Dear Outstanding Middle School Music Student,

Congratulations on being selected by your band or choir director to audition for the Western Regional Middle School Music Festival! Your director is confident you will do a great job representing yourself and your school at the audition. Due to the need for social distancing, there will not be an in-person festival this year. Instead, we will be offering certificates to all students who scored high enough to place in an ensemble, and we will also offer a virtual “festival masterclass” for all students who audition, as you are representing the best players in our region. The Festival Masterclasses being planned for regionals students will be held online Friday, April 30th/Saturday, May 1st, 2021, and will include participating students from as many as twenty-five area middle schools in concert band, chorus, and jazz ensemble. More information will be sent out after auditions.

Here are the audition details:

**Audition Date:** Register by March 3rd, Directors turn in your video recording NO LATER THAN March 10th.

**Audition Video:** Students will turn in 1 video for each audition, which should be complete, and unedited, including all the parts of that audition. Nearly any video format is allowable.
- IN THE VIDEO, there must be a visible clock in the frame. Edited videos are not allowed. The camera should be pointed at the student, without obstructions (like a music stand) so the judges can see and hear the performance as clearly as possible. Hands must be visible for the entirety of the video for instrumental students.
- Students, please say your first and last name ONLY at the beginning of the video. Please do NOT say which school you are from.

**Concert Band and Jazz Material:** All instrumental students interested in auditioning for the concert band, jazz ensemble, or both groups, will need to perform the following, in this order:
- Specific memorized scale/rudiments: Concert Eb Major (Jazz: Concert Eb Blues) in the pattern provided*
- Concert Bb Chromatic Scale in the pattern provided*
- An etude written specifically for this audition*
- No Sight reading this year!  
  *See your director for details on these.

**Choir Material:** All choral students interested in auditioning for the Western Region Middle School Chorus will need to perform the following:
- Your vocal part of a prepared choral selection: Shine on Me/Rollo Dilworth (SAB)*
- Students can make their audition recordings with the MUSIC MINUS ONE (MMO) TRACK or the PIANO TRACK or A CAPPELLA (tracks available on cmea.org*)
- Scale and Arpeggio in the notated pattern*
- No sight reading this year!  
  *See your director for details on these.

Remember, the judges and music educators you will be auditioning for will be listening for correct pitches, rhythms, tone, dynamics, articulations, diction and an overall sense of musicianship. Prepare yourself the best you can, ask your director for help, and have fun!

You will need parent permission in order to audition, so please fill out the attached registration form and return it to your director as soon as possible. You will need to include an audition fee with your form (see form for details). The check should be made payable to your school. If your parents have any questions please have them email their director! (Directors please email us if you have any questions!). Good luck, and do your best!

Sincerely,

Mr. Gadwah, New Fairfield Public Schools, and Mr. Thornton, Trumbull Public Schools
Western Region Co-Directors
Western Region Middle School Student Audition Registration Form

In order to reserve your audition, please complete and return the following form along with a check for $15 (or $30 if signing up for multiple auditions), payable to your school.

Please return these to your director by Friday, February 26th, 2021.

Note: On a normal year, students auditioning for either of these three performing groups must be currently participating in their school concert band and/or jazz ensemble, or choir – however, this year we recognize that some music programs are not currently offering ensembles. We will therefore be flexible with this rule for this year only – students are still encouraged to work with a music teacher or director to prepare for their audition. Also, these events are virtual this year, but on a normal year travel to and from the audition is the responsibility of the parent or guardian, who is also expected to remain on site for the duration of the audition process.

(Please Print Clearly)
Student Name: ______________________________________________________________
Home Address: ______________________________________________________________
Home Phone: __________________________ Parent Cell Phone: ______________________
Parent Name: ______________________________________________________________
Parent email: ______________________________________________________________
Concert Band Instrument: ____________________________________________________
AND/OR
Jazz Ensemble Instrument: __________________________________________________
AND/OR
Vocal Part: Soprano  Alto  Tenor  Bass

School: ___________________________________________________________________

Auditioning For (circle one or multiple): Concert Band  Jazz Ensemble  Choir

We understand that this audition is for placement in the Western Region Music Festival. Selection will be based upon audition results. If selected, participation in the festival/masterclass is encouraged. (Masterclass workshops are open to all students who audition)

_________________________________  ___________________________________
(Parent Signature)  (Student Signature)