



**VFMS MUSIC
OVERVIEW**

VFMS Music Department 2019 - 2020 Ensemble Guide

All Ensembles Begin The Week Of 9/2/19 - Sectionals Begin Week of 9/09/19

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:45AM	5/6 Orchestra (BG)	7/8 Concert Band (CG)	Valley Forge Singers (RJ)	7/8 Chorus (RJ)	7/8 Orchestra (CG)
Before School		5th Chorus (RJ)	5th Concert Band (BG)	6th Concert Band (BG)	6th Chorus (RJ)
<i>Students in morning ensembles should be dropped off by parents to avoid being late.</i>					
Daytime Rotating Instrumental Sectionals (5-8) (CG & BG)					
8:40 AM To 11:30 AM	5/6 Strings 7/8 Stings	7/8 Band Sectionals	5th Grade Band Sectionals	6th Grade Band Sectionals	Beginner Sectionals
11:05 AM	VF Singers (7th) Altos & Sopranos	VF Singers (7th) Tenor\Baritone	Chorus (7th) Altos & Sopranos	7/8 Chorus (7th) Tenor\Baritone	7/8 Chorus (7th) Accomp \ Solos
11:30 AM	VF Singers (8th) Altos & Sopranos	VF Singers (8th) Tenor\Baritone	VF Singers (8th) Altos & Sopranos	7/8 Chorus (8th) Tenor\Baritone	7/8 Chorus (8th) Accomp \ Solos
12:00 PM	Chorus Sectionals (6th) Girls Treble I	Chorus Sectionals (6th) Boys	Chorus Sectionals (6th) Girls Treble II	Activity Sectionals (RJ)	
12:25 PM	Chorus Sectionals (5th) Girls Treble I	Chorus Sectionals (5th) Boys	Chorus Sectionals (5th) Girls Treble II		
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12:40 PM To 3:10 PM	5/6 Strings 7/8 Stings	7/8 Band Sectionals	5th Grade Band Sectionals	6th Grade Band Sectionals	Beginner Sectionals
3:15 PM - 4:00 PM	5/6 Jazz Band (CG) 7/8 Jazz Ensemble (CG)			After School	
Winter Concerts		Spring Concerts		VFMS Concert Attire	
5/6 School Performance - 12/11/19 9:00AM 5/6 Winter Program - 12/12/19 7:00PM		5/6 School Performance - 5/06/19 9:00AM 5/6 Spring Program - 5/07/19 7:00PM		1) VFMS Music Polo Shirt 2) Black Pants 3) Black Socks & Shoes	
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BEFORE SCHOOL ENSEMBLES

MONDAY – 5/6 Orchestra

TUESDAY – 7/8 Band

5th Grade Chorus

WEDNESDAY – VF Singers

5th Grade Band

THURSDAY – 7/8 Chorus

6th Grade Band

FRIDAY – 7/8 Orchestra

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AFTER SCHOOL ENSEMBLES

WEDNESDAY – 5/6 Jazz Band

THURSDAY – 7/8 Jazz Ensemble

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MONDAY

5/6 Orchestra

5-8 String Sectionals

7/8 – Activity Chorus Sectionals

(VF Singers Alto\Sop)

5/6 – Activity Chorus Sectionals

(Girls Treble I)

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TUESDAY

7/8 Concert Band

5th Grade Chorus

7/8 Band Sectionals

7/8 – Activity Chorus Sectionals

(VF Singers Tenor\Baritone)

5/6 – Activity Chorus Sectionals

(Boys)

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WEDNESDAY

Valley Forge Singers

5th Grade Band

5th Grade Band Sectionals

7/8 – Activity Chorus Sectionals

(Chorus Alto\Sop)

5/6 – Activity Chorus Sectionals

(Girls Treble II)

5/6 Jazz Band (till 4pm)

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THURSDAY

7/8 Chorus

6th Grade Band

6th Grade Band Sectionals

7/8 – Activity Chorus Sectionals

(Chorus Tenor\Baritone)

7/8 Jazz Ensemble (till 4PM or 4:15PM)

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FRIDAY

7/8 Orchestra

Beginner Sectionals

7/8 – Activity Chorus Sectionals

(Chorus Accomp\Solos)

5TH GRADE REHEARSAL SUMMARY

- Monday Morning – 5/6 Orchestra
- Tuesday Morning – 5th Grade Chorus
- Wednesday Morning – 5th Grade Band
- Wednesday After School – 5/6 Jazz Band
- Thursday Morning – 6th Grade Band



