



## EXCITING NEWS!!!

Congratulations to the members of the Decatur Central High School Percussion Ensemble who have been **selected to perform at the Indiana Music Educators Conference on January 13, 2018 in Ft. Wayne, Indiana**. This conference brings together hundreds of music teacher from around our state in a three day conference. This conference serves as a way for music teachers to learn about better ways to teach, review new music publications, and listen to some of the best ensembles in our state. Each year the conference features outstanding ensembles (instrument and choral) and we have been chosen to present a concert. This is the first ever performance of our concert percussion ensemble at this event. Our top jazz ensemble performed in 2004.

This ensemble consists of the members of the 2017-18 percussion class as well as some of our talented Decatur Middle School percussionists. Our group was selected to perform through a blind audition process last spring.

This percussion ensemble is completely separate from our Winter Percussion Ensemble (WPE). The WPE is a competitive, audition only ensemble that will compete throughout Indiana and at the national level in WGI. Our CONCERT percussion ensemble is a curricular class that works on music during the school day and will not have a competitive season.

I have a lot of information to share about this performance and will be communicating with the students and parents frequently. This note is simply to announce that we are performing at the IMEA conference in Mid-January.

Once I know our exact performance time and location I will share this with everyone.

# IMEA PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE 2017-18

## IMPORTANT INFO:

Class time: We have been working on this music for almost a month and will continue to work on this material through January. We will have several AFTER SCHOOL or BEFORE school rehearsals.

Program Photo: We will be taking a GROUP picture in our "Dress Black" uniform on Tuesday Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-4:30 here at DCHS.

RHEARSALS: This ensemble will have some after school rehearsals to attend from now until the performance. Please see the CHARMS calendar and plan accordingly. IF you are not on charms – please see me ASAP!

UNIFORMS: Each member of the ensemble will need to have black dress clothes (black dress shirt / blouse, black pants, black socks, and black dress (or marching band) shoes.

COST: The trip to Ft. Wayne will require enough money to eat lunch and dinner. We are currently looking for a fun activity that will cost very little. We will be playing these pieces for *the ISSMA Solo and Ensemble District and State Contests* as well in January. This will require a fee of \$30 per student. The Band Boosters will cover the rest of the fee. The fee is set by ISSMA and helps to pay for the venue, medals, and the judge. *The \$30 is due NOVEMBER 17<sup>th</sup>. If your student would like to play a SOLO for the Solo and Ensemble contest the fee will be an additional \$15.00. Performing a solo is NOT required.*

Transportation: We will be using a school bus to Ft. Wayne. Students will be responsible for their own travel to the Solo and Ensemble District contest. If we advance to State Finals (which we will) I will arrange for a School Bus.

SEMI NEEDED: I anticipate needing to use our semi to haul all of our equipment and will need a driver for the Trip to Ft. Wayne and Solo and Ensemble contest here in Indy.

**NO OVER NIGHT stay is needed.**

We will be having a "home concert" on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 here at DCHS. This is a free concert and will help us prepare for the concert in Ft. Wayne.

Grant Award: Our ensemble was awarded a Decatur Township Educational Foundation grant to purchase some instruments to use for this concert (and many other concerts in the future).