

PRACTICE PARTNERS 2009

Dear Students and Parents,

The McDougle Middle School band, the Smith Middle School band, and the Chapel Hill High School band are joining together in a program called **Practice Partners**. **Practice Partners** is a second semester program designed to help bridge the gap between middle school and high school band. Members of the Chapel Hill High School band will be practicing with, and tutoring, middle school band members at McDougle Middle School and Smith Middle School.

Here's how it works:

Members of the Chapel Hill High School band will come to McDougle Middle School or Smith Middle School on Wednesday mornings between 7:40 and 8:10 and practice their instruments along with members of the middle school band. This is intended to give the middle school students some one-on-one attention from a more experienced band member who plays his/her same instrument. It will also give the middle school students an opportunity to meet some of the high school band members and learn more about the band program directly from them.

The high school band members will gain experience working with the younger players, as well as a chance to help bridge the gap between the middle and high school. High school band members will also be able to earn **service learning hours** for their participation in this project.

The **Practice Partners** will meet on Wednesday mornings. **They will meet on alternate Wednesdays of each month for approximately 30 minutes.**

Meeting dates:

February 4
February 18
March 4
March 18
April 1
April 15
April 29

Middle School students will arrive at their respective band rooms at 7:40. They will be released to homebase at 8:10.

All high school students assigned to McDougle Middle School should arrive at the McDougle band room no later than 7:40. All students will need to carry the attached pass to demonstrate their participation in the program. Transportation will be provided from McDougle Middle School to Chapel Hill High School at 8:15.

All high school students assigned to Smith Middle School should arrive at the Smith band room no later than 7:40. You will walk to Chapel Hill High School at 8:15.

Participation in the program is voluntary. However, we would like to encourage students to make a commitment to attend all of the practice sessions on time in order maintain consistency.

FOR SERVICE LEARNING CREDIT: Each high school student is responsible for downloading the service learning form from the CHCCS website, filling it out and getting it signed by the middle school band director. When filling out the form, please refer to the Practice Partners program by name and mention that you are tutoring middle school students in band.

Thanks for your cooperation in helping make this new program a success!

Sincerely,

Drew Carter
Director of Bands
Chapel Hill High School

Brad Landess
Director of Bands
McDougle Middle School

Amber Hanlon
8th Grade Band
Smith Middle School

PRACTICE PARTNER PARTICIPANT PASS

I am attending a practice session in the (circle one) McDougale/Smith Middle
School band room.

NAME _____

BAND DIRECTOR _____

MIDDLE SCHOOL PERMISSION SLIP

My child, _____, has permission to attend the practice sessions on Wednesday mornings for the band Practice Partners program. I understand my child will need to be at McDougle Middle School/Smith Middle School at 7:40am and will be released at 8:10 for homebase.

The instrument my child plays is _____

Parent Signature _____

Please return this form to Mr. Landess/Ms. Hanlon

HIGH SCHOOL PERMISSION SLIP

My child, _____, has permission to attend the practice sessions on Wednesday mornings for the band Practice Partners program. I understand that my child will need to be at McDougle Middle School at 7:40am and will be transported by car to Chapel Hill High School at 8:15.

The instrument my child plays is _____

Parent Signature _____

If you can help with transportation to Chapel Hill High School at 8:15 any of these mornings, please contact Lisa Bobst at lisabobst@mac.com and let her know of your availability.

Please return this form to Mr. Carter.