



Southern Regional Jazz Band Parents Association

P.O. Box 864, Manahawkin, NJ 08050 · southernjazzparents@gmail.com

January, 2022

Dear Southern Jazz Parents,

Welcome! We are the Southern Regional Jazz Band Parents Association (SRJBPA), the parent organization that supports the extracurricular jazz programs of this school district.

“Jazz Season” typically runs November-May and encompasses 3 performance groups: Middle School Ensemble, High School Jazz Band, and High School Jazz Ensemble.

The attached materials should be helpful for both new and returning jazz parents. Please mark meeting and event dates on your calendars and if you have any comments, suggestions, or questions we encourage you to attend our general meetings or to contact any one of the SRJBPA Executive Board members at the email address listed above.

In addition to our own events, Southern Regional is pleased to be the host school again this year for a N.J. Association for Jazz Education state preliminary festival.

We hope to see everyone at our first parent meeting on **Wednesday, February 9 at 6:00 p.m.** in the High School vocal music room. Please bring your ideas along with your completed membership form and dues.

We are looking forward to an exciting season!

Mission Statement:

Founded in 2000, the Southern Regional Jazz Band Parents Association is an organization dedicated to the aggrandizement of Jazz Education. Teachers and parents of students from grades 7-12 work in harmony to foster the art of Jazz performance within the Southern Regional School District and greater Manahawkin community. Funding for the students is raised primarily through hosting jazz performance events and is allocated for educational enrichment programs and scholarships. The collective vision of the group is to bring students, parents and community members together in fellowship to celebrate the joy of jazz music.

SRJBPA Board 2021-2022

Nina Ditmar
President

Marie McMenemy
Vice President

Stacey Schnepf
Treasurer

Ann Kahl
Recording Secretary

Mary McGinty
Corresponding Secretary

SRJBPA Membership

We need you! It takes a group of very dedicated students, teachers, and parents to maintain the Southern Jazz tradition of excellence. SRJBPA is dedicated to supporting and advancing the program through fundraising, event planning, and volunteering. Dues and fundraising offset the cost of home events including judge & sound technician fees, performance expenses, special instructors & workshops, senior scholarships, and our annual jazz banquet. We encourage all parents to join SRJBPA and to renew their membership each year. Annual dues are \$20 per family. Membership is NOT required to attend meetings or help with events, but it is a great financial help to the program and pays for itself with 2 free admissions to JazzFest.

Executive Board

Board members are nominated and selected by SRJBPA members and new officers are always needed as vacancies arise. We encourage both Middle and High School parents to get involved! If you are interested in serving on the Board, please speak to one of the band directors or reach out to the SRJBPA via email: southernjazzparents@gmail.com

Stay Informed!

There are several ways to stay informed about upcoming jazz events, practice schedules, and meetings:

- Visit the Southern Regional Jazz website regularly: www.southernjazz.info
- Check out the Jazz bulletin board in the Middle School and High School band rooms
- Attend SRJBPA meetings!
- Bookmark the district music calendar: www.srsd.net/calendar/eventsCalendar.aspx (from the pull-down menus, select High School, music/theater, and then type “jazz” in the search bar)
- Make sure your child’s director has a current email address for you.
- Provide contact information when you join the SRJBPA

Meetings

Everyone has something to contribute! We welcome your ideas, time, and enthusiasm. PLUS, getting to know other band parents makes helping out at events more fun. Meetings are held 1-3 times per year as needed in the High School Vocal Music Room (M-2). Details will be posted on the website and announced via email. Much of the SRJBPA “legwork” is done outside of our meetings so there are many ways to be involved.

Lock Boxes

Located in each band room is a Jazz lock box. The MS box is just inside the classroom door. The HS box is next to the Jazz bulletin board by the exterior door. **Any notes, payments, or forms for jazz can be placed by your student in the lock box, though please do not send in a large amount of cash.** The boxes will be checked on a regular basis. *Please be careful not put items in the Marching Band Lock Box, which is on the opposite wall of the H.S. band room!*

Jazz Camp

The selective High School Jazz Ensemble begins rehearsing earlier in the year due to their full schedule of competitive events. Each fall, these students participate in a full day “camp”, held at Southern, with workshops provided by professional musicians. SRJBPA typically covers the cost of lunch for participants as well as additional instructor fees. This year’s camp took place at the high school on **November 20, 2021.**

♪♪ Performance Events ♪♪

Performance opportunities showcase our talented student musicians to the community while also serving to raise operating funds. Many parent volunteers are needed to assist with these events.

