May 13, 2015

Dear Parents:

As a 6th grader, your child finally has the opportunity to do what so many successful students have done before them, be part of the Barber Performing Arts!

We know that for many of you, this will be your first exposure to music and dance education and I wanted to take a brief minute to share some information with you.

At Barber, we offer a wide array of ensembles to participate in. We have a Chorus, Band, Dance, and Orchestra at our school. Your child has the unique opportunity to choose up to two of these ensembles to participate in.

Attached to this letter is information regarding our program and an instrument selection event. This is a time where you and your child can explore the different instruments and get help choosing the instrument that will give them the best chance of success. If you are unable to attend, you can contact me for further help or visit the instrument demonstration pages at [www.bepartoftheband.com](http://www.bepartoftheband.com).

Music and Dance education is more than just performing, it is immersing your child in a culture of successful students and teachers who care about education. It challenges each child use the creative side of his brain while, at the same time, learning a foreign language…MUSIC.

All of the current data clearly states that students involved in the performing arts academically out perform their non-musical counterparts. But, more importantly, studies are showing that music students are less likely to engage in risky behaviors such as drugs and alcohol.

Every destination starts with a decision to embark on a journey. Now is the time to start your child in music and Barber Middle School is the place to do it. We can’t promise that every child will be a musical prodigy, but we can promise they will learn, laugh, and grow along the way.

Should you have any questions about band or your child’s participation, please feel free to contact me using the information listed below.

Sincerely,

Robert Grogan

Director of Bands

Barber Middle School

Robert.Grogan@cobbk12.org

**Upcoming Dates!**

**Tuesday, May 12th at 7pm in the Barber Auditorium.**

Barber Fine Arts Parent Night

This meeting will be a presentation for the parents, sharing the many opportunities that the students have to perform as part of the Band, Chorus, Orchestra, and Dance.

This will be immediately following the General information night for rising 6th graders and may start earlier, depending on when the initial school-wide meeting is over.

**Wednesday, May 13th**

Dance and Percussion Applications and recommendations are due to your 5th grade teacher

**Monday, May 18th 2015 / 5:00-8:00pm at BMS**

Dance and Percussion Auditions

**Tuesday and Wednesday May 19 and 20th 2015 from 4:00-8:00pm at BMS**

Band, Orchestra, and Chorus Auditions

\*for the band, percussion, orchestra, and chorus auditions, there are no sign ups. Just pick a night that suits your family best.

**Percussion & Dance Programs**

**Teacher Reference Form**

**\_\_\_\_\_ I am auditioning for Percussion.**

**\_\_\_\_\_ I am auditioning for Dance.**

**Student’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Name of Referring Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Please rate this student on the following from 1 to 10 (10 being the highest, 1 the lowest):**

**Ability to follow directions \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Respectfulness \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Dependability/Reliability \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Work Ethic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Overall behavior in class \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Please list the first three words that you think of with regards to this student:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Why would you recommend or not recommend this student for participation in the Percussion or Dance Program at Barber Middle School?**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Teacher Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**