



Lobit Middle School
BAND

LMS Gator Band

Jessicah Bordelon, Director

William Carroll, Assistant Director

1251 FM-517, Dickinson, Texas 77539

Phone: (281) 229-7739, Fax (281) 229-7701

jsaldana@dickinsonisd.org, wcarroll@dickinsonisd.org

Dear Fifth Grade Parents,

It is our pleasure to invite you and your child to become a part of the Lobit Middle School Band Program. The fifth grade students heard a presentation on band this week and are being shown the individual instruments during their music class. We hope the following information will be helpful in making your decision about joining the band family at Lobit Middle School.

The band program at Lobit Middle School has the primary goal of helping each of its students achieve the highest levels of success. Band offers children opportunities that other academic classes cannot. Band students will receive expert instruction on their primary instrument, and will improve their higher-level thinking skills, listening skills, and creative problem solving techniques. Studies show that learning a musical instrument can do more to improve higher cognitive skills than any other activity.

You do **NOT** have to buy an instrument in the first year of band; most of our students rent from local stores. We strongly recommend that you rent, not buy, your instrument. Larger instruments are available from the district by availability. You do **NOT** need to be able to read music, as it will be taught during the first year.

Some points to ponder when making this decision are:
SAT scores in the Texas All-State Ensembles were over 1300 this year, compared to a National Average of 1020 – and nearly 300 points over the state average of high school seniors. When musically trained students get to college, they continue as high achievers, especially music majors. A study of 7,500 university students revealed that music majors scored the highest reading scores among all majors, including English, biology, chemistry and math. Research has shown that High School music students have a higher grade point average than non-music students in the same school. Students with band experience attend college at a rate TWICE the national average.

When your child joins band, they will meet during the day, like any other academic class. Band students actively participate in student council, various sports (*including* football, volleyball, and basketball), national junior honor society, and various other campus groups. When your child joins band, they will develop friendships like no other, and will find a second home among the highest achievers, brightest stars, and accomplished athletes at Lobit Middle School.

Our Beginner Band Interviews and Instrument Drives will enable us to select the best instrument for your child. The dates for the Beginner Band Interviews are March 28th, March 29th, and March 30th from 5 PM – 7:30 PM at Lobit Middle School Cafeteria. We would love to add your child's name to the long, proud heritage of the Dickinson ISD Band Program, which includes numerous All-State musicians, and college music majors. As your child moves up, it is important for them to belong to a strong, healthy, and safe group, such as the Band. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us any time by phone or email, listed above. We hope to see you soon and would be honored with the opportunity to teach your child.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jessicah Bordelon
Band Director
Lobit Middle School

Mr. Will Carroll
Assistant Director
Lobit Middle School

Mr. John Hinojosa
Director of Bands
McAdams JH