

SOUTH JERSEY BAND AND ORCHESTRA DIRECTORS' ASSOCIATION  
New Jersey Music Educators Association Region III  
**28<sup>th</sup> Annual Elementary Honors Band Festival**  
**April 25, 2020**

The 2020 Elementary Honors Band Festival will take place at Absegami High School on Saturday, April 25, 2020. All of the information you need to nominate your students is in this packet. All of your nominations will be completed online. The online instructions are outlined clearly below.

The coordinators for Elementary Honors are listed here with their contact information. Questions regarding the festival or program may be directed to one of them. The auditions committee will do the selection of students. All questions regarding the selection process, online application, and nominations should be directed to Phil Senseney at our auditions email: [sjauditions@gmail.com](mailto:sjauditions@gmail.com). This is the fastest way to get an answer to your registration questions. If you need to speak to an auditions person, please leave a phone number and we will get back to you.

Sue Moore      [smoore@audubonschools.org](mailto:smoore@audubonschools.org)  
Rachel DiPilla   [rdipilla@medford.k12.nj.us](mailto:rdipilla@medford.k12.nj.us)

**Student Eligibility:** All students in grades 5 and 6 are eligible for recommendation. Advanced 4<sup>th</sup> grade students may be nominated based on your judgment; however, students are selected first from grades 5 and 6, with 4<sup>th</sup> considered if the need arises for additional students.

**Participation Requirements:** Only students nominated by their directors will be considered for the Honors Band. Sponsoring directors must be members of NAFME and are required to attend the meeting and assist with the rehearsal and concert on April 25<sup>th</sup>. If you cannot be available or provide another director as a substitute you should not nominate students. Your NAFME information will be required when you submit your nominations. If you do not have your information or are not a member, please go to their web site ([nafme.org](http://nafme.org)) for assistance. If you are sending a substitute to the rehearsal, that person must be a member as well.

**Selection:** We will accept at least two students from each school. We will take your first nominee, but due to instrumentation constraints, we may not take additional students in the order in which you nominated them. In order to fill sections, we may need to take students further down the list. As there are three bands, your students may not all end up in the same band. We will attempt to accomplish this, but we cannot promise it will work that way. Please note any special request on your nomination form. Once selections have been completed, we cannot move students between bands.

**Instrumentation:**

Due to the physical restraints of our rehearsal space and auditorium seating, our instrumentation will be the same as the region junior high bands.

**Festival Schedule:** Students should arrive at Absegami HS at 8:45am. Rehearsal is from 9:00am to 12:30pm. There will be a lunch break at 12:30. Lunch will be available for purchase or students may bring their own. The concert will begin at 2:00pm. Tickets will be available during the morning rehearsal and at the door.

**Deadlines:** Online registration and mailing deadlines are listed here. A payment voucher is at the end of this letter. Postmarked and completed on-line by Fri., Jan. 31, 2020 - Application fee is \$20.00 per school  
Postmarked or completed on-line Feb. 1 or 2, 2020 - You must include a \$25.00 late fee per school in addition to the \$20 registration fee  
Recommendations postmarked after Feb. 2, 2020 will not be eligible for the 2020 Festival. The online registration will not accept entries after midnight Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Please do not give your forms to your office staff and hope they mail them on time. It is best if you personally mail the forms so they are postmarked before the deadline.

### **On-line Registration and Recommendation Forms:**

All registration MUST be completed on-line in order for you to register your school and recommend students. The process changed last year. An individual online registration form must be completed for you as the director and one for *each* student you recommend. The link to the director form is at the bottom of this letter. When you submit your director form you will be redirected directly to the student form which you must complete. There is also a link to the student registration form in this letter so you can easily go to the form. Recommendations are done by school, not by program or district. Thus, you as director must complete a separate director registration for each school from which you are recommending students. You must also complete an individual form for each of your students, beginning with your #1 recommendation, then #2, etc. You do not have to indicate their number as the forms are time and date stamped upon submission and we will sort them that way. This change should greatly increase our accuracy in selecting the correct students and will ensure that students or schools are not missed in the selection process.

Once you start a form you must complete that form before leaving the program. There is no provision to save and return to a form. The criteria and ratings have not changed, and they will appear on each form as you make your recommendations.

Once the form has been submitted, you will receive a confirming email listing everything you submitted on your form. Please check this carefully; if you find that you have made an error or need to change something, you will need to submit a replacement form. Please do not send changes to the audition committee or to the coordinators. They do not have access to the registration files. The ranking order of your students is determined by the order in which you submit forms, so a replacement form may change your nomination order.

