11135 NC Hwy 27 West ~ Lillington, NC 27546 Phone (919) 499-4497

April 2022

Beginning Band Parents,

Registration for middle school sixth grade classes is fast approaching. Hopefully, your child is thinking of joining the Western Harnett Band Program. This letter will try to answer any questions you may have about the band program.

The program is growing and doing very well. There are approximately 150 band students in grades six, seven, and eight. All three groups perform concerts for the school and evening performances for family and friends. We have a volunteer Pep Band that performs at football games. Seventh and eighth grade students also have opportunities to attend county, district, and state competitions. Each year we have several students earn chairs in the Harnett All-County Band and the Southeastern District Band.

Band classes meet each day, all year long. If your child chooses to be in Band, he or she may <u>only choose one elective</u>. Students can still take band and play sports in middle and high school.

Band students are asked to furnish their own instruments. There are several reputable companies in our area; however Edwards Music Company services our school. Edwards Music Company is located in Fayetteville, 524 N. McPherson Church Road, 910-868-1185. This company offers new and used instrument purchase plans and a rent to own option. Instruments cost from \$30.00 - \$48.00 per month on the rent to own option and come with a maintenance/repair warranty. This means, if the instrument gets broken or damaged while you are paying for it, the company will repair it at no additional cost to you. Edwards Music Company will be helping with instrument rentals at WHMS on April 20<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in the WHMS Band Room.

PLEASE BE PREPARED TO FILL OUT A CONTRACT WITH YOUR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION AT THE MEETING IF YOU PLAN TO RENT AN INSTRUMENT. <u>NO CHECKS OR CASH WILL BE COLLECTED</u>. INSTRUMENTS RENTED AND BOOKS PURCHASED WILL BE DELIVERED TO THE SCHOOL DURING THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF SCHOOL in August.

The music book WHMS uses is **Essential Elements**, **Book 1** for the beginners.

Students may choose to play flute, clarinet, trumpet and trombone this year. Students wishing to play a different instrument, must have prior approval from Mrs. Collins, WHMS Band Director.

If you have any further questions about the Band program, feel free to call me at Western Harnett Middle School, 919-499-4497 or email, <a href="mailto:licollins2@harnett.k12.nc.us">lcollins2@harnett.k12.nc.us</a>.

Sincerely,

Laura Collins, Band Director