Dear Parents,

I am excited to announce that we will be starting a middle school indoor percussion ensemble for the 2023-2024 MIA season!

The indoor percussion ensemble is a marching ensemble that utilizes both battery and front ensemble. This is an excellent way to develop the fundamental skills of marching percussion. The indoor percussion ensemble focuses on both musical performance and theatrics. Indoor percussion is an excellent way to continue growth as a musician and performer in the area of percussion. Indoor percussion gives the students the opportunity to apply fundamental techniques, exercises, and readings written specifically for percussion. Since the ensemble's pieces are written for a variety of percussion instruments, students are taught the importance of individual responsibility within a performing ensemble.

As I have continued to grow and learn from the marching band activity, I have noticed that the transition between middle school and high school for a young musicians can be rather overwhelming. My goal is for these students to be able to get some experience with the marching activity while in middle school so there is smooth transition to high school marching band.

We will rehearse on Monday's from 4-6pm each week and one Saturday December 16th starting after Thanksgiving break. With the limited amount of time to put a show together, it is CRITICAL and MANDATORY for your child to be present at these rehearsals in order for the ensemble to be successful. Please do not schedule doctors appointments, family vacations, etc. on these rehearsal and completion days. Each rehearsal we will be learning new material. Failure in being present at rehearsal can result in the student being unable to perform at a competition or removal from the ensemble.

I have listed the rehearsal schedule below

Once again I can't thank you enough for allowing me to teach your child. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>mkswann@oxfordsd.org</u>.

Michael Swann

| Rehearsal Dates | | Competition Dates |
|--|------------------------------|---|
| Monday - November 27th 4-6pm | Monday - February 12th 4-6pm | Saturday - Center Hill - Feb. 3 |
| Monday - December 11th 4-6pm | Monday - February 26th 4-6pm | Saturday - Southaven - Mar. 2nd |
| Monday - December 18th 4-6pm Saturday - December 16th 8am-12pm | Monday - March 4th 4-6pm | Friday - Championships Jackson, MS - Mar. 22nd |
| Monday - January 8th 4-6pm | Monday - March 18th 4-6pm | |
| Monday - January 22nd 4-6pm | | |
| Monday - January 29th 4-6pm | | |
| Monday - February 5th 4-6pm | | |