

Mrs. Melinda Smith

Welcome message

Welcome to the Band Website. I am very excited for you to check it out as there are valuable tools and information here.

I knew since the seventh grade that I would be a band director. However, it wasn't all smooth sailing. There are times when I would get frustrated among other emotions. But, my mother never let me quit and here I am today. She recognized the importance of music in one's life and because of the work ethic and grit that she passed on to me, I persevered. This is what I want to pass on to my students.

I dare you to google music's benefits and you will be blown away. I believe in my whole heart that being a participant in music makes you a better human being. You should all see what I see each and every day; True growth of your child! What could be a more exciting profession!?

I graduated from Greenwich Central School, earned my Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education from Susquehanna University (Selinsgrove, PA: an AMAZING university I may add) and Master of Music in Wind Conducting Performance from SUNY Fredonia. And, I still practice something EVERYDAY ☺. I am still a performer and have been fortunate to play/sing in the area as well as in two European tours. (Highlights include Salzburg Cathedral where W.A. Mozart was baptized and the American Cemetery at Normandy Beach, France) I also have been the President of the Washington County Area Music Teachers Association, NYSSMA Adjudicator and have been highly active in the New York State Band Directors Association as Member-At-Large, Secretary, Region 6 Representative, Third Vice-President and First Vice-President.

Favorite quote

“Scientists researching music education’s effect on the brain seem to keep coming to the same conclusion: Making music makes you smarter.” Dr. Christopher Viereck, who holds a Ph.D. in developmental neurobiology, says that he believes that “it is very important for people to understand that the relationship between music education and brain development is very real.”

ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act), includes a critical stand-alone listing for music in the legislation’s all-important new definition of a “Well-Rounded Education” (previously known as “Core Academic Subjects”).-NAfME