

The Music Beat

Upcoming Events

7/8th Grade Solo & Ensemble	Feb. 2
Music Booster Meeting (6:30pm)	Feb. 5
7/8th Grade Orchestra Pre-fest concert	Feb. 12
7/8th Grade Band Pre-fest concert	Feb. 14
7/8th Grade Band Festival	Mar. 7
7/8th Grade Orchestra Festival	Mar. 9
Music Booster Meeting (6:30pm)	Mar. 12

Weekly Practice Logs

At home practice is vital for all band and orchestra students. Students should be logging their at home practice on their Practice Goal Sheets and turning them in weekly as part of their overall grade.

Please encourage your child to practice 3-4 times per week for 20-30min. per day.

Notes from Mr. Thomason

Happy New Year!

In an effort to try to keep everyone "in-the-loop" with all of the events that are happening in the Armada Middle School music program, I will be sending out monthly electronic newsletters to parents and community members. I hope that you will find them useful and enjoyable. Please feel free to provide feedback to let me know how effective these newsletters are.

The purpose of this month's "Music Beat" will be to highlight important dates (located on the left-hand side of the front page.) If you know of anyone who does not receive

"The Beat" please have them email me and I will add them to the distribution list. Also, if you wish not to receive the "Music Beat" please respond to my email with the word "unsubscribe."

In addition to this newsletter, please remember that our music program website, www.armadaschoolsmusic.com, is regularly updated with information on performances, events and booster meetings as well as many other useful items including class documents and pictures.



Have a great February! See you at our next booster meeting on Feb. 5th at 6:30pm in the M.S. band room.

~Mr. Thomason

Scientific Research

A research team reports that early music training dramatically enhances children's abstract reasoning skills. These findings indicate that music uniquely enhances higher brain functions required for mathematics, chess, science and engineering.

- From Neurological Research, Feb 28, 1997,
 Frances Raucher, Ph.D., Gordon Shaw, Ph.D.,
 University of California, Irvine

Band & Orchestra Festival and Pre-Festival

Band and Orchestra Festival is an exciting opportunity for all 7th & 8th grade students. Each ensemble will prepare three pieces of music to perform. They will play these pieces for several judges and receive

feedback to help them improve as musicians. The 7th/8th grade Band will perform at Roseville M.S. and the 7th/8th grade Orchestra will perform at Clawson H.S.

Pre-Festival will a performance in preparation for the actual festival in March and will be held on the Armada High School stage.