

Parkside Bands

3/12/09

The M.S.B.O.A. District 8 Jr. High Band and Orchestra Festival was held on Friday, March 6th at Jackson High School. Adjudicators rated bands in five essential categories including tone, intonation, rhythm, technique, and interpretation. Bands were also rated on their ability to sight-read musical selections. The MSBOA rating system assigns numerical rating from I to V, with V being the lowest, I the highest.

The Parkside Varsity Band directed by Mr. Kevin Krieger performed in class “C” and received Red medals and a plaque by scoring a unanimous second-division rating. Prepared musical selections included “Crosswinds March” by James Swearingen, “Beyond the Stars” by Ed Hucceby, and “Suite in Minor Mode” by Dmitri Kabalevsky.

The Parkside Symphonic Band directed by Steve Brattain performed in class “A” and received a unanimous first division rating for the 25th year. This marks the 26th year the Symphonic Band has qualified for the State Festival since Parkside became a Middle School in 1982. Judges lauded the band’s sensitive balance, mature sound, excellent tone, and precise articulation. Especially apparent was the adjudicator’s praise for musical interpretation, feeling, and expression. The Symphonic Band performed “March for a Festive Occasion” by Eric Osterling, “Country Wildflowers” by Larry Daehn, and “Chorale and Shaker Dance II” by John Zdechlik. The last piece is on the MSBOA required list for HIGH SCHOOL BANDS. The sight-reading Judge was heard to say Symphonic was the best sight-reading band at the Friday festival. Parkside’s Symphonic Band is consistently recognized among the State’s finest, and this year’s may be placed among the “Best of the Best”, scoring straight A’s in all areas of musical performance!

Mr. Brattain and Mr. Krieger are especially proud of the behavior of the students who conducted themselves with the pride, dignity and maturity that has become synonymous with Parkside Bands. Also evident was the tremendous support given by the many parents and friends in attendance at the festival. Mr. Brattain, Mr. Krieger and the band members wish to thank parents, staff, administration and supporters for the opportunity of representing the school and community at the festival.

Band members are already busily preparing for the remaining events: JPS Jazz Night @ JHS, Thursday, March 19; MSBOA State Jazz Band Festival, Wednesday, April 8; the “Arrangement of Desserts”, Tuesday, April 14; MSBOA Middle School Solo and Ensemble Festival, Saturday, April 18; MSBOA State Band and Orchestra Festival, Friday, April 24; Marching Band “Pops” Tour, Friday, May 8; The Annual “Pops Goes the Eagle” Concert, Thursday, May 14th; MSBOA Honors Band, May 16 and 17; the annual “Young Bands Concert”, May 19; the semi-annual Cedar Point Trip, Saturday, May 23; Memorial Day Parade, Monday, May 25th; and the annual Rose Parade, Sunday, June 7th.