

Dear Cassell Community,

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year!!!! I'm very excited for all of the amazing things to come in Music this year. Ensembles will be starting the week of Monday, September 16th. Students will not be allowed to participate in a before or after school ensembles unless they turn in a signed permission slip. If your 3rd-8th grade student is interested in one of the ensembles and hasn't brought home a permission slip by Wednesday, September 11, please contact me at dstournoux@cps.edu and I'll e-mail one to you.

All City Performing Arts (ACPA) wants you... to sign your child up for an ensemble! All Chicago Public School students in grades 3-12 are welcome to sign up to join at least one of the ensembles offered by ACPA. These groups meet on Saturdays at Jones College Prep in the South Loop. For more information, please go to:

<http://www.cpsarts.org/news/2018-2019-all-city-performing-arts-student-application-is-now-available/>

General Music Classes

K-2 General Music

This year, our K-2 students will be working on developing their internal rhythms and sense of beat, practicing their musical listening skills, and working on responding to music. As they are working on these skills, they'll be preparing for a winter show called "Crazy Carols"! In this show, you'll recognize age-old carols that have some new, fun lyrics! This show will take place on Friday, December 20th. There will be two public performances (9:30am and 1:00pm). Please watch the Cassell website (cassell.cps.edu) or the music sight (cassellmusic.weebly.com) for information on tickets when we get closer to the show date!

3-5 General Music

Our 3rd through 5th grade students will be working on the "Little Kids Rock" curriculum again this year. In this curriculum, the students will learn music as a language through the performance of modern band instruments including guitar, bass, drums, vocals and keyboard. They'll use the skills they develop to learn songs that they hear on the radio and to write their own songs. All of this work will be showcased this Spring in Cassell-A-Palooza!

Junior High General Music

Our Junior High students are jumping two feet in as they prepare for their winter performance of Disney's Frozen Jr. During this time they'll be working on learning how to read traditional notation, how to interpret musical text, how to adapt and interpret music on stage and how to reflect on and improve their own rehearsal strategies. Keep an eye on the Cassell website (cassell.cps.edu) and the Cassell Music website (cassellmusic.weebly.com) for more updates on their performances which will take place on Friday, January 17th.

Cassell Performance Ensembles

Choirs

Interest for the Cassell Choir program is HUGE this year! There are over seventy 3rd-8th grade students who've shown interest in joining one of our choirs. There will be two choirs which will meet after school. The Concert Choir (3rd-5th Grade) will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays and the Symphonic Choir (6th-8th Grade) will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Permission slips will be going home the week of September 9th.

Concert Band

Concert band is available to all students in 5th-8th grade. If your child is interested in learning a concert band instrument such as trumpet, clarinet, saxophone etc. please make sure to have him or her contact me to get signed up and a permission slip!

Rock Band

Our Junior High Rock Bands will be meeting during their lunch/recess instead of before school this year. They have signed up and will begin meeting the week of September 16th. Please note that because the Junior High Rock Bands will not be meeting outside of school hours, they will not need a completed permission slip.

Thanks for all of your support!!

David S. Tournoux
(Mr. T)