**HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR INSTRUMENTAL STUDENT**

1. ***Support/Enforce daily practice time****.* The expectation is that students practice at least FIVE times a week, and that their practice logs are signed by a parent or guardian. *Practicing an instrument sharpens the mind for all other academic endeavors, and opens our hearts to others.*
2. ***Make sure that your child brings their instrument and folder on their lesson/rehearsal days.***
3. ***Compliment them on progress you hears, and always keep it positive.*** For example, “Your tone is really improving, I love hearing you play, be sure to play for Grandma when she visits” and similar comments will go a long way! *I “get” that sometimes it ain’t pretty when we start an instrument, but the way to make it pretty is to play MORE!!! You will be amazed at the results.*
4. ***Ask them questions about what you hear and have them demonstrate.* Woodwinds an Brass:** Ask them about where they feel breath when they play, or about “firm corners” or “open throat” **Percussionists:** Ash about rebound and grip and have them play “Chicken and a Roll” **Strings:** Ask about weight and speed, and parallel bow motion. Have them demonstrate “Mississippi Stop Stop”
5. ***Bring them to live performances in the community and view Youtube performances of master musicians who play their instrument***
6. ***Ask to see their Karate Belt sheet and discuss their goals and progress***
7. Feel free to contact Mr. Willard with any questions you have about instrumental study.