



**FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

11509 Waples Mill Rd
Oakton, VA 22124

June 16, 2009

Dear Waples Mill Parents/Guardians,

The purpose of this letter is to gather information needed to formulate student schedules for the 09 - 10 school year, specifically, Music courses. Students are scheduled for two music classes per week. One of these classes per week can be in Band or Strings. Students taking Band or Strings are automatically assigned one other General Music class. Students who do not wish to participate in Band or Strings will be assigned to two General Music classes.

There are several things to consider when choosing music courses for your child. **First, please understand that students will be expected to stay the full year with the courses they choose.** It becomes disruptive to the Master schedule when students decide to change a music class in the middle of the year. **Second, students choosing to perform in Band or Strings will need to make a commitment to playing the instrument at home.** Progress will be swift if a little practice takes place outside of school. **Third, parents will need to take responsibility for the maintenance and repair of instruments when needed.** It is difficult for students to learn on an instrument that does not work properly.

The Band and Strings classes at Waples Mill are scheduled in such a way that students will not miss any general classroom instruction (Math, Science, Language Arts, and Social Studies).

Please talk about these programs with your child and return the enclosed form to Mr. Yoshida at Waples Mill by **July 15, 2009**. The option you select on this letter will be used to generate the Master schedule for your child.

Many parents and students have already expressed their wishes to either Ms. Barlow, the band instructor or Ms. Long, the strings teacher. Regardless of your intentions with the teachers, please return the enclosed form to:

Waples Mill Elementary School
Attn: RV Yoshida, AP
11509 Waples Mill Rd
Oakton, VA 22124

Sincerely,

RV Yoshida
Assistant Principal

Music Selection for 2009-10

Student Name: _____ (09-10) Grade Level: _____

Students may choose Band, Strings or General Music.

_____ **Band**

Choice of Instrument: Trumpet, Saxophone, Trombone, Clarinet, Flute, Percussion, Oboe, French Horn, Baritone, Tuba

First Choice: _____

Second Choice: _____

_____ **Strings**

Choice of Instrument: Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass

First Choice: _____

Second Choice: _____

_____ **General Music**

Students not taking Band or Strings are scheduled for 2 General Education Music classes per week.

Most students will be renting their instruments from a music store. However, if you believe that you are eligible for the Free and Reduced lunch program, you may qualify to rent an instrument from the school at a reduced rate. These instruments include only: violin, viola, flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, or percussion.