

November 3, 2010

INTERPARISH BAND CHRISTMAS PARADE & CONCERT!

Dear Band Students & Parents,

As the Christmas season approaches, the Interparish Grade School Band's rehearsal and performance times increase. The rehearsals listed on the attached two-sided calendar of events are to prepare for the J.C. Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 4 at 4:00pm (6th, 7th & 8th graders meet in the St. Peter band room by 2:30pm), and also our annual Interparish Grade School Band Christmas Concert in The Miller Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, December 15 at 7:00pm (5th, 6th, 7th & 8th graders meet there by 6:15pm).

Dress for the parade will be khaki full-length slacks with comfortable tennis shoes. The band uniform tops (and white gloves if needed) will be distributed the day of the parade, but students may need to wear layers of clothing underneath if the weather is colder. They may also wear "Santa Hats" if they have them. Dress for the concert will be as on a school dress-up day, wearing bright holiday colors. No shorts for either event please...

All after-school rehearsals take place in the St. Peter band room on the ground floor the west-side addition from 3:00 to 4:45pm. As stated in the permission slips, a bus will transport the students from St. Joseph Cathedral and Immaculate Conception Schools to St. Peter, but the parents are responsible to retrieve their children immediately following the rehearsals. All of the rehearsals are for a grade, so only a signed explanation due to a grave conflict or illness will excuse the student. Because these practices are graded mainly on participation, improper behavior can also adversely affect the student's grade. It is at these rehearsals, where there can be from 40 to over 100 students attending, that I will need their utmost cooperation. The above expectations go just as well with our upcoming performances. PARENTS – please remind your children that they are representing the three largest Catholic grade schools in the diocese and that being a member of the Interparish Grade School Band is a privilege available to few. I would also like to remind you again that individual home practicing is the only way we can succeed musically.

With the current uncertain state of the Helias/Interparish Band Boosters organization, it is even more important for all families of band students pay their yearly fee of \$20.00 to the Interparish Band. I personally paid for the busses involved with the Helias Homecoming Parade, and there are repair bills as well outstanding. Please keep in mind that if you paid your rent for a Band Booster instrument, the dues were included in that amount. If you are currently using a Band Booster instrument and still owe the rent, please contact me so that I can give you the amount due. Thanks to all of you who continually show cooperation and support for your children's musical talent! Without you we could not have the success of our band program. Please let me know if you have any questions or comments by calling 635-2732 between 4:00 and 6:00 weeknights.

Gratefully yours,

Bruce G. Connor, IPB Director