band members most days from 2:30 until 3:20 for individual or small group practice. This is especially beneficial to students who are unable to transport large instruments to and from school, or for students who may have difficulty finding a convenient place to practice at home. Practice rooms are available on a first come, first serve basis.

GREAT EAST FESTIVAL

In late May, our 7th and 8th Grade Bands will participate in this annual festival. Bands will perform at a venue in Western Massachusetts for professional adjudicators. They will offer commentary on our performances and provide a brief clinic, as well as a ranking. Immediately following, students are rewarded with a trip to Six Flags New England in Agawam, and then return to school later that evening.

Students are responsible for a portion of the registration fee, which includes admission to Six Flags. Specific information with regard to payment schedule, other details, etc. will be distributed to 7th and 8th Grade Band members in September.

NORTHEASTERN DISTRICT JUNIOR FESTIVAL

Each year, a select group of music students, grades seven through nine, from schools across the North Shore perform a concert as part of the Northeastern District Junior Band, Chorus, and Orchestra. To be a part of these groups is indeed an honor, but just to audition is a tremendous experience for the serious young musician.

Auditions for these groups involve performance of an advanced piece of music, and several scales. Needless to say, being accepted into these groups is no simple task, but we have several students who are more than capable, and we certainly hope to have representation from Higgins in this year's Junior District Band and Orchestras.

Auditions this year will take place on Saturday, January 27, in Methuen. Students will be recommended for auditions by the director early in the school year so that ample time may be spent preparing for auditions. Students planning to audition will need to purchase the audition piece, which will be posted in September, and attend extra help sessions to prepare for auditions.

Higgins Performing Arts Parents Group

The Higgins Performing Arts Parents Group was established during the 2010 – 2011 school year. With the assistance of fellow parents, we raise funds, purchase equipment, coordinate volunteers, create programs, and keep everyone informed about the fabulous shows and concerts our children participate in at the Higgins.

In a time when financial resources are limited, we are lucky to have a thriving Arts Program thanks to the School Administration, the School Committee, and the City of Peabody. We are especially thankful for our outstanding Performing Arts teachers. Their skill and dedication make these programs possible, and their genuine enthusiasm makes them fun!

We know that Performing Arts programs are critical to the success of many children and, for some children, are as important as academics. The positive lessons learned by students in the Arts are carried with them throughout their lives. These programs may even help develop the interest and talent of a budding star in our midst...

Please consider volunteering on our committee or even just donating an hour of your time whenever you can. We're accessible via meetings or email (listed below). We will also send information to those indicating interest on the band contract. Details for our next monthly meeting will be included in the school's September newsletter and monthly calendar that will be distributed during the first week of school.

We look forward to another wonderfully artistic year here at the Higgins!

Sincerely,

The Higgins Performing Arts Parents Group (HPAPG)

Where to find us:

- HigginsPAPG@gmail.com
- Like *Higgins Papg* on Facebook
- Follow [@HigginsPAPG](https://twitter.com/HigginsPAPG) on Twitter

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING:

Electronic completion of this form is preferred. Please visit www.higginsband.org and click “Handbook” to view the handbook and complete this contract by Friday, September 14. While you’re there, please check out and familiarize yourself with the site!

If electronic completion is not an option, please see that your child returns this form to Mr. Giannopolo by Friday, September 14.

I have read and understand the Higgins Band Handbook. I am aware of rules, grading procedures, required materials, and performance dates. I understand that attendance at performances is graded and mandatory.

Student Name (Please print.)

Parent/Guardian Name (Please print.)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Student Information

Grade:

Cluster:

Instrument:

Parent/Guardian Email:

I am interested in the Higgins Performing Arts Group.

Please check the box above if you are interested. You will be contacted shortly.