

James E. Taylor High School Performing Arts Center

Charlie Woods, Performing Arts Center Director

Dear Prospective PAC Patron:

There is much more to a child's education these days than the 3 R's. While reading, writing and arithmetic are absolutely the standard for a good education, we are discovering that a Fine Arts curriculum is just as important.

We are providing this letter to you today because we believe that you have an interest in the James E. Taylor High School Performing Arts Program. As parents and as educators we are charged with the responsibility to enhance our children's education and self esteem in preparing them for their future. The realities of the public school budgets have us reaching out to you, our community, to help achieve these goals for our kids.

It is well documented that students in schools with Fine Arts programs have higher mathematic, verbal and composite SAT scores than students who did not have the opportunity to take such classes. This esteem and achievement is very often reflected in the students' academic success. Students who study music are more apt to have better listening and memory skills. Students who take art/theatre classes show much more imagination and initiative in their studies, in their careers and their thought paths than those who study only science and math. Children at a young age begin to see the world as more than black and white. A Fine Arts program encourages every student to reach beyond the tangible. Those who can play an instrument, those who can sing or dance or paint are instilled with a self esteem that can rocket them into challenges that they may never have taken on before.

While the Katy Independent School District provided the initial funding for the investment in our Performing Arts Center (PAC), the current daily supplies cost and needed equipment repairs/upgrades fall on the shoulders of our Booster clubs and performance patrons. The ongoing budget constraints have left a shortfall in meeting the continual needs of this facility utilized by the Fine Arts Programs at James E. Taylor High School.

We urge you to consider becoming a PAC patron, by making a donation to the James E. Taylor High School's Performing Arts Center Fund. There are details attached concerning patron levels and what our current needs are at this time. All patrons will have their names engraved on plaques along with previous Performing Arts Center patrons which are displayed at the entrance to the PAC. A few previous patrons have even donated to the PAC fund over consecutive years.

Overall, a Fine Arts program gives our children more choices in their lives. They may go on to careers that they never would have been exposed to before-with the experiences and tools to set them on a solid foundation to face the challenges ahead. Your contribution will help the James E. Taylor High School Performing Arts Center continue to be a contributing factor in the success of our Fine Arts programs.

Most Sincerely

Kevin Riehle

Charlie Woods

Fine Arts Department Chair

Performing Arts Center Director