### **Notification of Acceptance:**

Upon completion of the selection process, we will email you Dropbox links to the band assignments, information letters, acceptance letters, confirmation forms, and scanned copies of the music for each student accepted. These links will be sent to the email address provided by you on the on-line nomination form. Please be sure to enter the email at which you want to receive these materials. NOTE: This email must be able to accept several PDFs as attachments. You may need to provide an alternate email as many schools block attachments (gmail.com offers free email and will accept attachments). You will need to print the music and forms for your students. Instructions will be included regarding the completion and return of the confirmation forms. You should note that if we do not receive your confirmations by March 11<sup>th</sup>, we will replace your students to ensure complete instrumentation for the festival.

### **Instructions for Student Recommendation**

**Instrumentation:** Students may be recommended on only ONE instrument. Students may participate only on the instruments listed on the nomination form. Substitutions will NOT be permitted, nor will instruments other than those listed on the form. Please only recommend students based on the numbers indicated at the top of the nomination form. Due to the large number of students recommended, not every student will be accepted. Please recommend only those students who meet the qualifications. Qualified trombone and baritone players need to be able to match pitches. For percussion, please note that the only choices are *Percussion* or *Mallets*. Percussionists should be proficient on all instruments, and only *Mallets* will be considered a specialty. If a student has timpani experience, it helps if you note that in the comments.

**Order of Recommendation:** You should submit your strongest player first, regardless of their instrument; then continue to submit your students according to their ability. By accurately submitting students in this order, you will be helping us to determine the most qualified choices.

**Scoring:** Score each of your students using the “Box Criteria” provided. Please be as honest as possible. A “Jane Doe” example is provided on the application form.

**Comments:** You may use the “Comment Codes” to help clarify your student’s abilities. These are essential to our selection process, but please do not enter anything except the codes; all other explanations or wording will be deleted.

**Number of students recommended:** You may recommend up to 20 students subject to the limitations below. This does not change the number allowed per instrument but allows us to have sufficient nominees to fulfill the needs in three bands. The recorded time of your submissions will tell us the order from which to select students.

**CLICK THIS LINK TO BEGIN REGISTRATION:**

Director/School Registration Link:

<https://form.jotform.com/93144743373964>

Student nomination form link:

<https://form.jotform.com/93144518417963>

*If you have a problem with the link, please copy and paste it into your browser.*

*Elementary Honors Band Festival Nomination Criteria*

Submit your student forms in the order they will be listed, starting with your #1 student. The number of students you may recommend is limited to either 2 or 3 for each instrument.

2 each	2 each	3 each	3 each	3 each
Flute	Trumpet	Oboe	Bassoon	Bass Clarinet
Bb Clarinet	Percussion	Tenor Sax	Bari Sax	F Horn
Alto Sax	Mallets	Trombone	Baritone	Tuba

**This scoring rubric and comment codes also appear on each student form to help the nominating process.**

## **Scoring Rubric:**

### **Good** (score between 7.0 and 7.9)

A foundation of technical proficiency is apparent, but seldom performed. Pitch is rarely adjusted for accuracy and uniformity. Student is aware of their quality of sound, but is not always sure how to adjust for consistency. Breath support and the concept of articulation are present, but need refinement. Rhythmic accuracy at times can be a challenge. A slight understanding of musical phrasing is noticeable. Stylistic interpretation of musical ideas is seldom present.

### **Very Good** (score between 8.0 and 8.9)

Student plays with an understanding and knowledge of correct technique, but with minor lapses. Adjustments for pitch accuracy are usually made. Good breath support is present, but it is still not consistent. Hand/finger coordination is evident with only minor flaws in timing and rhythmic accuracy. An understanding of musical phrasing is apparent and is performed most of the time. Student has a good understanding of stylistic interpretation and can express confidence during transitions.

### **Exceptional** (score between 9.0 and 10.0)

Technical proficiency is very apparent. Student is frequently adjusting for uniform pitch accuracy. Overall breath support is strong which allows for consistency in quality of sound. Student frequently plays with uniform interpretation of articulations and rhythms with excellent hand/finger coordination. Student has an excellent understanding of correct musical phrasing through above average interpretation of musical style. Extended range is above average and the student possesses the ability to MAKE the Junior High Honors Band.

