



# Captain's Log

## The Crookston Music Department Newsletter

### Events Calendar

#### January

- 19 MNBDA Honor Band
- 22 Girls Hockey Pep Band
- 23 Vocal Solo Contest
- 24 UND String Trio
- 25 Concordia Honor Choir
- 25 UMC Basketball Pep Band
- 26 Girls BB Pep Band
- 31 Wrestling Pep Band

#### February

- 1 Girls BB Pep Band
- 4 Vocal Recital @ CHS
- 12 Boys Hockey Pep Band
- 13 Band Solo Contest
- 14 Boys BB Pep Band

#### March

- 11 Band Large Group Contest
- 19 Copper Street Brass Concert
- 13 Vocal Ensemble Contest
- 27 Band Ensemble Contest

#### April

- 3 Orchestra Solo & Ensemble
- 12-17 Florida Trip

### Northwest Minnesota Arts Council Supports Music Department

Crookston's music students will be receiving first class instruction with the support of the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council (NWMAC). The council has generously awarded two grants that will help bring in Melanie Popejoy, M.A. and the musical ensemble *Copper Street Brass*. Mrs. Popejoy is Associate Director of Choral Activities at the University of North Dakota where she conducts the Allegro Women's Choir and Vivo Chamber Ensemble, and instructs courses in Choral Music Education Methods and Music Fundamentals. She is also the Founder and Artistic Director of the Grand Cities Children's Choir. Mrs. Popejoy has been working with the Junior and Senior High Choirs with extra time given to the nineteen students preparing for **Vocal Solo Contest** to be held in EGF on **January 23rd**. A public recital featuring the soloists will be held in the choir room on **Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>**.

*This activity is made possible in part by a grant provided by the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council through funding from the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the State's general fund.*

*Copper Street Brass* is a professional brass quintet located in the Minneapolis area. Their recordings have been featured on Minnesota Public radio, and have performed with The Minnesota Orchestra, The New Mexico Symphony, and the Malaysian Philharmonic. The Quintet consists of five members, several of which double on instruments other than the customary trumpet, French Horn, trombone and tuba that are traditionally found in a brass quintet. Their three-day residency will include master classes at both the high school and Highland elementary, workshops with band students and a public performance on Tuesday **March 19<sup>th</sup>** at 7:30 pm in the CHS auditorium. There will be a freewill offering taken at the door to help defray the costs of the residency. The NWMAC generously provided over \$12,000 to help fund these two opportunities.

*This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council, thanks to the legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.*

"The schools that produced the highest academic achievement in the United States today are spending 20% to 30% of their day in the arts, with special emphasis on music."

– *International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement Test, 1988*

## CrookstonMusic.org Your One Stop for all Things Music

The Music Department is excited to announce the launch of its very own website [www.CrookstonMusic.org](http://www.CrookstonMusic.org). The new website is the go-to for all questions regarding the music programs in Crookston Public Schools. It contains valuable resources for students, parents and the community. Parents and students can view important classroom information, such as announcements and class syllabi, and community members can view calendars of all upcoming public performances. Viewers can even download the *Captain's Log* or sign up to receive it electronically.

### Food Bank

On Friday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, over 70 music students volunteered to aid the Crookston community by visiting the North Country Food Bank. While there, the students packaged over 350 boxes and filled 970 backpacks of food that will be distributed in the community. Volunteer Coordinator Russ Tate said that amounts to about one quarter of the food banks total distribution for the month. Thank you students for volunteering!

### *Did You Know?*

*High School Music Students have been shown to hold higher grade point averages (GPA) than non-musicians in the same school.*

### Students Selected to Perform in Honor Ensembles

Over the next few weeks several students throughout the department will have the opportunity to perform in prestigious honor ensembles. On January 19<sup>th</sup> Heather Cheput, Cameron Niemela, Merran Dingmann Anna Miller, Aleece Durbin and Morgan Kresl will participate in the **Minnesota Band Directors Association Jr. High Honor Band** in Fergus Falls, MN. The same organization hosts a **High School Honor Band** the same weekend and the following students will participate: Madison Ringdahl, Andy Gregg, Charles Brantner, Kyle Stegman, Sydney Boike, Ryan Porter and Grace Espinosa. Selected choir students will have the opportunity to participate in the **Concordia Honor Choir Festival**, held at Concordia on Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup>. CHS choir students participating in the festival include: McKaela Larson, Sydney Luckow, Paige Sanders and Bryan Sanchez. Congratulations to Cindy Chen on being selected to participate in the 2013 **Minnesota String Teacher's Association Middle Level Honors Orchestra** for students in grades 7-9. The best string players from the state will join together for a performance on February 16<sup>th</sup> at the Minneapolis Convention Center as part of the Minnesota Music Educators Association convention.

### Mandatory Music Trip Parent Meeting:

On Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in the High School auditorium there will be a mandatory parent meeting for all students and parents of students going on the Crookston Music Trip to Florida this April. Students will be given several forms to fill out and return. A more concrete itinerary will be discussed and any additional questions will be answered.