

Dear 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Students and Parents:

Solo and Ensemble is fast approaching and we are in the final stretch to put our solos together with their accompaniment! Please encourage your child to practice at home over Christmas Vacation to ensure they will have a successful experience at solo and ensemble! We are beginning our in class rehearsal MONDAY, JANUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2010. Solo and Ensemble Festival is **Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**.

Our accompanists for this year are Mrs. Kay Bean (saxophones and double reeds), Mrs. Paula Davis (low brass/cornets), Mrs. Theresa Miller (cornets and horns), Mrs. Caroline Putney (clarinets), Mrs. Pat Fleitstra (flutes) , and John Deppe (percussion). To accommodate everyone's schedule we need to have some students come in after school and in the evening to work with their accompanist. We will also be working during class and at lunch. It is critically important that all students have the opportunity to rehearse with the accompanist that will be playing for them during the festival.

**Enclosed is a rehearsal schedule** for the remainder of time we have available. Please check to see when your child is scheduled; **if you have an unavoidable conflict, please contact me as soon as possible**, and I will try to find a solution. Please call my **cell phone 517-896-7392** over vacation to let me know so I can have time to make necessary adjustments. Many of our accompanists have full time jobs and their time is limited as to when they can come in to work with us. We truly appreciate you being flexible with this.

I am sending home a **tentative festival performance schedule**. Please check to see when your child is scheduled to perform. **If you have an unavoidable conflict, please let me know as soon as possible**. Depending on the accompanist, adjudicator, and other factors, I may be able to do some re-arranging. Students will need to be at school 45 minutes before their scheduled performance time, and are free to leave once they have received their ratings. We ask that students wear nice clothing or their band uniform – no jeans or T-shirts, please. We are also in need of parent volunteers to help at the festival and with the meal for the adjudicators. If you are available to help, or could donate something for the meal, we would greatly appreciate it! Please contact Karen Deppe 269-781-8020 or email Dave or myself.

If you have not paid the \$20.00 entrance fee to solo and ensemble, we would greatly appreciate full payment by January 4th, please make checks payable to Olivet Bands. Please have your child place your payment in the green box. If you have any questions, please contact me at [funkl@olivetschools.org](mailto:funkl@olivetschools.org).

Hope you are hearing lots of wonderful sounds at home!

Thank you,

Lynne Funk