



DESOTO CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND

Dear 5th grade parent,

Before Spring Break, the DCMS 6th grade band visited your child's school to perform a concert. During this special time we had with the 5th grade students, we demonstrated instruments and talked about how much fun band was. We want you to hear the same information as your child because band is truly a unique subject!

As an incoming 6th grader, your child finally has the opportunity to do what so many successful students have done before them, Be Part of the Band!! We know that for some of you, this will be your first exposure to music education and we wanted to share some information with you.

Attached to this letter is a FAQ about band, information about the different instruments, and a google form to fill out online. This is a time where the both of you can explore the different options and get help choosing the experiences and classes that will help them be successful in middle school and beyond. If after reading these materials you still have questions, please feel free to contact me at any time using the info listed below.

Music education is more than just playing an instrument. It is immersing your child in a culture of successful students and teachers who care about education. It challenges each child to use the creative side of the brain while, at the same time, learning a foreign language....MUSIC!

All of the current data clearly states that students involved with music education academically out perform their non-musical counterparts. But, more importantly, studies are showing that music students are less likely to engage in risky behaviors such as drugs and alcohol.

We know that you have 3 choices for electives your 6th grade year (Band, Choir, P.E.). Every destination starts with a decision to embark on a journey. Now is the time to start your child in middle school music and DCMS is the place to do it. We can't promise every child will be a musical prodigy, but we can promise they will learn, laugh, and grow along the way.

The Desoto Central Band Program strives for excellence not only in musicianship, but also in citizenship as well! We care for your student, therefore if your child wants to participate in other activities, such as a sport or choir, we **can** make it work for them to do **both**!!! This is a positive organization that will give your child a well-rounded experience in dealing with others, as well as teach them music. Learning music is a great benefit to your child. Studies have shown that children who participate in music are more likely to score higher on tests, and they are guaranteed a scholarship for playing well as they prepare for college. We want you to know that we are interested in your child and look forward to working with you and your child next year!

Sincerely,

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