

Graves County Middle School Band

Jonathan Light – Director

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328 or 674-36



Establish Practice Routine

Dear Band Parent(s),

The excitement of a new adventure is enough to provide an ample supply of positive motivation for the first two weeks of the band experience. Once the initial enthusiasm wears off, it is important to immediately develop wholesome practice habits which will guarantee a successful and personally gratifying process for your child. Your support and guidance will be the key factors in establishing the practice schedule insuring the attainment of musical goals.

The most effective home rehearsal programs are based on a daily half hour dedicated to quality practice. It is suggested that you and your young musician(s) mutually agree on a practice time, and a special area of your home designated for their area of musical study. A final five or ten minute recital is always effective in building performance responsibilities. Every instrumentalist enjoys the opportunity to display their talents. You might even ask for a paragraph of what new progress was made during the practice. A special calendar can also serve as a reminder as well as a reward poster for the commitment needed to accomplish the assigned material. Remember, positive reinforcement is the most effective communication you can share in this important quest.

It is vital to develop a discipline which makes home practice a natural part of the day. Although many new concepts are taught during band rehearsals, the limited time does not afford the personal attention which is vital in developing the technical facility required for the upcoming years of musical exploration. The cooperative efforts of the band director, the student musicians and the willing parent/s constitute the proven recipe for success.

Band means more to your son/daughter than just playing an instrument. It offers an opportunity to experience a whole new level of communication. This artistic language will be with them for a lifetime. These formative years of music education can open up a world of aesthetic possibilities which will bring new meaning to the growth and development of your child. Let us join hands in establishing a solid foundation of growth by creating a disciplined practice schedule at the onset of their band career.

Your thoughts and questions are encouraged. I look forward to banding together.

Musically yours,
Jonathan Light
Jeff Williams
Ellis Shelby
Band Director