Greetings 5th grade parents/guardians:

The Hyde Park CSD music department is excited for your child to move up to Haviland Middle School! We are very happy to support your student’s musical education and the teachers at HMS are looking forward to meeting their incoming musicians! We are sharing this information in order to help you and your child transition to the musical offerings that await them at Haviland.

**Instrumental Music:**
If your child is in band or orchestra they will be enrolled in the same ensemble unless we hear from you. If your instrumental teacher has any questions about your child’s continued study, they will contact you directly. Should you not wish for your child to continue in an instrumental ensemble, please contact your child’s instrumental music teacher by June 1st and we will communicate this to the Haviland Guidance Department for scheduling purposes. Please note, musical ensembles meet every other day at HMS and students will be required to attend one lesson per 6 day cycle.

*Note: Typically, we do not start students on instruments after 5th grade. However, if your student has been studying an instrument privately or in another school and would like to audition for the band or orchestra at HMS, please contact Melinda DiMaio, Director of Fine and Performing Arts.*

**Vocal Music:**
If your child is presently in the chorus at their elementary school, they will be enrolled in chorus next year unless we hear from you. If your chorus teacher has any questions about your child continuing in chorus, he/she will contact you directly. *If your child is not presently in chorus but would like to join 6th grade chorus at Haviland, please contact your Haviland school counselor to have them enrolled in chorus.* Chorus meets every other day. Please note, students taking chorus in 7th grade and beyond will be required to take vocal lessons as part of their class. These lessons occur once per 6 day cycle.

*Note: you may take both an instrumental ensemble and chorus.*

**General Music:**
General music is an exploration of musical styles, music history and music making. If students do not take an instrumental musical ensemble and/or chorus at Haviland Middle School, they are able to fulfill their music requirement by taking general music. If your child is not participating in chorus or an instrumental ensemble in 5th grade, they will automatically be enrolled in general music in 6th grade at Haviland.

The music department wishes you a smooth transition to middle school and is looking forward to welcoming you HMS! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or your child’s music teacher directly.

Regards,

Melinda DiMaio  
Director of Fine and Performing Arts