

BAND NEWS

****IF YOU HAVEN'T RECEIVED ANY E-MAILS FROM MS. BARKER, THEN WE DON'T HAVE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS. IMPORTANT REMINDERS GO OUT PERIODICALLY. PLEASE SEND THAT INFORMATION TO US.**

****MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND CONCERT IS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH, AT 6:30 P.M. STUDENTS WILL REPORT TO SCAPA AT 6:00 P.M. ELEMENTARY BAND STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO COME AND WATCH THE CONCERT. THEY WILL RECEIVE EXTRA CREDIT POINTS FOR ATTENDING. MAKE SURE THEY TURN IN THE PROGRAM WITH THEIR NAME ON IT. EVERYONE IS INVITED TO THE RECEPTION FOLLOWING THE CONCERT.**

FOURTH GRADE BAND – The fourth grade general band class is doing very well. Students should be practicing from their book, "Standard of Excellence, Book 1." We now have a grand total of five notes to work with. I am pleased with the progress of the band and the level of enthusiasm. A few students are struggling a bit. This can be remedied with regular practice. The hard work will pay off, and is crucial in these beginning stages. I can't stress enough the importance of practicing at least 75 minutes a week. A few have not yet attained this. The blue practice sheet must be signed by you each week to verify home practice. Practice reports are due each Wednesday. There is no penalty for late practice reports. If students turn it in without a parent signature they get half credit. Full credit will be given when the practice report is signed. Please continue to offer your student plenty of encouragement and support in these beginning stages of playing. Some cases are still not labeled with the student's name. Please check this. **THE FIRST ELEMENTARY BAND CONCERT IS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3RD AT 6:30 P.M., STUDENTS WILL REPORT TO THE MULTIPURPOSE ROOM AT 6:00. WHITE TOPS, BLACK SKIRTS OR PANTS AND DARK SHOES ARE THE CONCERT ATTIRE.**

FIFTH GRADE BAND – Practice reports are being taken up every Tuesday. Please sign reports weekly. Seventy-five minutes per week, outside of class, is the expected practice time. This is a significant part of the grade. Rental forms for school instruments have been issued. If you have not filled out that form and sent in the fee, please take care of this as soon as possible. Students are playing some

challenging pieces, and doing very well. You will be pleasantly surprised at the difference that you will hear. **THE FIRST ELEMENTARY BAND CONCERT IS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3RD AT 6:30 P.M., STUDENTS WILL REPORT TO THE MULTIPURPOSE ROOM AT 6:00. WHITE TOPS, BLACK SKIRTS OR PANTS AND DARK SHOES ARE THE CONCERT ATTIRE. MAKE SURE EVERYTHING STILL FITS.** Your kids are great. Your encouragement and support is always appreciated.

ELEMENTARY BAND MAJORS- Students continue to work with the Alfred Interactive Theory program in the computer lab each Friday. Students are making nice progress. Majors have just begun working on solos which will be shared with the class and videotaped. Please continue to help your students with their 6 new vocabulary terms to be learned weekly. They will be tested each Wednesday. They are doing better with the terms. Practice reports are still due each Wednesday. One-hundred minutes per week, outside of class, is the expected practice time. Students may count their private lessons on their practice reports. Elementary band majors will be showcased on the December 3rd concert with several pieces of their own.

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. Musical terms test are every Wednesday. Private lessons and hard work have really helped many of the students develop musically. There are a few students who have not put adequate preparation time into their concert music. This gives me great concern. I expect each one to give their very best. They owe it not only to themselves but to the other band students. Please make sure that the minutes on the practice report really do add up to what they are doing at home.

Sign-ups for M-2 lessons sponsored by the Lafayette Band will take place in January. Students currently taking lessons through this program will need to sign-up again. New students are welcome at this time. Instrument rental contracts for school instruments were issued several weeks ago. If you have not taken care of this, feel free to bring signed forms to the concert. Students were issued a gold colored form with band fees and solo & ensemble fees. I do not issue these at the beginning of the year, because there are enough expenses at that time. The gold form is due on November 24. By this time each student and I will have talked about which events they should do for KMEA.

The band concert is Thursday, November 5th at 6:30 p.m. Students will report at 6:00 p.m. that night. Make sure to bring food and drink items for the reception.

Eighth grade band night will happen. It is to take place at Jessie Clark Middle School on Wednesday, November 18th, from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Parents are responsible for transportation. I will pass on details when I receive them.

In about a week, we should have the specific All-County Honor Band audition time for your student. Those auditions occur at Edythe J. Hayes Middle School on Thursday, November 19th. If selected, students will rehearse on January 7th and 8th concert January 9th.

E.K.U. Honor band has been changed from December 5th to December 12th due to renovation issues. I sent in recommendations for those 7th & 8th grade students who were interested in participating. I should receive the list of those who were selected within the next week or two.

We will round out the semester with the Holiday Luncheon concert which will take place on Wednesday, December 16, one performance during the 11:00 lunch, and one performance during the 11:30 lunch. Holiday attire is welcome and sack lunches will work best on this day.