



METRO  
NASHVILLE  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS

**DR. CELIA CONLEY**

Executive Director, North Middle Schools  
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Dear Advocacy in Action Committee:

I highly recommend the McMiddle Band initiative to receive recognition and support for their efforts this school year. This innovative initiative to bring four local middle school band programs, their directors, and the community together was a unique experience. I was fortunate to be able to view the performance, and to see the pride of the students, including many first year band students, was amazing.

The participating schools are all Title 1 and would benefit from funds being used to support student materials, meals, and transportation to rehearsals and performances. Participation in this program has already shown an increase in student matriculation in high school band, which traditionally sees an enrollment decline. Additionally, students' sense of belonging, collaboration, and teamwork were increased.

Our district looks forward to this year's event, and other ways our band students can experience experiential learning opportunities. Thank you for considering their application and please let me know if any other additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

*Celia Conley*

Celia Conley, Ed.D  
Executive Director of Schools, North Middle Schools