

To: 2010 – 2011 MMS Band Parents/Guardians and Students
From: Mr. Williams, Director of MMS Bands
Re: **Welcome Back!**

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

I would like to first welcome all of you back to another school year that is surely bound for success! Last year was a great year for the MMS Band program and its students. Apple Festival, community concerts, and contests were all challenges that were taken on and met by students last year. Now one year later, we enter with the same drive to meet or exceed these accomplishments. Returning 7th and 8th grade members, it is now your turn to step up and show leadership towards the incoming 6th grade class. Incoming 6th grade members, welcome! I have had the pleasure of talking with your parents/guardians this summer, in hopes of trying to get to know you a little better before camp starts. From my conversations and from what I saw at the spring concert last May, I am very excited and cannot wait to get started!

I do feel that it is important to give entering sixth grade students and parents an idea of my philosophy and goals for the upcoming year. I believe that music can be both educational and enjoyable at the same time. Students should be prepared to work hard, PRACTICE, and push themselves to their highest performance level, **while at the same time enjoy what they are accomplishing**. If a program can establish this work ethic at the beginning, then it is able to take on the many challenges that the year will present. If I have one goal for the year, it is to perform at our highest level while **showing consistent growth**.

Students and parents please read through the August 2010 Band Camp Letter/Schedule!

Should you have any questions after looking it over, please feel free to contact me at anytime. Students will receive their Student Handbooks during the first week of school, and the Fall 2010 Master Schedule during camp. Al Allen continues working hard updating our website. If you have not had the chance to look at it, please visit www.bluedevilband.org and check it out. It continues to be one of the best! All of my announcements, mailings, schedules, and itineraries throughout the year will be posted on there. It is a great tool for parents who cannot make the booster meetings.

I am aware of some student conflicts for camp, such as the Methodist confirmation field trip, vacations, scouts, etc. These are all conflicts that will be worked around. **At NO TIME will sports be a conflict. Students WILL be able to do both.** If your student has a day or two of camp that they will not be able to make, **please let me know as soon as possible.** If there are no conflicts, students must attend the **ENTIRE CAMP!**

I am looking forward to the upcoming year. Students, enjoy what is left of your summer! I will be seeing all incoming 6th graders and new students starting **Friday, July 30th**. 7th and 8th graders will join in on the fun starting August 4th.

Thank you.

Nicholas Williams
Director of MMS Bands
(618) 684-3041, ext. 2224 (*MMS Band Office*)
nwilliams@mhs.org