Comment Codes - Please select up to three for each student recommended



- A - Flute - fluent in upper register to D6
- B - Clarinet - plays over break with GOOD intonation
- C - Trumpet - range includes E5
- D - F Horn - range includes E5
- E - F Horn - low range good solid sound
- F - Takes private lessons
- G - Auditioned for but not accepted into SJ Junior High
- H - Is in lesson book 1
- I - Is in lesson book 2
- J - Is in lesson book 3
- K - Percussion - plays timpani
- L - Percussion - can play flams, paradiddles, rolls
- M - Takes piano lessons
- N - Participated in Elementary Honors Band last year

Sample Student Entry

Jane Smith 5 Bb Clarinet 8.5 B,I,N

Student 1

First	Last	Grade	Instrument	Score	Comments ?
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Student 2

General Information

Prior to sending the application, you may find it advantageous to notify the students you are nominating, as you will have to verify their intent to participate once we make the selections.

Once the selection process is completed, you will receive a confirmation form listing the students who have been selected from your school. Please stress to your students and their parents the importance of this commitment. No-shows affect the quality of the festival. If a selected student is unable to participate, **please notify us immediately at [sjuditions@gmail.com](mailto:sjuditions@gmail.com)** so the seat can be filled. You cannot substitute another student for one who drops out. Parts will be assigned and music and confirmation forms will be emailed to you at the address you provided with your registration.

It is extremely important that each student comes to the festival **PREPARED**. With only one rehearsal, it is essential that parts be learned before the rehearsal day. Please be sure students are also supplied with extra reeds, oil, pencils, etc. to avoid problems during the rehearsal. Your help is essential in making this festival successful. All Directors are expected to participate on the day of the festival and should report at 8:45 AM for job assignments during the festival. Remember, if you recommend students, **you must attend**.

Just a reminder...6th grade students who are accepted into the Region III Junior High Bands are NOT eligible for the elementary festival. If you are recommending students who are auditioning for Jr. High Band, please hold your submissions until Junior High Audition results are posted. If one of your accepted students does make the junior high band, please notify us at once as students cannot do both.

## **PAYMENT INFORMATION**

Registration fee is \$20 per school. School checks, your personal check, or money orders should be made payable to SJBODA (NO PARENT CHECKS AND NO PURCHASE ORDERS UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY PAYMENT). The on-time online and postmark deadline is Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>.

Late registrations will be \$20 plus a \$25 late fee for each school and will be accepted through Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Once your online application has been submitted, please mail your payment and payment form below to:

**Patrick O'Keefe  
204 E. Haws Court  
Galloway, NJ 08205**

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**Please tear off and return this form with your payment.**

**Patrick O'Keefe  
204 E. Haws Court  
Galloway, NJ 08205**

### **SJBODA 2020 ELEMENTARY HONORS BAND PAYMENT FORM**

SCHOOL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTOR'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Information for Students and Parents**

Please distribute this to the parents of each of your participating students.

**FESTIVAL DATE:** Saturday, April 25, 2020

**LOCATION:** Absegami High School, Galloway

**REPORT TIME:** 8:45 AM

**DRESS:** All participating students must wear dress clothes to the rehearsal. No changing facilities are available. Boys should wear a white dress shirt, dark slacks, and dress shoes. Girls should wear dark dress slacks or skirt, and white blouse with dress shoes. "Please, No Miniskirts".

**WHAT TO BRING:** Students must bring their instrument, **their own folding music stand** LABELED WITH THEIR NAME AND SCHOOL. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT as the school does not have enough stands for the stage and three rehearsal rooms. They should also bring extra reeds, valve oil, etc; Percussion players MUST supply their own sticks and mallets. Students should bring their lunch or bring money to purchase a snack or lunch in the cafeteria.

**REHEARSAL TIME:** Rehearsal runs from 9:00am to 12:30pm. At 12:30 students will have a break to eat lunch and prepare for the concert.

**CONCERT:** The concert begins at 2:00pm and doors will open at 1:30pm. Tickets may be purchased in the lobby on the day of the concert. Ticket cost is \$3.00 for everyone. Professional recording and photos will be available for purchase in the lobby.

**DUE TO COPYRIGHT LAWS, AUDIO AND/OR VIDEO RECORDINGS ARE NOT PERMITTED. FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY DURING THE CONCERT IS ALSO PROHIBITED. YOUR COOPERATION IN THIS WILL BE APPRECIATED.**