

BAND NEWS

FOURTH GRADE BAND – Students have been issued new band folders, and are expected to keep their band book, music and practice report in it. Please remind your student that instruments and folders are not to be left at school at the end of the school day. We are issuing labels for instrument cases to those students who do not have them. At this time, Dr. Akel and I are identifying those students who are in need of extra help. We will give them extra attention to make sure they will be okay. Practicing is important for success on the instrument. However, it must be done in a productive manner. Please continue to sign these reports weekly, as they are a very important part of the grade. Your interest and support continue to be a big factor in their development as a musician. At least once a week, ask your student to perform something on their instrument for you. We are looking forward to our spring concert which is **Tuesday, May 4th, at 6:30 p.m.**

FIFTH GRADE BAND – Band students are very excited about their new concert music and they have been working hard to prepare it. Please make sure you have the band concert date on your calendar, **Tuesday, May 4th at 6:30 p.m.** New folders have been issued and should help keep the book, music and practice report from being misplaced. We are issuing labels for instruments cases to those students who do not have them. It is easier to keep track of the student's progress if they turn their practice reports in each week. Please sign them each Monday evening, so they can be turned in on Tuesday for full credit. It would be helpful if you could remind your students that instruments and folders are not to be left at school. When instruments and music are left at school, it is impossible for students to do their band homework. Students are in the process of selecting their minor for middle school. Band in middle school can only be taken as a major or a minor, we do not offer a generals class. Also, if a student wishes to participate in the band during high school, they will have had to have participated in their middle school band. Feel free to call me or e-mail me, if you have questions.

ELEMENTARY BAND MAJORS- Students continue to work with the Alfred Interactive Theory program in the computer lab each Friday. Students are making nice progress. We will be videotaping the solos that Majors have been working on. Taping will take place during classroom time. Soon we will begin working on new solos and we will begin duet work. Please help your students with their 6 new

vocabulary terms to be learned weekly. They will be tested each Wednesday. This continues to be a problem for some of the students. Students are doing a good job with weekly practice times.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND- Please encourages students to keep a regular practice schedule, and don't forget to sign their practice reports weekly. These are due every Wednesday, 150 minutes per week for majors, 100 minutes per week for minors. Private lessons and hard work have really helped many of the students develop musically. It would be great if students would work as hard on their concert music as they have just worked for their recent playing test for re-seating.

There are still a few students that have not paid for KMEA solo & ensemble fee. This is our next event. **KMEA Solo & Ensemble will take place at Lexington Catholic H.S. on Clays Mill Road, on Saturday, February 20th.** We will get your students exact performance times soon. We will also be offering help after school for KMEA Solo & Ensemble. Students are not required to attend, but this will help them feel better prepared if they can get a little extra help. Dates for extra help are **Friday, January 29, until 5:00; February 10, until 5:00, February 18, until 5:00, and February 19, until 5:00.**

KMEA Band assessment will be held on Thursday, March 18 at the U.K. Singletary Center for the Arts. We will perform at 3:40 p.m., and sightread at 4:00 p.m. that day. I would like to encourage you to come and listen to our performance.

All County Honor Band has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 24th 6-9 p.m., and Thursday, March 25th 8-4 p.m. Concert that evening, 7:30 p.m. at Henry Clay High School gymnasium. Other details concerning this event will be sent when they are received.