

Tuesday, September 8th, 2009

Dear Music Parent or Guardian,

Welcome back to another exciting year at Wilson Middle School! This year, WMS musicians will be able to participate in a number of performances, special activities, and other musical experiences. Again this year, Mr. Noble and Mrs. McKenna will be team teaching with Mrs. Day for various periods! In order to provide the best learning environment possible, expectations for the year have been detailed below. Once you and your son or daughter have read the information, please sign the bottom portion and return it to class on or before the third class meeting. Students will not be allowed to play their instruments until this portion has been returned. Good luck on a great start!

**6<sup>th</sup> grade Band and Orchestra Expectations:**

1. Band and orchestra students are committed to their group for the entire school year.
2. Students are required to supply their own instrument and keep it in good repair.
3. Students are required to practice outside of class each week.
4. Students must come to class prepared: ½” or 1” three-ring music binder, instrument, supplies, handouts, pencil, positive attitude, with their part learned for the day.
5. Students are responsible for carrying their own instrument to and from school.
6. Performances are required unless specified as “extra-credit.”
7. **6<sup>th</sup> grade band and orchestra will be Pass/Fail (no letter grades will be given.)** Credit is based on: Daily Participation (playing, listening, responsible behavior) 60%; Tests (playing and written) 15%; and Performances 25%. Extra credit is always available for extra practice, music research, or attending outside performances!

**Absence Policy:**

If an unavoidable conflict with a concert occurs, like an illness or family emergency, see or call the director as soon as possible (voicemail may be left any time of day or night.) Send a signed note or a call (734) 759-5300 ext. #5393. A make-up assignment usually takes the place of an excused absence, and may consist of playing concert music privately for the director and/or attending a concert and writing a critique. Not attending a concert because a student forgot or did not arrange for a ride in advance are examples of unexcused absences.

(over)

### Equipment List

To cut down on the loss of sheet music, a ½”or 1”**three-ring binder** is needed.  
All students should bring their **MUSIC BINDER, HANDOUTS, A PENCIL** and their **INSTRUMENT** to every rehearsal!

#### **Flute**

soft cloth that fits in case  
cleaning rod

#### **Clarinet**

box of reeds (always keep 2 extra reeds in case)  
cleaning swab  
cork grease

#### **Saxophone**

Box of reeds (always keep 2 extra reeds in case)  
cork grease  
neck strap  
cleaning swab

#### **Trumpet, Baritone, Tuba**

valve oil  
rag to clean valves  
snake

#### **Horn**

soft cloth that fits in case  
rotor oil

#### **Trombone**

snake  
trombone slide oil  
rag to clean slide

#### **Violin, Viola**

soft cloth that fits in case  
rosin

#### **Cello, Bass**

soft cloth that fits in case  
rosin  
rock stop

#### **Percussion**

snare sticks, **marked with student name**  
practice pad  
bell kit is required for home practice!

As always, thank you for your continued musical support!!

Sincerely,

Mary T. Day, Marilyn McKenna, Michael Noble  
Instrumental Music Directors, Wilson Middle School

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I, \_\_\_\_\_(student name and grade) have read the  
Wilson Middle School Band and Orchestra expectations, and agree to follow them.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(student signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(parent/guardian signature)

\*\*\*Detach and return by the third class meeting in order to play your instrument in class!\*\*\*