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March, 2015

Dear 5th grade Parents/Guardians:

It is time to start thinking about class placements for next year. We do not expect much change at all as far as the 6th grade instructional program. Children will have the same specials and academic classes, just at the 6th grade level. Class placement procedures rely upon input from your child's current teachers regarding learning style, ability, and behavior, as well as your child's elective preference (Band, Creative Expression, or Orchestra).

We will plan on your child continuing their current elective for the 2015/2016 school year, so if your child would like to keep the elective he/she has, you do not need to do anything.

However, if you wish to change your child's elective class for 6th grade, please request the change electronically through the link found on our website under the *Transition* link found on the *Parents* tab. **This is the only way your child's elective class can be changed.** Marshall Music does not schedule children into classes, and making changes through Marshall Music could result in heartbreak and incorrect schedule in the fall.

As parents, we know you have the best understanding of your child's social and emotional needs. Your input continues to be among the important information we consider when making classroom decisions. In March, forms allowing parental input for 6th grade will be available in the office and on our website. If you want your input to be considered, please pick one up, complete it, and return it to the school office **on or before April 24, 2015.**

Please note this date is earlier than other grades and your input will be shared with school staff.

Once the input is gathered from all of the sources, our building administrative team, who has the most-in-depth and reliable information on different teachers' style, interests and strengths, as well as the make-up of the whole class, will create class lists that match the input gained from both parents and teachers. In keeping with district practice, and to assure the integrity of the process, parent requests for specific teachers cannot be honored.

In the past, our administrative team has dedicated countless hours to creating classrooms which are balanced with regard to factors like learning styles, gender, academic ability, and demographics. Consideration has also been given to discipline issues, which students work well together and which need to be separated. This commitment has not changed. This process ensures that we can continue to meet the needs of all children and families. As always, our dedication to your child's success is the priority.

Sincerely,

Aaron Currier
Principal

Ruth Badalucco
Assistant Principal