

Tips For MT Band Parents

How You Fit In

Always keep in mind that your support is key in your child's success with Music. Get involved with our program. There are many ways you can be involved

Practice

Music achievement requires effort over a period of time. You can help your child by:

- providing a quiet place in which to practice
- remaining nearby during practice times as often as possible
- scheduling a consistent, daily time for practice – at least 120 minutes/week
- praising your child's effort and achievements
- helping your child keep a daily record of his/her practice
- making sure that your child's instrument is properly supplied with care & maintenance materials as well as extra reeds at all times

What To Do

To give your child the best possible support you should:

- keep in mind that in the beginning stages, efforts often resemble noise rather than a polished musical tone – listen for improvement
- offer compliments and encouragement regularly
- expose your child to a wide variety of music, including concerts and recitals, as well as recordings
- encourage your child to talk about his or her music class
- make sure your child's instrument is always in good working order
- listen to your child practice and acknowledge improvement

What Not To Do

Your child's progress will be greatly enhanced if you ...

- don't use practice as a punishment
- don't insist your child play for others when they don't want to
- don't ridicule or make fun of mistakes or less-than-perfect playing
- don't apologize to others for your child's weak performance
- don't expect rapid progress and development right away