

**LHS Orchestra – Freshman Parent Meeting
Friday, Aug. 25, 2017**

Welcome to the LHS Orchestra program! The LHS Orchestra has been in existence for over 90 years and has a long-standing tradition of excellence. We are excited to have your student join our LHSO community.

Opportunities for Communication:

Skyward – I will be communicating with you almost exclusively through emails via Skyward. Please make sure that your email address in Skyward is current. If it is not, you may contact the LHS Student Services department to update your email address.

Website – The LHS Orchestra has a website with upcoming events on the home page as well as access to our calendar, handbook, and information regarding fun music opportunities.

www.lawrencehighorchestra.com

Phone – The LHS Orchestra phone number is 330-1890. I would encourage you to send an email first, however, as the phone messages get checked last.

Concert Attire/Uniform:

The LHS Orchestra performs with a unified “look” so our music becomes the main focus for the audience, not our clothes. ☺ Please have your uniform ready for the first concert on Wednesday, Oct. 4. If you need help with obtaining your student’s uniform please contact Rachel Dirks via email.

Women: Black Dress Pants (no tights, leggings, yoga pants, jeans or sweats), Black blouse or sweater (at least short sleeved – no sleeveless or tank tops, please), Black closed toe dress shoes, black socks or hose.

Men: Black Dress Pants (no jeans or sweats), Black long-sleeved button down dress shirt, long neck tie (any color), Black closed toe dress shoes, black socks.

Performances:

The LHS Orchestra calendar is much busier than a typical middle school orchestra calendar. Beginning in October, students will have a concert about once a month. All Freshman Orchestra performances are required and are a part of our co-curricular grade. Please refer to the LHS Orchestra calendar for dates and times of required performances...we hope you will join us for these celebrations of your student’s hard work.

On the LHSO calendar you will also notice quite a few non-required events for students. These events are designed to enrich and encourage musical growth. We hope your student will take advantage of at least one of these events.

- Fiddle Club
- KMEA District Honor Orchestra
- LHS Chamber Orchestra
- Regional Solo & Small Ensemble Festival
- State Solo & Small Ensemble Festival

Travel with the LHS Orchestra:

This year the Freshman Orchestra will be touring our “feeder” middle schools in January in order to encourage future members to join in the fun. More information about our “tour” will be available at the start of 2nd semester. At the end of this school year we will be planning for our longer trip that we schedule every three years, scheduled to occur in March of 2019.

Opportunities for Parents:

Parents, we want you to be a part of our orchestra community at LHS! Please join us for concerts, bus rides, activities, trips, festivals, and more. We hope you will consider being an active member of our program. Your support is greatly appreciated!

We are looking forward to a great year and to working with your student, and with you.

Musically,
Rachel Dirks, Director of Orchestras
Russell Clark, Assistant Director
Amanda Peterson, Assistant Director