

NANSEMOND RIVER HIGH SCHOOL BAND

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Dear Parent(s),

Now that our school year is nearly halfway completed, I would like to touch base with you regarding your student's participation in Mr. Woodis' instrumental music class. We've had a very good year so far, and the Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band and Orchestra have attained higher proficiency levels as young musicians. I am very proud of all of the students and the progress they have made.

Keep in mind that the beginning of the year had the excitement of Marching Band, a new school year and a new activity for some. After the thrill of summer band camp ended marching band members were able to perform that first show, followed by the thrill of a public performance complete with lots of applause and proud parents. Now that all of that is gone, we have settled into the routine of learning to develop new technical skills. This is the time when music students can seize the opportunity to grow as musicians. If your student is a new band member don't be surprised if your student experiences some decrease in interest during this time. It is completely normal. However, with your continued support and encouragement, we can overcome any decline in enthusiasm and reach for the next performance level.

Your student may need EXTRA encouragement during the next few weeks to continue good practice habits and performance in class. These are the transition times from middle to high school for underclassmen (9 & 10th graders) and high school to college for upperclassmen (11 & 12th graders). How your student handles situations now can determine the way he or she approaches every aspect of life. Though the requirements for learning an instrument demand a high level of personal discipline, it is this same discipline which will be applied as a habit to all tasks in life, especially his or her academic success. A child must learn that benefits of a task only come from long range commitment and dedication.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience if you would like to discuss any aspect of your child's performance in instrumental music class. I am anxious to do all I can to assist you in the successful development of your child's abilities. The blog is always the best place for official information concerning the music department at NRHS. You can also email me at edwoodis@spsk12.net.

Best regards,

Edward J. Woodis

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Director of Bands and Orchestra