

Dear MLIS Parents,

Your child is currently enrolled in Pre-band class as part of the 5th grade rotation of exploratory elective classes. This class is designed to be an introduction to band and the basics of music in general, including instrumental performance. Your child does not need any prior knowledge of music to be successful in this class beyond their general elementary school music education.

The pre-band class focuses on skill development in the areas of basic music notation, musical terminology, music history & style periods, listening skills, and instrumental performance skills utilizing the recorder. A significant portion of the class is devoted to learning to play familiar tunes on the recorder, and your child will be independently tested on their ability to perform the music and exercises that we learn in class.

I will also be introducing the instruments of the band through live performances, videos and recordings. Toward the end of the six weeks period, your child will take the *Selmer Music Survey* that will help me to determine your child's aptitude for music.

I hope that after taking this class, your child will become excited about the possibility of learning to play a band instrument, and will choose to become a member of the Leopard Band in 6th grade!

Your child will need to have a recorder for this class.

For your convenience, we will be selling recorders for \$6.00 at school. If you choose to buy your recorder from Lillard, send cash or a check for:

- **\$6.00**
- made out to **Mary Lillard Intermediate School**

You may also elect to buy your recorder at a music store or bring one from home – either is acceptable as long as the instrument is in good working condition.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (817) 276-6280 or email me at mschweig@mansfieldisd.org. You will receive a more immediate response through email.

I look forward to having your child in class!

Melinda Schweig
Band Director
Mary Lillard Intermediate School

