

I think my orchestra Teacher is the best on the planet because his dedication to his students is the best! Mr. Woolstenhulme (Mr. W) is the most creative in teaching students. He has grown his program to over 200 beginning students. He has written several pieces and had them published and the first was performed at Boston Symphony Hall. He has had to struggle for instruments and adequate space for his students. He even gave up his prep time to hold another class for us. Our school is 50 years old and the room is old and smelly, but he does everything to make sure we learn and perform to the best of our abilities. Since he came to Hyde Park Middle School all of his orchestras have always earned top scores and won numerous competitions. He has been recognized by the South West Region School District as a Teacher of Excellence in 2006. Many of our instruments are damaged and been personally repaired by Mr. W. He is always fixing instruments so we may play them to the best of our abilities. He is always concerned about our progress and our learning experience. He is consistently available before and after school for any help that may be needed. He is always available for guidance or assistance on any music. His students adore him and have participated in many private competitions and also in Las Vegas Youth Orchestras, Honor Orchestra, and Solo and Ensemble Competitions. He is consistently having professional guests in to work with and speak with the orchestras. He has over 300 students this year alone. He has the largest number of students in any Middle school orchestra in our district. His students excel in other areas of school also. I personally have had one other member in my family go through his orchestra and he has excelled beyond belief. He is fifteen and he is in the highest orchestra in his school and he is in a pretty impressive one too. He has inspired me to play cello also. I take private lessons from him and he has helped me be in his highest orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra. He is the type of teacher that pushes you but knows when to stop. He is always supportive to all his students and is happy to be their teacher. He plays cello and he is always willing to play examples of the section for his students who are in need. Weekly we have tests where we play a part a piece a part of our interments section has had trouble with and we play our tests and we try our best!