



<http://cms.cycloneregiment.org/>

Chester Middle School Bands
Kevin Smith, Director
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Tuesday, May 26, 2009

Dear Parents,

Each year at this time, students eagerly await their turn to join our band program. The study of music could be one of the most valuable steps in your child's education. Current research shows that playing an instrument increases brain development and along with developing responsibility, mental discipline, teamwork, and self-esteem, will provide enjoyment while fostering a lifelong appreciation of music and other arts. Our beginning instrumental music classes for next year are now being organized. I had the opportunity to meet with the entire 5th grade and to demonstrate various instruments to them. In order to do our scheduling for the 2009-2010 school year, I need to know whether your child will be enrolled in band. Please indicate below whether or not you want your child to be enrolled in band class for the coming school year, and have your child return the form to his/her homeroom teacher. It is important that this form be returned as quickly as possible.

All instruction is free, and all that is necessary for you to do is obtain an instrument for your child. A good – quality instrument is essential for your child's success. When school begins in August, I will be working with students in band class to help them decide what instrument is best suited for them. A meeting will be held where our music dealer, Pecknel Music Company, will have representatives on hand to offer their Rental/Purchase plans; I believe a rental plan is advisable. You will receive notification of the time and date of this meeting after the beginning of the new school year.

I hope that you agree with my belief that every child should have the chance to participate in music, to understand it and to appreciate it. The Chester Band Program can afford your child many meaningful, memorable, and rewarding experiences through classroom learning and through performances. Participation in the band is especially helpful for students who are planning to attend college, both for scholarships and the fact that better colleges prefer students who have participated in music and other extracurricular activities in addition to academic courses.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 803-377-8192 or email me at: **ksmith@chester.k12.sc.us**. I will also be available between Chester Middle School and Chester Park Schools, after school on June 4th, and all day on June 5th to answer questions personally.

Musically Yours,

Kevin Smith
Director of Bands
Chester Middle School

(RETURN THIS PORTION)

Child's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

_____ : YES, PLEASE ENROLL MY CHILD IN BAND CLASS FOR THE 2009 – 2020 SCHOOL YEAR.

_____ : NO, DO NOT ENROLL MY CHILD IN BAND CLASS.