Southern Regional JazzFest (Friday, March 18, 2022 from 4:00 – 10 p.m.) Southern welcomes some of the area's finest middle and high school bands for this annual judged competition. JazzFest is a wonderful opportunity for the community to support Southern Jazz while listening to some excellent jazz music in our own Joseph P. Echle Auditorium. Admission is \$10 for adults (free for SRJBPA members). Children, Southern students, jazz alumni, and SRSD staff are FREE. Tickets are sold at the door only. A hand stamp allows patrons to come & go throughout the evening and food is available in the 9-10 Cafeteria.

Trophy sponsors defray the cost of awards presented to the participating bands. Sponsor names will be listed in the event program and students will present the awards to the winning band. Booster lines & photos will also be printed in the event program for \$5 each. Please adhere to the guidelines and due date on the Booster and Trophy Sponsorship forms, which can be found on the jazz website.

Parent volunteers are needed to donate food and beverages, sell tickets at the door, help in the cafeteria, assist in the judges' hospitality room, and serve as "master of ceremonies". Sign-up sheets will be circulated at our first meeting and via email.

Java & Jazz Coffeehouse: (Sunday, April 10, 2022 at 3 p.m.) At this sell-out event, the 11-12 Cafeteria is transformed into a festive bistro, where guests can relax to the music of Southern Jazz while enjoying hot & cold beverages and delicious homemade desserts. A 50/50 and gift basket raffle add to the excitement.

Students will be assigned (by band and instrument section) to bring in specific food items or contribute \$5 toward supplies. Parent volunteers are needed to set up (usually the day before), serve food, sell tickets at the door, and prepare gift baskets. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Tickets will be available in March and advanced ticketing is strongly encouraged.

Other Performances: MS Jazz and HS Jazz Band may participate in several jazz competitions or festivals at other schools. These valuable opportunities generally occur during school hours and count as field trip activities. HS Ensemble attends additional competitions outside of school hours; most of these events are open to the public with an admission fee at the door. Each band's schedule is detailed on the website.

Softball Game & Jazz Banquet

Jazz season usually concludes with an early spring banquet at a local restaurant. Band directors present awards, acknowledgments, and a slide show as the bands look back on the accomplishments of the year. The SRJBPA covers the cost for all band members; parents wishing to attend may purchase tickets. The bands and directors also like to cap off the year with a spirited after-school softball game at the school. ****Due to covid precautions, the 2022 Banquet may be held as an outdoor picnic in conjunction with the softball game; details to follow.**

Scholarships

All graduating seniors involved in the Southern Regional Jazz program are invited to apply for a college scholarship, regardless of their intended field of study. Scholarships are awarded by the SRJBPA at the discretion of the Board. Eligible seniors must complete an application (available on the website) and attend college in the year following graduation. Last year the SRJBPA awarded \$4750 in scholarships to 17 seniors. Deadline is March 30, 2022; awards are presented at Scholarship Night.

Fundraising

Various efforts help to fund each year's Jazz season and senior scholarships, and it is hoped that every band family will try to participate. On **Wednesday, April 13** from 4-8 pm we will have a Chipotle Fundraiser; see flyer on the website for details. We are always open to new ideas; our very successful Radiothon last spring was conceived and entirely organized by one of our families.

✓ Please mark your calendars...and check www.southernjazz.info for any updates & changes

2022 SRJBPA General Meetings

*Meetings will be held in the Vocal Music Room (M-2)
Masks required per school policy

- Wednesday, February 9 @ 6:00 p.m.
 - April meeting- TBA, if needed

2022 EVENTS

Wednesday, March 9 – *NJAJE state prelims held at Southern Regional*
Friday, March 18 - *JazzFest*
Sunday, April 10 - *JAVA & JAZZ*
TBA, May - *JAZZ SOFTBALL GAME/AWARDS*

We encourage ALL Southern Jazz parents to join the

SOUTHERN REGIONAL JAZZ BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Annual membership is \$20 per family

****Includes 2 free admissions to JazzFest!**

Please submit payment and form to the SRJBPA lockbox or bring to a SRJBPA meeting.

Thank you! --The SRJBPA Executive Board

2021-2022 Southern Regional Jazz Band Parents Association

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Student _____ Grade _____

HS JAZZ ENSEMBLE

HS JAZZ BAND

MS JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Student _____ Grade _____

HS JAZZ ENSEMBLE

HS JAZZ BAND

MS JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Parent(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

Parent E-Mail _____ Preferred Phone # _____

PLEASE PRINT VERY CLEARLY! Providing email information is consent to receive email from SRJBPA
Please enclose \$20 Annual Dues (cash, or checks payable to SRJBPA)