

Smart Music is here!

This year we are incorporating an exciting, interactive software program into our band program. This software is called **Smart Music**, and it provides great value for students at all levels. For example:

- Students practice with background accompaniment and get visual and audio feedback on each assignment, which makes practice more meaningful and productive.
- SmartMusic motivates students to continue practicing to improve their scores, similar to a video game, which makes practice more fun.
- I am able to provide more individualized attention for your child with SmartMusic's assignment features, including notes of encouragement.
- Parents have access to their student's progress 24/7.
- ***We will be using Smart Music for testing/assessments this year. Every student will be using it.***

To see a video about Smart Music ,go to www.smartmusic.com/parents

Although a SmartMusic home subscription is not a requirement, I want to highly encourage you to get a subscription. I believe your child will enjoy practicing more and improve faster. Here's how you can do that:

- Place your order at www.smartmusic.com/parents by clicking on the **Buy Now** button. All you will need is a Windows PC or a Macintosh computer with an Internet connection. Complete system requirements are listed on this page also.
- To get started, just follow the on-screen instructions for installation and activation. Your e-mail address is required to activate SmartMusic and so that I can send your child messages to encourage them, along with assignments and lesson reminders.
- An annual subscription is \$40, plus a one-time cost for a microphone (\$19.95 for Windows or \$29.95 for Mac). The SmartMusic microphones are more sensitive and responsive, which makes the assessment and recording features work better. You can try it without the microphone at first, if you like...it might work just fine!

SmartMusic is set up in three of our practice rooms for students to use when they don't have SmartMusic at home. This will work great, but it doesn't really allow them the ability to practice our in-class music (i.e., time in the practice rooms is limited and must be shared by all students who want to use it). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or e-mail me at AdkinR01@wsdmi.org . I'm looking forward to the rest of this year working with your student.

Sincerely,



R. Scott Adkins, Director of Bands