Dear Colleague,

The Indiana String Teachers Association is sponsoring the All-Region Middle School String Festival. The date for the Northern site is November 9th, at Portage High School, located in Portage, Indiana. The festival will begin on Saturday morning and end with an early evening concert.

Festival participants must currently be students of an ASTA member. They must be members of a sixth through eighth grade school string program or, if no school string program is available, they may be recommended by their private instructor. Sixth grade students should be at least in their second year of study. Please keep in mind that due to facility constraints we need to keep the size of the orchestras down, so be sure to select your students carefully, and hopefully we won’t have to turn anyone away.

NEW THIS YEAR: INASTA has changed the All-Region Orchestra enrollment/representation equation. Previously, a school could submit a maximum of 10% of their 7th and 8th grade enrollment or up to 5 students for programs under 100 in their 7th and 8th grade programs. THIS YEAR: ENROLLMENT/REPRESENTATION IS AS FOLLOWS:

- 7th & 8th Grade total 0-39: 3 students
- 7th & 8th Grade total 40-99: 6 students
- 7th & 8th Grade total 100-149: 9 students
- 7th & 8th Grade total 150+: 12 students

Please submit balanced instrumentation. You should indicate whether the student should be in Allegro or Vivace. You may indicate if violins should be violin 1 or 2 and we will do our best to accommodate. Every North All Region Orchestra since at least 2010 has been cello heavy. If you submit four cellos and two violins, I cannot guarantee placement of all four cellos. PLEASE SUBMIT BALANCED INSTRUMENTATION.

The deadline for applications to be emailed to the site host is Sept 9th. Applications received after the deadline will be accepted only with a late fee of $50.00 and must be received before the selection process has been completed. The site host is responsible for participant selection based on teacher recommendations. The site host and conductor will decide on the schedule for the day and how seating will be determined. The mailing from the site host will be sent to you in late September. This will include student selections, music, and information about schedule, seating and/or auditions, and other necessary information specific to your site.

The conductors for the INASTA Northern All-Region Orchestras are Ms. Johanna Kitchell of Riverside Junior High and Riverside Intermediate in Fishers, IN (Allegro – Intermediate Level Orchestra) and Mr. Doug Elmore of Floyd Central High School and Highland Hills Middle School of Floyds Knobs, IN (Vivace -Advanced Level Orchestra).

FEES: $30.00 per student will be due by registration the day of the festival. (This includes a shirt for each student.) Students will be asked to bring their own lunches or have lunch plans arranged by their director.

Directors or teachers must be members of ASTA. Teachers must include their membership number on the top of the Director’s Student Ranking sheet! If you need to join or renew visit the national ASTA website. (www.astaweb.com) To find out your ID number you can call the national office or login online to see it.

PLEASE SEND THE EXCEL SPREADSHEET TEMPLATE WITH YOUR INFORMATION AND STUDENT RECOMMENDATIONS BY SEPTEMBER 9th, 2019 TO: jessica.bouma@portage.k12.in.us

Contact site host Jessica Bouma by text/call at (219) 680-8460 or jessica.bouma@portage.k12.in.us with any questions you may have about the event.