



SOUTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL BAND

"The PRIDE" of Southside

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A Message from Mr. Weaver

Read this information on our blog at www.shs-band.com/blog

To All Members, Parents & Friends of The PRIDE,

Wow. What an eventful two weeks we've already had! I cannot say enough of just how proud I am of all our band students for their performance, integrity & behavior. I wanted to take a minute to brag especially on our Wind Ensemble members for their extraordinary performance last week at the Alabama Music Educator's Conference.

As many of you know, I was ill immediately following the performance so I apologize for not writing sooner. I am back now though and am busy catching up. The entire process of preparing the AMEA concert from day one of rehearsal, until the performance is something that I will never forget. Every single member has worked incredibly hard since October. Attending the number of extra rehearsals alone shows great commitment and dedication, and yet not once did a student complain to me. They understood the tremendous honor of this invitation and worked to create a performance of which they should be very justifiably proud. It is such a blessing for me as an educator to sit back and watch our students grow musically, but it is even more rewarding to see their blossoming maturity. So many other music teachers contacted me to congratulate the kids on the concert. They all agreed that the performance was stunning, but what blew them all away was the maturity, professionalism, and poise with which our students presented themselves.

Indeed, Emily Cagle, a Music Specialist at NBCT Bryan Elementary wrote to Mr. Winningham & Dr. Cosby to say: *"I just wanted to take a minute to congratulate the Southside Band for their exemplary performance Thursday at the Alabama Music Educators Association Conference. I expected their performance to be outstanding and they surpassed that expectation. In addition to their performance, I was able to see their discipline and behavior before their performance. I was impressed that as their director walked off stage before they performed not a single sound came from an instrument or a student. They were SILENT. In fact, Mr. Weaver had to step back on stage and let them know it was acceptable to play before the concert while he was off stage. Each represented themselves, the band, your school system, & your community with incredible poise. It was a privilege to experience their performance and witness their dedication and devotion to representing The PRIDE of Southside."*

To say I am proud would be a gross understatement. I want to thank every member of the program from the bottom of my heart. Parents, you are to be commended as well. Being a part of the band or any music program is not a commitment to be taken lightly and we are quite fortunate to have such a rich tradition of parental and community support here in Southside. You have done a fine job of raising some truly remarkable young men & woman.

Congratulations on keeping and raising our long and proud tradition of musical excellence. This performance will be a benchmark for future members of The PRIDE to live up to. Job well done!

All my thanks, appreciation, and love,

Mr. Weaver