



SMS MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Reflect * Refine * Reinforce

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Greetings, Socastee Middle School Performers!

We are elated to create a strong, quality music program as we begin to set the traditions and legacy of Socastee Middle School. With a variety of options—Band, Chorus, Orchestra, General Music—students have many ways to express their musical talents. Sixth grade is a crucial time in deciding which ensemble to be part of, possibly shaping our lives in its entirety as we learn skills to develop over our lifetime. Our legacy starts with you, as students, as parents and guardians, as a community. And so, we invite you to our SMS Music Department Open House to learn the expectations of our classes and select instruments.

On August 29th at 5:00 PM in the SMS Cafeteria, we will be holding discussions about our programs and give students a chance to try out instruments. This meeting is **mandatory** for incoming 6th graders to the band and orchestra programs. We will begin with a brief overview of our programs and then our representative from Music and Arts will be giving a demonstration of each instrument and allow students to try instruments. All students, grades 6-8 are invited to come to the meeting and ask questions during the first half, while 6th grade orchestra and band students will remain for the instrument testing and demonstration by our representative.

All manner of woodwinds, brass, percussion, and string instruments are available for students to try. We will use our expertise to match students with instruments they will be most successful on, but of course we want our students to also share their input and play an instrument in which they have interest learning. Our representative will have rental contracts available that night, as well as information for online rentals in order to set your student on a path of quick success.

What: SMS Music Department Open House

When: 5:00PM—Tuesday, August 29th

Where: Socastee Middle School Cafeteria

Who: MANDATORY: 6th Grade Band/Orchestra Students;

Optional: 6th grade chorus and grade 7-8 performing ensemble students

Why: Program overviews & instrument rental/testing

Excitement is in the air and we could not be happier than to share it with our talented students as we build a program anew for the upcoming school year. Please feel free to forward any questions to us via email and we'll see you on the 29th!

In partnership,

Raymond Dobell

Band & 7th-8th Orchestra Director

Kevin Martel

Chorus & 6th Orchestra Director