CONCERT ATTIRE

CONCERT ATTIRE

- Black pants
- Black shoes
- Black socks
- VFMS Music Department Polo
- Orders will start at the end October. Order forms will be handed out in rehearsal and available online at www.vfmsmusic.com or schoology



CHORUS

CHORUS

- Rehearsals before school will take place from 7:45-8:25 in the **auditorium**
 - 6th Grade Chorus: Friday
 - 5th Grade Chorus: Tuesday
- Sectionals will be one day a week during activity period
 - Monday: Treble 1
 - Tuesday: Boys
 - Wednesday: Treble 2
- I will split the girls into Treble 1 and Treble 2 during our first rehearsal

PIANO ACCOMPANISTS

- Beginning in Spring of 5th Grade
- Students must learn the music on their own, and complete an audition, to play with the chorus.
- Accompanying a choir is a different skill than playing alone, and students should be prepared to follow a conductor during the audition
- More information will be shared with students in February as we approach the Spring Concert

COMMUNICATIONS AND ATTENDANCE

- I will send an automatic e-mail if your child misses rehearsal in the morning
- This is for safety reasons and does not require a response or excuse note from parents
- Chorus is a co-curricular activity so students are graded
- Grades are largely participation based
 - Sectionals are entered into Schoology as a participation grade
 - Student Participation: 5 points
 - Students did not participate but checked in with me: Excused
 - Students did not participate and didn't check with me: Unexcused
- Grading scale is O, S, U
 - Outstanding: Regularly attends rehearsals and sectionals. Is in consistent contact with instructors regarding absences or conflicts.
 - Satisfactory: Sporadically attends rehearsals and sectionals. Is in seldom contact with instructors regarding absences or conflicts.
 - Unsatisfactory: Does not attend an adequate number of rehearsals or sectionals. Very little or no contact with instructors.



CONCERT BAND & ORCHESTRA

5TH GRADE BAND \ ORCHESTRA

- Instruments
 - Can rent through many local companies (Music & Arts, Taylors)
 - FLITE can help families with monetary concerns
- Lesson Books – Start with Current book, then move to Essential Elements 2000 Book 2
- Folders – necessary music and attendance for concerts and rehearsals
- Attendance – Emails sent home to parents for students missing for the purpose of accountability and safety
- Rotating sectionals – Posted on Schoology, on the music department bulletin board, 5th grade homerooms, and read on the morning announcements

VFMS 5-8 Instrumental Sectional Schedule

Monday 9/9/2019

8:40 AM - 8th Strings

9:10 AM - 6th Strings B

9:40 AM - 5th Strings C

10:10 AM - String Ensemble

10:40 AM - 7th Strings

11:10 AM - 6th Strings A

1:10 PM -

1:40 PM - 5th Strings A

2:10 PM - 5th Strings B

2:40 PM -

Tuesday 9/10/2019

8:40 AM - 7/8 Trumpet

9:10 AM - 7/8 Low Brass/WW

9:40 AM -

10:10 AM - 7/8 Flute/Clarinet/Oboe

12:10 PM -

12:40 PM - 7/8 Percussion

1:10 PM -

1:40 PM - 7/8 Sax

2:10 PM - 7/8 Jazz

2:40 PM -

Wednesday 9/11/2019

8:40 AM - 6th Trumpets

9:10 AM - 6th Low Brass

9:40 AM -

10:10 AM - 6th Flute

10:40 AM -

11:10 AM - 6th Percussion

1:10 PM -

1:40 PM - 6th Saxophone

2:10 PM - 6th Clarinet

2:40 PM -



BEGINNING INSTRUMENTS

BEGINNING INSTRUMENTS

- Anyone can start an instrument in any grade
- This includes any wind instrument, brass instrument, percussion instrument or string instrument
- We do not offer Guitar or Piano instruction
- Beginner sectionals are on Friday's beginning in October
- Can rent from local stores – Music & Arts, Taylors Music, Zezwitz
- We do not recommend purchasing a beginning instrument from anywhere.
- Daily practice is KEY!!! The goal is to get the students into their grade level bands. Gets more difficult in each grade.



JAZZ BAND

5/6 JAZZ BAND

- Extra curricular, auditioned group for 5th and 6th graders.
- After School on Wednesday's starting in October
- Members must be enrolled in grade level Concert Band or Orchestra*.
- No specific sectional for Jazz Band
- Try not to limit the number of students who make the ensemble but certain instruments will get less playing time due to equipment restraints (piano, guitar, drums)
- Audition music and signups can be found at www.vfmsmusic.com
- Try-outs are at end of September,